

PRESS RELEASE

POTLATCH FUND BOARD HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(September 6, 2006 – Seattle, WA) – Following an extensive hiring process, the Potlatch Fund Board of Directors selected Ken Gordon to head Potlatch Fund operations as the new Executive Director of the organization. Ken's first day was Friday September 1, 2006.

Ken succeeds Andrea Alexander, who stepped down as Executive Director and President to focus more on her family. Ms Alexander remains on the Board of Directors.

In 2005 Ken moved to Seattle following a career in philanthropy, teaching and public service in New Zealand. He has extensive experience with organizations of all sizes both in the for-profit and not-for-profit worlds. This experience has encompassed strategic planning, organizational refocusing, fund development, community consultation and socially responsible investing.

Ken is passionate about the role of the community and voluntary sector, and the contribution that these sectors make to society. He has also worked extensively with Maori communities of New Zealand and is respected for leadership in this area.

Prior to relocating to Seattle, Ken was the Chief Executive of Trust Waikato a large philanthropic trust with an \$8 million annual grant budget. Trust Waikato under Ken's leadership was recognized as one of the most respected grant making trusts in New Zealand. In previous roles Ken has taught Business Studies at a Community College and has been in charge of Strategic Planning for the City of Hamilton.

Upon being selected Ken said "I have immense respect for the work Potlatch Fund has accomplished thus far. In my new capacity as Executive Director, I will work very hard at ensuring its continued success within the northwest native communities."

"While I have truly enjoyed my tenure as Potlatch Fund's Executive Director, it is now time for me to spend more time with my family," said Andrea. "We have an excellent team in place and ask for donor and tribal support during this transition. We have made positive changes in the lives of our grantees and I hope to see funds continue to grow for all our northwest native grantees now and in the future."

Potlatch Fund is a Native foundation, which provides technical assistance and grant funds to Native organizations throughout the Northwestern United States. Potlatch Fund works to build bridges between the larger philanthropic community and Native foundations. For additional information, please call 206.624.6076

#####