

PADDLE TO LUMMI ~ CANOE JOURNEY 2007

*Traveling Ancestral Highways*

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**OVER 70 CANOES EXPECTED AT LUMMI**

For Immediate Release  
July 25, 2007

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Bellingham, Washington – The Lummi Nation is proud to host the Paddle to Lummi (P2L) ~ a canoe journey of coastal Native Americans throughout the Pacific northwest from Washington, British Columbia and Alaska. Today on July 25th, will be a historic event when the intertribal traveling canoes arrive on the shores of the Suquamish Nation, the home of the great Chief Seattle. This will be the 13th annual canoe journey dating back to 1989 with the first Paddle journey which was the “Paddle to Seattle.”

“The return of the potlatch will be the greatest gathering of our lifetime.” says Freddie “Sul ka dub” Lane, P2L Director and tribal member. This will be the first potlatch since 1937. “The return of the potlatch will become a part of tomorrows history and most importantly the potlatch reawaking will change the view of indiginous people’s furture history across the country,” Lane added.

The canoe journey titled, “*Xwialken etse Tl’aneq*” (Lummi, meaning the return of the potlatch), is slated to host more than 12,000 visitors and guests with about 80 canoes scheduled to arrive on July 30, 2007, at 4:00 PM. Canoes traveled from 6 different routes from Gold River, west Vancouver Island to Bella Coola, BC -- La Push (Quileute) and Squaxin Island, WA. There will be other historic events taking place around the Paddle to Lummi event. To learn more about these events go to [www.paddletolummi.com](http://www.paddletolummi.com).

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