

**An Accord between the Squaxin Island Tribe and the City of Olympia**

Whereas the Squaxin Island Tribal members are direct descendants of the maritime people who lived and prospered along the shores and watersheds of South Puget Sound and are known as the People of the Water; and

Whereas the City of Olympia is located on the southernmost point of Puget Sound, at the head of Budd Inlet, on the peninsula known as "Cheetwoot" (the black bear place) to the Coastal Salish before the American settlement was established; and

Whereas the Squaxin Island Tribe and the City of Olympia jointly created the Budd/ Deschutes Watershed Environmental Stewardship Coalition to implement the long-term commitment to protect and restore the watershed together in good faith; and

Whereas the Squaxin Island Tribe is host for the *Paddle to Squaxin 2012 - Teaching of Our Ancestors*, a sharing of culture and potlatching; and the landing will occur within the City of Olympia, in partnership with the Port of Olympia;

Now therefore the Squaxin Island Tribe and the City of Olympia, in the spirit of understanding and mutual respect, commit to the following long-term actions:

- Strengthening a commitment to government-to-government relationships.
- Developing enduring channels of communication and a government-to-government process that promotes timely and effective resolution of issues of mutual concern.
- Creating a consultation process, protocols, and action plans that will move the parties forward on issues of shared and mutual interest.
- Striving to coordinate and cooperate to enhance economic and infrastructure opportunities, protect natural resources, provide the educational opportunities and community services that meet the needs of all our citizens.
- Educating the citizens of our region, particularly youth, about regional tribal history, cultures, treaty rights, contemporary tribal, state, and municipal government institutions and relations that promote a strong government-to-government relationship.
- Conducting biannual meetings of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council and the Olympia City Council to address issues of mutual concern and develop joint strategies and specific agreements to overcome obstacles and achieve specific goals.

This Accord is entered into by the Squaxin island Tribe and the City of Olympia in order to better achieve mutual goals through an improved relationship between their sovereign governments.

We affirm these principles and resolve to move forward into 2012, and beyond, with positive and constructive tribal and city relations.

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
David Lopeman, Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY OF OLYMPIA**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen H. Buxbaum, Mayor

Date \_\_\_\_\_