DAN NEWHOUSE
4TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON
www.newhouse.house.gov

504 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
OFFICE (202) 225–5816
FAX (202) 225–3251

CHAIRMAN
CONGRESSIONAL WESTERN CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

March 23, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Nespelem Community Longhouse in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, located at 21 Colville St, Nespelem, WA, 99155.

This project will upgrade the Nespelem Community Longhouse would benefit the public and local Native American community by providing and making available a culturally appropriate multipurpose essential community facility (7 CFR § 3570.53) to use for communal and cultural events, including but not limited to funerals in the rural community of Nespelem, Washington. (7 Code of Federal Regulations § 3570.61 (b)). The project will address the need for a cultural appropriate physical location for the community to gather for events.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds, because the Longhouse will serve as a space to conduct funeral services and size will easily accommodate a large number of attendees. Events like these support public health by prioritizing the mental health of the community by offering a culturally appropriate gathering place to host events to address community needs, such as funeral services. While the Nespelem Community Longhouse Project will secondarily provide emergency shelters for people during extreme weather events or natural disasters, including catastrophic wildland fires, and public safety evacuations, the design will provide enough space for both cultural activities and emergency services or shelters to operate simultaneously in the Southern part of the Colville Reservation. The facility will provide a space for essential public safety services during emergencies.

This investment of $5 million in federal dollars, will help to public and community safety concerns.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress