Wes McCart District No. 1

Don Dashiell District No. 2

Steve Parker District No. 3



**Stevens County Commissioners** 

Mailing Address: 215 S. Oak Street; Colville, WA 99114-2861 Location: 230 East Birch, Colville, WA Phone (509) 684-3751 TTY: 800-833-6388 E-mail: commissioners@co.stevens.wa.us Polly Coleman Clerk of the Board

Nettie LaDoux Assistant Clerk

> Lois Haag Assistant Clerk

The Lodging Tax (also known as Hotel/Motel Tax) was created by the state legislature as a means to help cities and counties promote tourism at the local level. Various groups and organizations have been awarded funds to help pay for maintenance and operations or advertising to promote their event.

In accordance with state law (RCW 67.28.1816) the funds can be used for tourism promotion defined as: "funds from taxes imposed under this RCW are to be used solely for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of tourism promotion, acquisition of tourism-related facilities, or operation of tourism-related facilities". "Tourism-related facility" means real or tangible personal property with a usable life of three or more years, or constructed with volunteer labor that is: (a)(i) Owned by a public entity; (ii) owned by a non profit organization described under section 501 (c)(3) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, as amended; or (iii) owned by a non profit organization described under section 501 (c)(6) of the federal internal revenue code, as amended, a business organization, destination marketing organization, main street organization, lodging association, or chamber of commerce and (b) used to support tourism, performing arts, or to accommodate tourist activities.

For the 2016 year of awards, maintenance and operation requests will be considered by the Stevens County Board of Commissioners upon receipt. The Lodging Tax Committee will consider advertising/promotional requests upon receipt. New groups and organizations promoting new events that have not previously been a recipient of a lodging tax award from the county will receive first consideration, those and other requests will be considered by the Lodging Tax Committee. Their recommendation is then presented to the Stevens County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

As in the past, funds are awarded on an annual allotment and are not intended as a continual means of support. All reimbursement requests must be submitted prior to 12/31/2016 and include proof of payment.

Advertising dollars require additional record keeping. If your organization is the recipient of funds for marketing/advertising you must provide an estimate of the event attendance as well as an approximate number of overnight stays of those attendees.

Actual numbers of attendees, those who traveled 50 miles or more, those from out of state or out of the country and those who stayed overnight and paid for lodging are required to receive the funds.

Request Forms are available online at <a href="www.co.stevens.wa.us">www.co.stevens.wa.us</a> on the Press Release page or the Citizen Participation page, or by contacting the Stevens County Commissioners' Office at 509-684-3751.