

Washington Indian Gaming Association

1110 Capitol Way So., Ste. #404

Olympia, WA 98501-2251

Dear Admissions Committee,

Re.: Applicant **Melvinjohn Ashue**

It is with sincere pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Melvinjohn Ashue. I met Melvinjohn in 2015 when he contacted me regarding pursuing his Master’s in Public Administration (MPA) degree *Tribal Governance* (TG) *Concentration* track. He did apply to our MPA program and accepted in 2016 with high ratings from the Review Committee. This doctorial applicant is an impressive graduate who committed in our graduate program traveling over 130 miles one-way every other weekend for our classes; Melvinjohn is one of the most dedicated, hardworking, and inquisitive students we have had. He was and continues to be dedicated towards his education, he has the tenacity as a change agent, and his persistence in continually pursuing avenues of self-growth is inspiring.

While a graduate student he gained the admiration of his fellow colleagues and instructors; he did exemplary work as a graduate student. He attended numerous **not-required** conferences such as the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) conference as well as The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) conferences these I mention in this letter are the conference I know he has attended, I know there are others that he has attended in addition. When he is invited, to present to our current TG cohort he always accepts the invitation, he does reach out to our current students and I believe serves as mentor to a few.

Melvinjohn Ashue is an exceptional candidate and with the utmost confidence, I recommend him with no reservation. He will immerse himself in his environment and I have witnessed him share his energy, enthusiasm, and commitment with his colleagues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter of support.

Regards,

Puanani Nihoa

Puanani Nihoa, MPA

Assistant Director

Masters of Public Administration

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