

Confluence Project Dedication by the Chinook People  
November 18, 2005<sup>1</sup>

We call upon the earth, our planet home,  
with its beautiful depths and soaring heights,  
its vitality and abundance of life,  
and together we ask that it

Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the mountains,  
Saddle Mountain and Wahkiakum Mountain,  
the Willapa Hills, the summits of intense silence,  
and we ask that they

Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the waters that rim the earth,  
the waters of our great river the Lyagatthi Imathi,  
the waters of Willapa Bay, and all of the waters,  
the flowing of our rivers and streams,  
the water that falls upon us,  
and we ask that they

Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the land which grows our food,  
the nurturing soil that sustains our lives,  
and we ask that it

Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the forests, the great cedar trees  
reaching strongly to the sky, with earth in their roots  
and the heavens in their branches,  
cedar tree, the keeper of all knowledge,  
and we ask them to

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Gary Johnson, Chinook Tribal leader. Delivered at Confluence Project Dedication, November 18, 2005 at Cape Disappointment State Park, Ilwaco, WA. Whitman College Northwest Archives, Confluence Project Records, Box 5, Folder 45.

Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the creatures of the fields and  
forests and the seas, our brothers and sisters,  
Lilu the Wolf, Mulak the Elk, and Mawich the Deer,  
Ch'akch'ak the Eagle, the great Whales,  
and the Sturgeon, and the Salmon people  
who share our Chinook waters,  
and we ask that they

Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon those who have lived on this earth,  
our ancestors and our friends,  
who dreamed the best for future generations,  
and upon whose lives our lives are built,  
and with thanksgiving, we call upon them to

Teach us, and show us the way.

And lastly, we call upon all that we hold most sacred,  
the presence and the power of the Great Spirit  
which flows through all the Universe  
to be with us to

Teach us, and show us the way.