



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Office of the President | Communications
9097 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801
communications@ccthita-nsn.gov | www.ccthita-nsn.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAGPRA Funding Awarded by the National Park Service



Tlingit & Haida Cultural Resource Specialist Harold Jacobs inspects a Marmot Hat from Wrangell, Alaska with the late Nancy Blomberg, Chief Museum Curator of the Denver Art Museum.

Juneau, AK (September 20, 2018) – Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) has been awarded a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) grant from the National Park Service (NPS) in the amount of \$89,592.

NAGPRA was enacted in 1990 and requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify human remains and cultural items in their collection. This repatriation process helps to ensure the return of certain Native American cultural items (human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony) to lineal descendants, culturally affiliated Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

“I cannot express how important the NAGPRA funding is to supporting the work of our Cultural Resources program,” said President Richard (*Chalyee Éesh*) Peterson. “We have many pending claims and other sacred objects identified that we would really like to see repatriated. This funding ensures that we can continue the consultation and documentation process on these objects.”

The grant will be administered by Tlingit & Haida’s Native Lands and Resources (NLR) department and used to conduct research and documentation and prepare claims for repatriation of cultural items located at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Milwaukee Public Museum. The funding will also allow Tlingit & Haida’s Cultural Resources program to monitor the completion of pending claims.

“We are grateful to the National Park Service for their continued partnership and support in Tlingit & Haida’s repatriation efforts for the return of our sacred objects,” said NLR Manager Desiree Duncan.

The Cultural Resources program seeks the return and protection of objects of cultural patrimony, sacred objects, funerary objects and human remains in accordance with NAGPRA and the National Museum of the American Indian Act (NMAIA) of 1989. The program also provides technical assistance to communities and tribes throughout Southeast Alaska.

Since 1993, Tlingit & Haida’s Cultural Resources program has been successful in repatriating numerous artifacts on behalf of tribal communities under NAGPRA. To date, Tlingit & Haida has successfully repatriated more than 150 objects with several repatriation requests still pending as reported by Cultural Resource Specialist Harold Jacobs.

To read the NPS announcement of NAGPRA grant awards, visit <https://bit.ly/2ODlwbS>.

For more information on the NAGPRA program, please contact the Native Lands & Resources department: 1.800.344.1432 ext.7186 • 907.463.7186 • [hjacobsc@ccthita-nsn.gov](mailto:hjacobs@ccthita-nsn.gov).