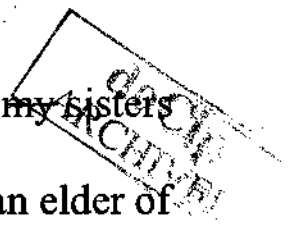


Good afternoon



Mr. Chairman, Members of the Permanent Forum, my sisters and brothers. My name is Catherine Thunderbird. I am an elder of the American Indian Community House, and The Flying Eagle Woman Fund, created in memory of Ingrid Wash ina wa tok El-Issa, from the Meninomee Nation.

^{today} Our topic is education for all Indigenous Peoples, and I am here today to speak about Ingrid and her contribution for all Indigenous Peoples. Since Ingrid was 17 years old she fought for all issues concerning Indigenous Peoples; education, human rights, as well as preserving Indigenous languages. ^{Ingrid!} She was a universal thinker because she understood the unity that was needed for all Indigenous Nations and the importance of education for our youth and future. ^{she} Ingrid's love for Indigenous Peoples from the 4 corners of the world is evident in her lasting legacy that she has left.

All Indigenous Peoples have the right to the access of even the basics of educational tools but Ingrid's vision went deeper than that.

Chief Marie Small Jones, is an example of languages in jeopardy. She is the last of her nation to speak Iyok. This is a serious situation. I urge the Forum to help

Handwritten notes on the right side of the page, including names like 'Ingrid!', 'Chief Marie Small Jones', and 'Iyok'.

Here on Turtle Island and in most reservations children are given outdated materials written by non-Indigenous people with non-Indigenous views. *when the colonizers came to Turtle Island* About language, here in North America our Native Tongue was illegal to speak. To practice our culture was illegal so many do not know the language of their ancestors. A movement by elders is teaching our youth their language and culture, and to be proud of who ^{we} they are. And this was an issue close to Ingrid's heart that all Indigenous Peoples know their language, their culture, and ultimately to obtain a higher education.

This was her vision right up until the time of her death.

*For Housing
Food +
Health
care*

Chief She was the co-founder of the Indigenous Woman's Network, a board member of many organizations, which dealt with Indigenous Issues all over the world. Her vision was to bring us all together. She gave her life defending the rights of the people. Let's not forget the work that she started. We are here today because of Ingrid's aspirations for the future of all Indigenous Peoples. Ingrid was co-founder of the International Decade of the World Indigenous Peoples when she was murdered.

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Catherine Thunderbird, Flying Eagle Women's Fund

#10 May 12, 2004

In Ingrid's memory we have established The Flying Eagle Woman Fund which includes a library and research center to document the Indigenous Peoples movement. This has been accomplished with contributions of the Ford Foundation.

and all are welcomed

Let us not forget Ingrid Wash in a wa tok El-Issa, ^a fallen warrior of Peace. ~~our~~ Therefore urge the permanent Forum to become an instrument in solving this most serious situation. For Education funds for Indigenous people of all ages, so we can move out of the bottom of the economic chain.

Please join us to celebrate the Indigenous Women of the World, honoring Ingrid. At 777 United Nations Plaza... 44th street and 4th Avenue. Thursday, May 13, 2004 at 6:30pm.

Ingrid said

"I wish to simply state, that until we make peace with earth there will be no peace in the human community."

Ingrid Wash in a wa tok El-Issa

We have the right to pursue of Educ Happiness + prosper in our own lands We to aspire to greatness