



NEWS RELEASE --FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- October 1, 2009

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TAMÁSTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

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NEW GALLERY EXHIBIT TO OPEN AT TAMÁSTSLIKT

The new exhibit *Čáw Pawá Láakni* “They Are Not Forgotten” of native place names opening at Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute on October 2nd will be enlightening to many who do not realize that the name of the city they live in is derived from a native word. The panel that maps out nineteen native named towns and cities within the homelands of Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) is certain to be enlightening and may lead to the changing of some school mascots! The exhibit’s historic landscape photos from the early 20th century and corresponding place names provide a representation of a life lived on the land and a reminder that, “*Hundreds of generations of ancestors have known this land intimately from living on it for thousands of years.*”

A selection of place names focus on the changes that have occurred since the places were named and how the native place names evoke thoughts of what once was. A section acknowledges explorer David Thompson, who arrived in 1811 and is credited with referring to the people now known as the CTUIR as *Shawpatin*, a derivative of which eventually became used to describe the language family of the CTUIR. A pronunciation key enables visitors to attempt the place name tongue twisters. The exhibit runs through January 3rd.

Čáw Pawá Láakni “They Are Not Forgotten” provides a glimpse of the forthcoming publication by Tamástslíkt with the same name. The native place names atlas will be built upon the memories of elders past and present, as well as a data base of over 400 place names and 70 accompanying maps. Contributions by native and non-native linguistic and anthropological scholars round out a text that illuminates the relationship between the CTUIR and their 6.4 million acre home. The full color book with over 230 photos will be available before Christmas according to Tamástslíkt staff.

Contact Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute at (541)966-9748 or visit www.tamastslíkt.org for more information. Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Tamástslíkt is located at the far end of the main driveway of the Wildhorse Resort & Casino, 10 minutes east of Pendleton, Oregon. Tamástslíkt can be reached via Exit 216 off Interstate I-84 or by following the “Mission-LaGrande” sign south off Highway 11 onto Highway 331. In addition to the museum and interpretive center, Tamástslíkt operates a museum store, café, and meeting room rentals.