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COSSA Welding Program Receives Donation

Coeur d'Alene Tribe contributes \$10,000 to purchase equipment

Wilder, ID – The Canyon – Owyhee School Service Agency (COSSA) today announced the receipt of a \$10,000 donation from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The donation will be used to replace a broken ironworker – more commonly known as a metal “shear”.

“This contribution illustrates the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's ongoing support for education across the state, including professional-technical education. We are thankful for this very generous and unexpected gift from the Tribe,” said COSSA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Harold Nevill. “Ultimately, our students will benefit from the Tribe’s giving spirit for years to come and we thank the Tribe for partnering with us to provide a quality education to Idaho’s children,” he continued. Nevill added: “Representative Gayle Batt’s liaison between the Tribe and COSSA facilitated this partnership, and we are also very grateful for her efforts.”

The welding shear is central to the welding program, which serves COSSA’s high school students as well as adult & evening classes for those who want to earn their welding certification. Without a replacement, instructors could not cut metal needed to allow students to practice their skills. COSSA will match a portion of the donated funds to purchase a 65-ton shear, allowing the program to continue to operate and provide the training students need.

“The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has long recognized the value and importance of education, including professional- technical education,” said Coeur d'Alene Tribe’s Chairman Chief Allan. “COSSA is a great opportunity for our kids to learn skilled trades and those students who participate in COSSA’s programs will be ready to succeed in the workplace, making all of us in Idaho stronger. Our support for COSSA, and for other professional-technical programs like it, is an investment in our region’s future success,” Allan continued.

As part of their 1992 gaming compact with the State of Idaho, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe insisted on returning 5% of its net gaming revenues to education. Since then, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe has donated more than \$17 million and counting to education, including this donation to western Treasure Valley’s local schools.

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