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IPHOTO Section

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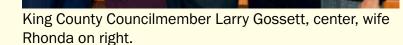
Muckleshoot Tribe Hosts Annual Holiday Reception

The Muckleshoot Tribe's Annual Holiday Reception has become a regional tradition. It brings together state, county and local elected officials with tribal leaders and prominent representatives of organizations serving people of color in an atmosphere of camaraderie and empowerment. This year's event was held at the Four Seasons Hotel in downtown Seattle. Indian Country Today editor Mark Trahant was the keynote speaker.

PHOTOS BY JOHN LOFTUS













Virgnia with Asian Community legend Dolores Sibonga.



Virginia with House Speaker Frank Chopp and wife Nancy Long.



Keynote Speaker Mark Trahant.



Louie Ungaro, Republican House Leader J.T. Wilcox, Virginia Cross.



















Rep. Bill Ramos with Virginia Cross



Virginia with Rep. Javier Valdez.



Senator Mona Das with Tribal Chair Virginia Cross



The Bill Family provided a cultural performance.



Tribal Councilmember Donny Stevenson and wife Tina.

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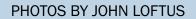






CANOE FAMILY SINGS AND DANCES AT VIADUCT'S SWAN SONG

The Muckleshoot Canoe Family, and later Suquamish, provided ancient cultural context to the Highway 99 Viaduct's final public event. Tens of thousands of people swarmed onto the old elevated highway on Saturday, February 2 to savor a final gaze at its unparalleled views of Elliott Bay, the Olympic Mountain Range and the downtown Seattle skyline. At one point in their performance, Canoe Family dancers brought three women from the crowd out onto the floor to join them in a dance. It might've seemed a bit challenging at first, but soon the ladies were mirroring the moves of their tribal partners, matching their steps and gestures, creating a nice vision of cross-cultural harmony. People coming together in peace and good will -- a good way to say goodbye to a Seattle landmark.





































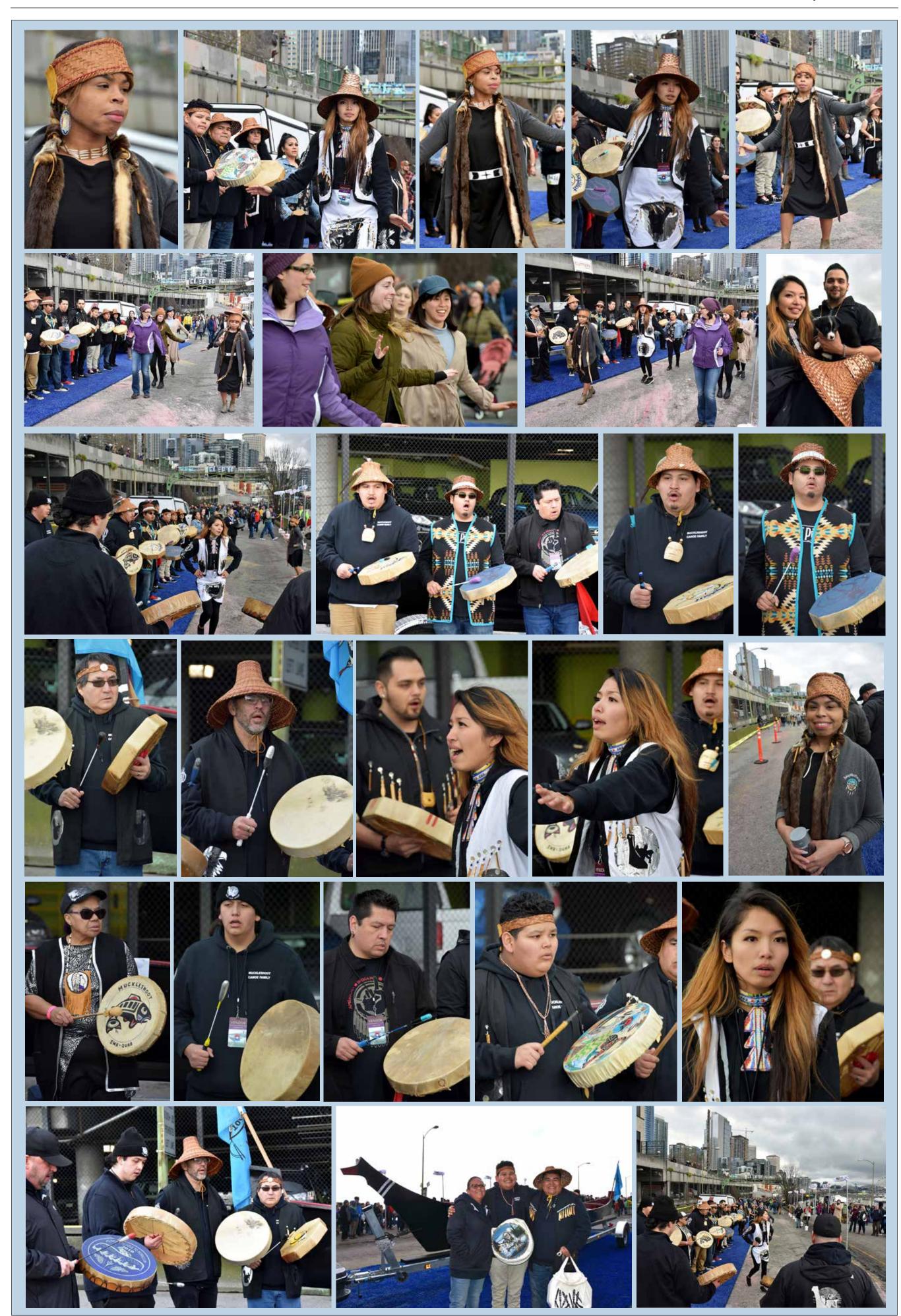








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