Tlingt and Haida Washington Chapter

Culture Fair

September 8

Jenny’s Reflections

Cost: Information booths were free, required a donation for their raffle. Puanani put together a basket (valued at $80) with 6 books, an evergreen mug and pencils, and a geoduck Frisbee).

Provided: The event provided a table and chairs free of charge. There were also helpers for unloading and transportation! Vendors were provided lunch, snacks, water, and dinner (and they were all delicious).

Brought: table cloth, reservation based materials (all 3 brochures), Native Case studies brochures, two case studies, business cards for Puanani, MPA application packet, MPA Tribal large brochure, and (One or two more, I think Rivers of Knowledge?).

Who Worked the Event: Puanani and Jenny drove from Olympia and Toby drove from Federal Way to the event. P&J arrived around 1030 and Toby arrived shortly after. Toby left about 4pm and P&J left around 5pm. Note, event was still in progress but vendors and event were wrapping up.

Details about Day: It was a beautiful sunny day. Informational venders were inside by the main event and other vendors were outside in the large tent. Location was next to the T&H registration and the raffle fundraiser which provided us with steady foot traffic. It was a bit noisy at times but we could still hear and talk with people.

Crowd: More people came as the day went. About 250 people attended. Crowd was mixed age, gender, and education level, but 98% Native.

Success: (Not sure how many/much was handed out or signed up. A packet of information was provided to a council chairman who was going to provide it to their Department of Education in Ketchikan.)

Reflections: This was a great event. It was welcoming and everyone visited the booths. We had some good success with the Reservation Based interest and raised awareness of the MPA program. Only one or 2 individuals would be needed in the future. The basket was awesome but a bit large, likely could have been about half the size. The event is invitation only to vend. Also the information for vending and parking and times etc was VERY late in coming and only available on their FB and website, not emailed or mailed out to participants.

Future? Yes, I think this is a good event to do in the future. May be best as an every other year event to attend.