

National Endowment of the Humanities Public

Notice of Availability for Public Comment

**National Environmental Policy Act Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding
of No Significant Impact and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
Agency Determination of No Adverse Effect**

for the proposed

**Health and Wellness Center
Northwest Indian College
2522 Kwina Rd,
Bellingham, WA 98226
CHA 286600**

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. This is to give notice that NEH has offered the Northwest Indian College (NWIC) a \$750,000 Challenge Infrastructure and Capacity Building Grant (CHA 286600) to construct a 15,600 SF Health and Wellness Center on its campus located within the Lummi Reservation in Bellingham, Washington.

NEH is required to consider the potential effects of a funded project on the natural and human environment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) ([42 USC §4331 et seq.](#)), and its implementing regulations at [40 CFR Parts 1500-1508](#). NEH is also required to identify and assess the effects of any proposed actions on historic properties. 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the implementing regulations for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, 54 U.S.C. 306108.

NWIC prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) on behalf of NEH to assess the potential impacts of the proposed alternatives on the human and natural environments, coordinating the Section 106 consultation with the Lummi Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. NEH has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the environment and no adverse effect on historic properties.

This public notice invites public comments on the proposed project in accordance with NEPA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The draft EA and incorporated Section 106 review, and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is available for review at NEH's [Environmental Assessments and Public Notices page](#).

Comments must be submitted no later than 5 pm on September 16, 2022, to Ann Piesen, NEH Federal Preservation and Environmental Officer at apiesen@neh.gov. If no substantive comments are received by this deadline, the draft EA, associated FONSI, and Section 106 determination of No Adverse Effect will become final and be published by NEH. If substantive comments are received, they will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents