





L.I.G.H.T. FOUNDATION

Elmer City, WA 99124

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Leadership  Indigenous  Guardian  Honor  Teach 

January 31st, 2023

To Whom it may concern
PO Box 186
Nespelem, WA 99124

Subject: **Annual Evaluation Report of L.I.G.H.T. Foundation**

Dear Whom, it may concern:

This is the annual evaluation report of L.I.G.H.T. Foundation for the calendar year 2022, pursuant to the formation of a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization effective January 1st,2022. Please find below a narrative account of what L.I.G.H.T. Foundation accomplished, including description of activities. I have included an account of expenditures and our annual Form 990 tax return in separate attachments.

Narrative Account

The funding cycles our various grants have greatly supported the work of L.I.G.H.T. Foundation between January 01, 2022, and December 31st, 2022. L.I.G.H.T. Foundation operates within the boundary of the Colville Indian Reservation but has had the opportunity to collaborate with other organizations outside of the Reservation, to move in the same direction surrounding area agencies in the arena of Native Plant conservation. We employ 1 full-time employee and with continued growth look to additional hired employees. all of whom are tribal members or tribal descendants. We have

1. Executive Director, Joaquin Marchand

Our foundation engages a range of ages and professions primarily so far in the pacific northwest areas, our organization's focus has been currently on two of our initiatives Roots for the future, which has an emphasis on the approach to educate and inform land manager and academic institutions of the important of native plants to indigenous people and private landowners as well. The second initiative is entitled Secure Harvest, which identifies status of food security, system, and sovereignty policies of Pacific Northwest tribes and determine extent

Pursuing conservation of Native Plant and Medicine in the Pacific Northwest

to which traditional food plant and medicines are include in them. The specific actions that we have taken is in the public response letters to agencies that are conduct a public comment period. We have written and submitted 4 responses currently to various agencies.

We have 5 initiatives currently, which are the two I just mentioned with the additional three of First Food pollinators, re-seeding memory, and certified indigenous. These initiatives are approached with three basics areas of approach. These strategies are to cultivate those positive relationships between indigenous people and landowners, habitat conservation, and climate adaptation. Enrich our communities by providing hands-on-tools and support for teaching gathering traditions and honoring native plants in culturally appropriate ways. Finally, we aim to perpetuate ecological heritage on indigenous people through intergenerational knowledge transmission and supporting traditional landscape practices.

Over the past year, we have increased our ability to meet our mission. We hired Joaquin Marchand as our Executive Director at the end of July. Since being hired to this position Mr. Marchand has been serving as facilitator and co-creator of many of the L.I.G.H.T. foundation strategies and policies, strategic planning, and advocate of the foundation mission. The primary functions of Executive Director are to build much-needed capacity in terms of administrative and financial management, fundraising and leadership skills.

BACKGROUND & OUTCOMES

L.I.G.H.T. Foundation (LF) has been operating with a structured Board of Directors since January 01, 2022. In 2022 our Executive Director took advantage of an opportunity to take the first steps in education for youth with partnering with Western Washington University and providing background in native plant conservation at an academic training site in the Methow valley. The output of this partnership is to create a land stewardship model with indigenous gathering practices and traditional food surveys of those land in mind.

The foundation has moved in many areas and through collaboration has been able to move further toward creating a cohort of traditional educators, gatherers, and outside conservation agencies.

- a. We have a rich collection of learning materials in all areas,
- b. Our approach is based on cultural values and practices and is
- c. We only offer the means to *prepare the mind* for systematic study

Below, is a list of the objectives for this grant period and how we met them:

1. LF will operate within the grant period.	Accomplished.
2. LF will provide a learning environment for our people that allows them to understand our traditional knowledge transmission needs and with appropriate cultural identity for each region.	Continually advocating
3. LF goals to creating collaborations and working groups around the areas for traditional food preservation and conservation.	Accomplished. (we have had meetings with grant funder called Iron Cohort, and been active in native agencies, and work group in Nespelem in October 2022.)
4. LF executive Director will keep daily records of day-to-day operations, board approved polices, and working with approved board resolutions.	Accomplished (LF has proposed and approved 9 resolutions in the year of 2022.and conducted 7 board meetings)
5. LF will conduct community outreach and move to work with outside agencies.	Accomplished. (we have adjoined ourselves with 4 outside agencies with Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) and letters of support)
6. LF will provide information disbursement through in person and via electronic means in the area of native plant conservation	Continued advocation (LF has created public website, https://thepnwlf.org , and given group presentations to western college students.)
7. LF will being to create hiring process and contract partnerships.	Continued advocation (LF has created a draft of employee policy manual and hiring procedures. In addition, LF has created payroll policies and wage scale which were created by ED.)

MEASURING SUCCESS

These sets of knowledge are applied through active participation on the land within the proper seasons, utilizing the gathered materials, and through traditional oral teachings. This knowledge is shown in various individualized ways to the community.

Administrative objectives are measured by three stages of policy adherence. First being creation of needed policy and administrative documents, approval of document by our Council of Guides (board) and Yearly administrative review by the executive team, administrative team and governmental teams.

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

We embarked on the 2022-2023 year in our first year of operation. Our location currently is Elmer City Washington which is in the heart of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

Our founder is Amelia Marchand, who is a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Our native led organization is comprised of 4 board members comprised of members from various tribes such as Navajo, Apache, and Colville Tribes.

Our four-member board of directors is made up of two women who are Colville tribal members and member of Apache tribes, and two men who are Colville Tribal member and Navajo/Colville Descendant. The Executive Director, is a Colville Tribal members, with a background in finance, business, and public policy. A former Executive Director of a Native Language immersion school on the Colville reservation. He also has a combined 20 years experience in government and federal contract management, administrative policy creation, social services, and managerial director in the areas ranging from health and human services to corporate accounting/ finance.

L.I.G.H.T Foundation was organized in 2022 and created to support native plant conservation and restoration of native plant gathering traditions for Pacific Northwest Tribes, Native American plant conservation and traditional cultural plant species. We are meeting our purpose and are working very hard to improve our success and capacity. We are a group of dedicated, passionate, earnest, resourceful and intelligent people who always find a way to continue our good work.

Please contact me if you have any questions. way̓ x̓ast s̓x̓əl̓x̓ʕalt (have a good day)!

Sincerely,



Joaquin Marchand
Executive Director
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