



LUMMI INDIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

2616 KWINA ROAD · BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON 98226 · (360)384-1489

DEPARTMENT _____

DIRECT NO. _____

February 10, 2011

Sam Crawford
Whatcom County Council, Chair
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 105
Bellingham, WA 98225

RECEIVED

FEB 11 2011

WHATCOM COUNTY
COUNCIL

Re: Lummi Island Ferry Interim Agreement

Dear Sam:

As you know the County and the Lummi Nation have been attempting to reach agreement on a long-term lease for the operation of the Lummi Island Ferry. The substantive negotiations have been taking place for over 15 months now but we have not reached a final agreement. Instead for one year, there has been an interim agreement that has not been approved by the United States and does not meet the needs of the Lummi Nation in terms of addressing the traffic safety concerns that are associated with the ferry.

The efforts at reaching a negotiated agreement seem to have reached a stalemate. The attempts at meetings, mediation and informal discussions appear to have stalled and the parties remain far from an agreement. At this time, the Lummi Nation is rejecting the monthly rent that was tendered on February 8, 2011. It is the expectation of the Nation that the County will terminate its ferry operations from Gooseberry Point within sixty days from today's date.

Please contact me with comments and questions. I may be reached at 384-1489.

Sincerely,

Clifford Cultee

Clifford Cultee

Chairman

Lummi Indian Business Council

Enclosure