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## **Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe Announces The Point Hotel**

*Four-story, 94-room boutique hotel located adjacent to The Point Casino*

The Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe (PGST) and its economic division, Noo-Kayet Development Corporation (NKDC), have announced plans for a four-story, 94-room hotel to be built adjacent to The Point Casino in Kingston, Washington.

The Point Hotel is expected to break ground by early Fall 2015 with an anticipated Grand Opening date by Fall 2016. Korsmo Construction of Tacoma has been selected as the project’s General Contractor with architecture and interior design work being completed by Hnedak Bobo Group, Inc.

The design of The Point Hotel is rooted in a style known as Coast Modern, which has been modified for this project to fit into the Pacific Northwest landscape. Characterized by the use of very simple, unadorned architecture, it relies on natural materials and adapts key architectural ideas taken from traditional Tribal all-cedar plank construction.

Traditional or tribal-styled art is planned to play a big role in connecting the contemporary and the cultural. For example, current plans feature, in the lobby, a series of tribal art displays with wool or cedar woven pieces with the check-in area being wrapped in carved cedar, including a large single piece installation directly behind the registration desk. The art is slated to extend outside with a three-story welcome totem, likely made out of steel, and a series of totem poles in a large outdoor gathering area that will include an outdoor kitchen and clam pit. While options are still being discussed for guest room interiors, one strong contender is to feature photographs of Tribal life and the Natural World. As the plans for the art are approved to move forward, Port Gamble S’Klallam tribal artists will be given first consideration.

“It is important that this hotel look and feel special. For our guests we want to create an experience they aren’t going to find elsewhere in the area. Our Tribe’s cultural influence will be felt throughout the property,” said Kelly Sullivan, PGST Executive Director. Sullivan is heading up the committee in charge of commissioning the hotel’s art pieces.

Styling itself as a boutique hotel, The Point Hotel will also feature a 44-seat meeting space with full AV capabilities, a fitness room, and a lounge with indoor and outdoor seating separated by a stone-and-glass, floor-to-ceiling fireplace. A large outdoor gathering area includes a fire pit that will be used, in part, for clam and salmon bakes. Dan Hinkley, the renowned plantsman who founded Heronswood, has agreed to consult on the landscape design, which will include perennial offerings from Heronswood for a seasonally ever-changing look. Heronswood is operated and managed by the non-profit Port Gamble S’Klallam Foundation.

The Point Julia Deli, which is currently on the gaming floor inside the Casino, will move and expand into The Point Hotel and be renamed The Point Julia Café. The new layout will include seating for 64 with the potential for outdoor seating. The Deli's offerings will be expanded as well to include made-to-order and grab-and-go meals as well as a selection of beverages, including espresso, beer, and wine. The Point Julia Deli will sit at the entrance of a passageway that connects the hotel to the Casino. For nearly 12 years, The Point Casino has served as a core economic driver for the Tribe.

“The Point Casino & Hotel is a significant step forward not only for the economic health of the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, but also fills a need in North Kitsap County, which is limited for visitors who want to stay overnight. In this way, not only will the hotel help to grow Casino business, but it will be a boon for encouraging tourism as a whole to the area, benefiting many of the local businesses and our neighboring communities,” said Chris Placentia, CEO, NKDC.

In addition to being a driver for tourism, the hotel will bring jobs to the area. During construction, there will be job fairs geared towards hiring tribal members and locals with trade experience. Once the hotel is opened, it will create several dozen full-time positions—from management to support staff.

“The creation of the The Point Casino & Hotel has been a long time in the making. The challenge has been finding the right hotel design at the right time that accomplishes our economic goals, helps drive local tourism, and respects our cultural and environmental priorities,” said PGST Chairman Jeromy Sullivan. “Our Tribe is known for its hospitality. During tribal events, like Canoe Journey, we are an anticipated stop. You will see that same level of home and comfort brought to this project.”

#### About The Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe

The Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, originally known as the Nux Sklai Yem or Strong People, are descendants of the Salish people who have been well-established in the Puget Sound basin and surrounding areas since 2400 B.C. In the late 1930s, the Port Gamble S’Klallam reservation, located on the northern tip of the Kitsap Peninsula in Washington State, was established. Many of the Tribe's members, who total about twelve hundred, still live there today.

For more information about the S’Klallam Tribe, please visit [www.pgst.nsn.us](http://www.pgst.nsn.us).

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