Dear Tribal Community,

During the 2018 Legislative Session HB 2951 was introduced and passed by lawmakers.

HB 2951 requires the Washington State Patrol (WSP) to partner with the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA) to determine how to increase reporting and investigation of missing Native American women.

On April 18, representatives from WSP, GOIA, and the Attorney General's Office met to discuss next steps.

The group agreed to the following:

1. Establish written communication with the 29 tribes
2. Schedule a series of meetings with tribal communities around the state to explain what tools the group has to offer
3. Establish dialogue with tribal members

At the end of the series of meetings, the WSP will submit a report to the legislators summarizing our efforts and accomplishments.

I am committed to assisting in any possible way, sharing technology resources with the Native American Community is a priority for the WSP. Our hope is by sharing information and ideas we can be a part of starting the dialogue regarding this important issue. In addition, we look forward to strengthening our partnership with the Native American community.

I have appointed Captain Monica Alexander as the liaison moving forward, please feel free to contact her at monica.alexander@wsp.wa.gov or (360) 596-4010 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Chief John R. Batiste