



2015 Totem Pole Journey ***Xa xalh xechnging*** **“Our Sacred Obligation”**



Each year for the past two years, tribal members, led by Master Carver Jewell James of the Lummi Nation’s House of Tears Carvers, have carved and transported totem poles thousands of miles to raise public awareness and strengthen opposition to the export of fossil fuels from the west coast of the United States and Canada.



The 2015 journey comes at a defining moment in our collective effort to defeat these fossil fuel export proposals. The Corps of Engineers will likely decide in mid-to-late August whether or not it will agree with the Lummi Nation and deny all permits for the Gateway Pacific Terminal Project. Meanwhile, the project proponents are engaged in a public relations campaign to sway public opinion married to efforts to influence the Corps through elected officials in Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Washington, D.C.



Working in close association with other tribal governments, environmental organizations as well as the faith-based community, these Journeys have helped shape the public debate and understanding of what is at risk with the proposed fossil fuel exports.

The 2015 journey will play an important role uniting opposition to the fossil fuel export projects, empower the general public with information, send a strong and united message to agencies and elected officials, and strengthen local, regional, and national networks and alliances. Tribes such as Lummi, Tulalip, Swinomish, Umatilla, Quinault, Spokane, and Yakama will play a decisive role in defeating the proposed projects, as will the peoples of Celilo Falls (on the Columbia River).

The Tsleil-Waututh First Nation of British Columbia is where the journey will begin. The journey will end in the territory of the Northern Cheyenne some of whose sacred lands would be devastated by the proposed coal mine. There will also be public events to be coordinated with the assistance of our friends and allies in the environmental and faith-based community, at Bellingham, Longview (Washington), Portland, and Billings (see the attached tentative schedule).

Please Donate!

We must raise a total of \$28,000 before the departure date of August 21, 2015. Log in to the following website to more information on this Journey and previous journeys and to donate to the outstanding project on climate justice:

<http://www.faithify.org/projects/totem-pole-journey-2015-our-sacred-obligation/>



Tentative Journey Stops

August 22, 2015 • Vancouver, British Columbia

Tsleil-Waututh First Nation

August 22, 2015 • Bellingham, Washington

Lummi/NGOs

August 22, 2015 • Marysville (Tulalip), Washington

NWIFC/Tulalip/Quinault/Swinomish

August 23, 2015 • Longview, Washington

Unrecognized tribes/NGO's

August 24, 2015 • Portland, Oregon

CRIFC/NGOs

August 25, 2015 • Celilo Falls, Oregon

Umatilla/Yakama/Warm Springs

August 26 • Yakama, Oregon

Yakama Nation

August 27, 2015 • Spokane, Washington

Spokane Tribe

August 28 • Billings, Montana

NGO's

The Totem Pole is due to arrive
and be erected:

August 29

Lame Deer, Montana

Northern Cheyenne



*A coalition of Unitarian Universalists
and other people of faith and
conscience
working for climate justice.
<http://www.commit2respond.org>*

