

Coast Salish Gathering Climate Change Summit
January 11 - 12, 2010
Tulalip Resort, Tulalip Washington

November 25, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Coast Salish Gathering Steering Committee, we are pleased to invite you to the Coast Salish Climate Change Summit, January 11-12th, 2010. Our invitation is extended to tribal leaders, scientists and federal government representatives, as we will all need to partner to address the crisis of Climate Change upon the Salish Sea ecosystem.

Sponsored by the Coast Salish Gathering, the summit is part of a series of tribally-led session on important topics related to climate change planning and action. Climate change has received considerable attention as evidence continues to accumulate demonstrating the reality and the extent of the impacts that are faced. The majority of climate change models predict drastic changes in air and ocean currents, sea-level rise, and unpredictable precipitation events. These changes are already occurring, with unforeseen, negative ramifications. As Indigenous peoples, we are integrally connected to our natural resources and our well-being is impacted by these environmental harms. Native communities and their partners are continually researching and enacting subsequent action plans for addressing climate change-related concerns, the latest of which we are excited to share and discuss at the upcoming Summit.

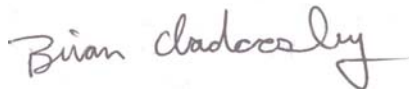
Purpose is to provide an opportunity for Coast Salish Nation's leaders and scientists to gather for a dialogue on climate change impacts, information sharing and to strengthen our science and policy to address the environmental impacts upon our human health, traditional rights and cultural sustainability. Specifically, there will be several sessions that blend a science and policy voices on impacts upon human health, traditional rights and communities. These sessions will be set up so that they are interactive conversations with all of the participants, led by experts in the particular subject topic.

The Summit will take place at the Tulalip Tribes Resort and Conference Center in Tulalip, WA, approximately 30 minutes north of Seattle and 60 minutes south of Vancouver. Lodging will be in the adjoining Tulalip Tribes Resort, please use the room blockage name Coast Salish Gathering Climate Change Summit and deadline for special rates is December 15th.

Please register to participate at: www.coastsalishgathering.com, as we do plan to provide meals and entertainment. Questions regarding the workshop can be submitted on-line or directed to Debra Lekanof, CSG Coordinator at phone #360-391-5296 or email dlekanof@swinomish.nsn.us.

Thank you and we look forward to your participation!

Sincerely,



Brian Cladoosby, Chairman
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

