

# Timeline

## 1700s

**1780** Population of the Kalispels estimated to be between 1200-1600.

## 1800s

**1809** Explorer David Thompson traded with the Kalispel.

**1838** Protestant missionaries visited the Kalispels 3-4 times a year.

**1844** Father Hoecken established St. Ignatius Mission and began teaching Christianity. Father DeSmet celebrated a Christmas Mass with the Kalispels in a cave in the Selkirk Mountains which he named the New Manressa Grotto.

**1850** Census taken by the missionaries estimated the Kalispel to be at 500-600.

**1855** Death of Loyola (Standing Grizzly Bear), Head Chief of the Kalispels. After an election, the Kalispel rally around Victor as their new Chief.

**1856** Governor Stevens convenes with the Kalispel and proposes a treaty that they cede land and move to a reserve in the mountains. Chief Victor declined.

**1875** Kalispel population estimated at 395. White settlement increases rapidly.

**1886** Indian-white conflicts escalate. Immediate action needed to protect the Indians and establish a reserve by the U.S. Government.

**1887** Congress passed the General Allotment Act also known as the Dawes Act, which stated that the head of each family would receive 160 acres of tribal land and each single person would receive 80 acres. Title to the land would be held in trust by the government for 25 years. After 25 years each individual would be promised U.S. citizenship and fee simple title to their land.

NW Indian Commission met with the Kalispels chiefs to present an agreement intended to remove them to the Flathead reservation in Montana. Victor and his son, Marcella, refused. Michael, Chief of the lower Kalispels, who represented the majority, agreed, agreement is never ratified by the Congress.

## 1900s

**1911** Tribal population declines to approximately 100. Priests visit on Sundays. When absent, the chief assembled the Tribe in his own home for singing, hymns and prayer in their native language.

**1914** Separate reserves set apart by executive order of President Woodrow Wilson for the lower Kalispels within their own land, establishing the Kalispel Reservation.

**1924** The Allotment Act changes traditional communal village living, and 40 acre parcels of land are dispersed and intended for farming. Agriculture is not suitable on the Reservation land due to flooding and hilly terrain.

**1958** Indian Claims Commission (ICC) ruled the Kalispels have title to lands taken from them in the 1800s without compensation. Tribe is awarded \$2.7 million and funds much needed infrastructure on the reservation.

**1965** Tribal annual per capita income is approximately \$1,400, and the Reservation only has one phone and two homes with running water.

**1966** 38 homes built on the reservation from ICC settlement funds.

**1967** Community Hall is built on the reservation and is funded by the ICC settlement.

**1974** Tribe receives 12 buffalo from the U.S. Park Service. Kalispel Metal Products established as an enterprise on present day site of Kalispel Career Training Center (KCTC).

**1992** Tribal Administration is reorganized and a vision statement is developed. Kalispel Natural Resources Department is founded.

**1993** Tribal buffalo heard stabilizes at 100 head.

**1994** The Tribe acquires 40 acres of trust land in Airway Heights, WA. Albeni Falls Dam wildlife mitigation project turns over 440 acres to the Tribe to establish wildlife and waterfowl refuge.

**1999** The first water line from the city of Cusick is brought across the Pend Oreille River to service reservation residents.

## 2000s

**2000** Northern Quest Casino opens in Airway Heights, WA on Kalispel Reservation lands.

**2001** Camas Path begins operations and services.

**2001** First Tribal hatchery-produced bass are released in the Pend Oreille River.

**2003** Powwow grounds receive major update on the Reservation in Usk.

**2004** The State of Idaho recognizes the Kalispel Tribe as an Idaho Tribe.

**2004** Tribe achieves water quality standards from the Environmental Protection Agency.

**2006** Renovations to the Tribal headquarters in Usk, WA are completed.

**2007** The Pend Oreille PUD installs a power line that runs under the river to the Reservation in order to service the future Camas Center.

