

Duwamish Longhouse

Pacific Northwest longhouses functioned as a communal living space for more than one family. Generally ranging in size from forty to one hundred twenty feet in length, and fourteen to seventy-five feet in width, the permanent longhouses were large enough to house between twenty to fifty individuals.

The Duwamish Longhouse, the first in over 100 years, is a cultural center for the tribe, allowing space for large gatherings as well as smaller rooms for other activities. The office of Duwamish Tribal Services is located there as well as a large commercial kitchen to be used to create a revenue stream to support the facility and programs. In addition to serving as a cultural center, this longhouse built on property owned by the tribe helps to establish their legitimacy and will aide in their quest for federal recognition.

The longhouse is located at **4717 West Marginal Way**. To schedule a tour or for more information contact Director **James Rasmussen** at **206-369-7204**.



Lobby of longhouse with door open to gathering hall. Photo by Kim McCoy



To become involved contact:

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Healing the Land Coalition**

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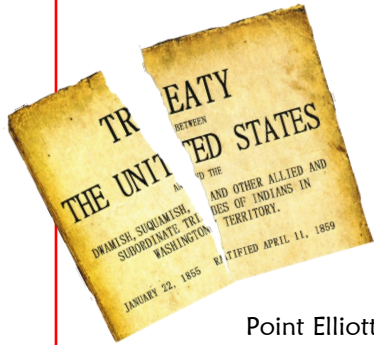
*Healing
Broken Covenants*

*Tukwila's
First Nation:
The Duwamish
People*

**Prayer Points
For
Informed
Intercession**

The Battle for Restoration of Treaty Rights for Tukwila's First Nation

Tukwila is located in the heart of historic Duwamish lands. The Duwamish River, named after the tribe, winds its way through our community. The largest number of Duwamish mythic sites are found in a small stretch of this river which is within the boundaries of our city. Some of the earliest pioneers to the region settled in our community and owe their very survival to the friendship with tribal members. Even the name of our city, Tukwila, reflects this relationship, for it is a Duwamish word meaning "land where the hazelnuts grow".



Our elder sister city to the north, Seattle, took her name from Chief Se'ahl't, whose mother was from the Duwamish tribe and whose father was from the Suquamish. Chief Se'ahl't was the first one to sign the

Point Elliott Treaty of 1855 which promised the Duwamish Tribe a reservation but it was never granted. The tribe spent many, many years gathering the required documentation for the Bureau of Acknowledgement and Review for federal recognition. On the last day of the Clinton administration January 19th, 2001 the tribe was granted federal recognition by an executive order. However, later that year on September 26th, 2001 President Bush rescinded the Clinton executive order on the recommendation of Interior Secretary Gail Norton and her staff.

Tribal Chairwoman, Cecile Hansen, has led the battle for federal recognition for more than 30 years and has yet to see the fruit of her labors. She is a fellow believer in Christ who needs us to join with her in appealing to the High Court of Heaven on the tribe's behalf.

The Land Mourns

*"The peace treaty is broken,
its conditions violated,
its signers reviled.*

*"The land mourns and languishes;
Lebanon is confounded and withers away;
Sharon is like a desert;
and Bashan and Carmel shake off their leaves."*

Isaiah 33:8,9
(The Message/RSV)

The Lord is a Covenant God and is grieved when we enter into covenants lightly or fail to honor our commitments. Not only is He grieved, but the land itself mourns. There is a direct connection between covenant keeping and the spiritual and material prosperity of the land. When the people of God neglect to do justice, we misrepresent the character of Christ. We hinder the advancement of the gospel and are a stumbling block to the establishment of the Kingdom of God in our midst.

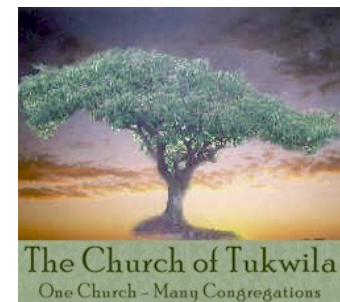
There is a bill before the House of Representatives, HR 2678, The Duwamish Tribe Federal Recognition Act. It is currently in the Committee on Natural Resources chaired by Rep. Rahall.

Please pray:

- HR 2678 is the fourth bill of its kind and the first to actually get a hearing. Pray that the House Committee on Natural Resources will refer it to Congress for a vote without delay.
- That other Congressional leaders will have the courage to co-sponsor this bill, in spite of fierce lobbying from powerful Washington tribes who oppose its passage.
- That there will be a healing of the breach between tribes competing for federal funds and lands.
- That Duwamish Chairwoman Cecile Hansen and Muckleshoot Chairwoman Charlotte Williams will be able to come together as sisters in Christ, uphold each other's people in prayer and stand in the breach.



- That the People of Tukwila will follow through on their commitments made at the **Healing the Land Gathering** last year and do everything in their power to see that the tribe is honored and recognized.
- That the Lord will raise up believers who are willing to become involved in petitioning Congress as well as the High Court of Heaven on behalf of the Duwamish Tribe.
- That the Duwamish's appeal to the Bureau of Acknowledgement and Review for federal recognition will receive a fair hearing and will be granted. The tribe filed this application on May 7, 2008.
- That the Duwamish Longhouse will be used for righteous purposes, and will be a place where this tribe can come to see how the Lord can help them in every aspect of their lives.
- That the Duwamish people will come to Christ, in spite of the faithlessness of our forefathers and that our Church of Tukwila pastors and ministers will take the lead in actively pursuing forgiveness and reconciliation.
- Cecile Hansen's retirement is not far away. Pray that 'the One who grants succession' (cf. Ps 110:7 NIV footnote) will set in authority a tribal chairman who will lead his people on a righteous path.



www.churchoftukwila.org