



PETER SORENSON

Lane County Commissioner
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September 3, 2003

WP bc/ps/03350/M

Lane Community College Foundation
Longhouse Project
4000 E. 30 th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405

Dear Lane Community College Foundation:

I'm writing to provide my strong support for the Lane Longhouse Project. As a former Chair of the Board of Lane Community College, and a former member of the Oregon State Senate Committee on Education, I am well aware of the importance of Lane Community College to the Native American population of the Pacific Northwest. Lane Community College serves more than 650 self-identified Native American students. This is more than any other community college in the United States.

Many people in our community are not aware that Native American students come from hundreds or thousands of miles to Lane Community College. The Lane Longhouse Project would assist our community in welcoming Native American students to our community.

In addition, I support the Lane Longhouse Project because of its value to the wider community. A longhouse, particularly one as beautiful as proposed, would be a place for non-Indians to learn more about Native American tradition and culture. The longhouse serves the social, educational, and spiritual needs of the extended Native American community. It would be a welcome addition to Lane County.

Please let me know how I can further assist in making the Lane Longhouse Project a success.

Very truly yours,

Peter Sorenson
Lane County Commissioner

PS:md

LCC FOUNDATION

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