



Spokane Community College

Jenni Martin

Acting President

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Michael S. Regan, Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW,
Washington, D.C. 20460

March 19, 2024

Dear Mr. Regan,

Spokane Community College (SCC), a partner of Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT), is proud to contribute to efforts to reduce their carbon emissions through the collaborative Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Projects. With a successful track record of creating and implementing workforce development programs for the past 60 years, SCC continues to innovate. Our most recent addition includes electric vehicle maintenance and repair training in our automotive technology program at our main campus in Spokane, a testament to our commitment to meeting local industry needs. Additionally, we are enhancing our students' practical learning experience by acquiring hybrid trainers for the diesel/heavy equipment program, preparing them for the evolving landscape of sustainable technology in the industry.

Recently, our Corporate and Continuing Education (CCE) department responded to a workforce need identified by Governor Inslee for Commercial Driver's License Class A training to support gaps in the supply chain workforce. Since the program's launch in July 2023, CCE has trained 35 students. Further, CCE responded to another workforce need for cybersecurity training as the risk of cyber threats in the United States has risen. Since August 2022, CCE has trained over 44 students in short-term cybersecurity training.

Our commitment to UCUT's priorities around Residential Decarbonization and Carbon Smart Transportation will entail SCC's Vice President of Instruction, Dean of Technical Education, and Executive Director of Corporate and Continuing Education dedicating their time to exploring the viability and equipment required to provide UCUT with onsite training in installation and maintenance of energy-efficient residential heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning equipment and the installation and maintenance of electric vehicle charging stations. These initial time investments will help implement solutions for providing training in critical areas and will also establish living wage, high-quality education pathways. This is crucial for shaping the future of the climate pollution reduction workforce and promoting a healthy living environment for the UCUT and Washington State.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to support UCUT by building partnerships that contribute to essential endeavors focused on reducing pollution and elevating healthy living for all. Furthermore, we are incredibly excited about the prospect of assisting in incorporating high labor standards, emphasizing job quality, supporting equitable workforce development, and supporting the creation of living-wage jobs in tribal communities!

We wholly recommend funding their grant application and are dedicated to assisting them, however we can, in achieving their goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jenni Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jenni" and last name "Martin" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Jenni Martin
Acting President
Spokane Community College

CC:

Dr. Kevin Brockbank, Chancellor, Community Colleges of Spokane

Dr. Brian Henning, Institute for Climate, Water, and the Environment Director, Gonzaga University