**2008** Camas Center for Community Wellness opens on Reservation in Usk, WA. Tribe acquires 4,400 additional acres of land. Infrastructure completed for 12 new homes sites on the Reservation to prepare for occupancy. Kalispel Tribal Economic Authority (KTEA) is created by the Council to plan and operate business and commercial opportunities for the Tribe.

**2009** Box Canyon Dam license and settlement implementation ends 29 years of litigation between the Tribe and Pend Oreille PUD. Public Safety Building construction complete. Kalispel Tribal Transit System (KALTRAN) begins operations. Salish Language program receives Administration for Native American (ANA) grant to plan for Salish language revitalization.

**2010** Northern Quest becomes Northern Quest Resort & Casino, with a 250-room luxury hotel, world-class spa, state-of-the-art fitness center and swimming pool. Tribe opens Kalispel Chevron Convenience Store at Legacy Landing (Airway Heights, WA).

**2011** Honeysuckle Housing Development complete, adding six environmentally friendly, LEED certified homes on the Reservation. Kalispel Career Training Center Opens.

**2012** Memorandum of Agreement established between the Tribe and the Bonneville Power Administration. Indian Creek Property acquired, bringing additional lands total over 5,000 acres.

**2013** Kalispel Tribal Police recognized as a Washington State General Police Authority as a result of Law Enforcement Agreements with Pend Oreille County, Spokane County and the City of Airway Heights.

**2014** The Reservation's centennial is recognized and the People's Place Community Center opens.

**2015** Tribal population is 462. Elder Center opens. Tribe opens 2nd Kalispel Chevron Convenience Store (Airway Heights, WA)

**2016** The Tribe opens The Kalispel Golf and Country Club, 1898 Public House (Spokane, WA), Kalispel Linen Services (Airway Heights, WA), and Crossroads Family Restaurant (Cusick, WA).



## Our Heritage



CANADA

WASHINGTON

# People of the Pend Oreille

Since time immemorial, the Kalispel Indians were semi-nomadic hunters, diggers and fishermen who lived along the Pend Oreille-Clark Fork river system. Often traveling from Northeastern Washington down through Idaho and into Western Montana for seasonal sustenance, the Kalispel people's land was reduced to an area on the Pend Oreille river near the town of Usk, WA in the early 1900s.

The original Reservation was approximately 7 square miles in size and located in Pend Oreille County on the east bank of the Pend Oreille River and close to the towns of Usk and Cusick. Since that time almost four square miles of Tribal Trust land has been added to the Reservation, including a half square mile in the City of Airway Heights, where the Tribe has constructed a resort hotel and casino, a gas station and convenience store, and other economic opportunities.

Today, the Kalispel Tribal lands include 55 miles north of Spokane, Washington along 10 miles of the Pend Oreille River, 252 acres of trust land and 40 acres of reservation trust land in Airway Heights.

The Kalispel Tribal homelands extended from present day Plains, Montana down the Clark Fork River, all of Priest and Pend Oreille Lakes, down the Pend Oreille River into Canada encompassing 3.5 million acres.

The Spokane area was a customary spot for seasonal rounds, for gathering fish at the falls, collecting roots and berries, and the coming together of neighboring tribes including the Spokane, Colville, Coeur d'Alene, Bitterroot Salish, and Kootenai Tribes to celebrate and honor culture.



1963  
ADJUDICATED LANDS  
(2.4 MILLION ACRES)

RESERVATION  
(4,500 ACRES)

SANDPOINT

NEWPORT

TRUST  
(292 ACRES)

SPOKANE

1800S  
ABORIGINAL LANDS  
(3.5 MILLION ACRES)

MONTANA

## DEFINITIONS

**ADJUDICATED** land used exclusively by the Kalispel Tribe.

**ABORIGINAL** land used by the Kalispel Tribe predominately but not exclusively.

**FLOODPLAINS** area of low lying ground adjacent to a river or stream, formed mainly of river sediment and subject to regular flooding.