

February 14, 2026

Representative Rob Nosse and Senator Fred Girod
Co-Chairs, Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Re: Support Native American Youth and Family Center \$7-Million Campus Request

Dear Co-Chairs Nosse and Girod,

Please accept our letter of support on behalf of the Native American Youth and Family Center's (NAYA) 2026 Capital Construction Legislative Request, which would be included in SB 5701.

Canemah Partners are a coalition of nonprofit, public, and private partners committed to ensuring NAYA's campus is safe, accessible, resilient and intentionally designed to meet the unique needs of the Native American community. Our coalition began convening in 2020 and have supported the full retirement of NAYA's campus debt so the land, buildings and programs remain in service to the community in perpetuity. Partners have also provided technical support to help NAYA's campus become more welcoming, accessible, culturally responsive, improving water quality, advancing ecosystem restoration, and enhancing safety and operational functionality.

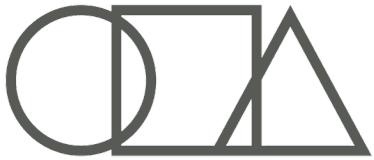
With 52 years of service to the Portland-metro region's Native American community, NAYA is a critical, community organization that impacts the lives of more than 10,000 individuals annually. NAYA delivers hundreds of thousands of hours of direct support through its 40-plus programs including culture, education, economic development, housing, post-secondary scholarships, financial wellness, IDAs, housing, small business assistance, and many other essential services for families, infants to Elders. Its work contributes to creating brighter and self-determined futures for clients who will then give back to the community and contribute to our economy.

State funding will fully replace the roof and solar array in NAYA's main building, which is nearing the end of its useful life; complete seismic upgrades to ensure the main building withstands future earthquakes; and modernize an outdated heating and cooling system which is starting to fail. The state's investment will be matched by city, federal, private, and philanthropic support to cover the total cost of their project, which is approximately \$13-million.

These investments will ensure NAYA continues delivering essential, culturally specific services on its campus, which was a Chinook fishing village called Neerchokikoo not too long ago. We urge you to support their \$7-million capital construction request.

Sincerely,

Canemah Partners



**CARLETON HART
ARCHITECTURE**

Carleton Hart Architecture



City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services



Columbia Slough Watershed Council



City of Portland, Portland Parks and Recreation



Native American Youth and Family Center



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Urban Flood Safety & Water Quality District