



# AND THE JOURNEY BEGINS...



## 2023 PADDLE TO MUCKLESHOOT

The Pearl will be pulling up anchor this week and beginning the journey north to Stz'uminus First Nation in British Columbia. Working in partnership with All Nations Paddles Up, Captain Sonnier and his crew will be supporting eight canoes who represent communities from Alaska through central Vancouver Island and Washington.

To view the 2023 Tribal Journeys map, please visit [sparrowcanoesupport.com](http://sparrowcanoesupport.com) and click the cedar hat.

Shoutout to Arnie Robinson of the Eagle Princess, and our friends at Western Marine Response, who will be on the water with us again this year.

### THE SHIP

The Pearl has been the greatest gift, allowing Captain Sonnier and his crew to provide critical support to canoe families while out on the water. Build in 2004, this Alden designed ship is well appointed and provides the perfect shelter for tired pullers.

### THE JOURNEY

On July 18, the All Nations delegation will meet in Stz'uminus First Nation for a day of fun, safety water training. Timed races, review of paddle techniques, and relays, headline the day's activities. On July 20th the Journey officially begins as we point our canoes towards Mucklehsoot and travels to our first stop in Cowichan before making our way down Vancouver Island, crossing at Lower Elwha.



## A MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN SONNIER

There is nothing more exciting than the weeks leading up to Tribal Journeys as canoe families begin to prepare for gruelling days on the water, practice for protocol to honour their host's invitation, and gather all the camping gear and supplies that have been tucked away.

For me personally, it is also a time of great reflection and of tremendous optimism. Being on the water and supporting the canoes continues to be one of the greatest pleasures of my life.

As I head into my 15th year involved in Tribal Journeys, I am amazed at the growth and strength of our canoe families and, I am reminded how blessed I am to be part of this unstoppable movement. I want to take this moment to thank you for your friendship and support. I look forward to seeing you on the water!

## THE CANOES

More than 125 canoes are expected to arrive on the shores of Alki Beach as they honour the invitation of the Muckleshoot Nation. Among them will be the delegation travelling under the All Nations Paddles Up banner, supported by Captain Sonnier and his crew.

### KLAHOOSE & ALL NATIONS

### SINGING COHO - QUALICUM

### PINK PADDLE

### COWICHAN TRIBES

### THUNDERBIRD RUGBY

### QWYANO - METIS NATION

### JIBBA - HAINES, ALASKA

### OLIVER CANOE FAMILY

## WELCOME ABOARD

Regardless of the weather, sometimes even the most seasoned Tribal Journeys puller needs a moment or two off the water. The Pearl is the perfect place to find solace for wayward travels and the crew is quick to make everyone feel welcome.

The Pearl is pleased to once again have BC Paramedic Martin Metz aboard. Martin has been travelling for many years supporting Journeys. He is a proud member of the Tl'emtl'ems Canoe Family.

Working in tandem with Skipper Arnie Robinson of the Eagle Princess, the two vessels divide the tasks - the Pearl handles all the camping gear while the Eagle Princess serves as the on-water kitchen. Together, the two boats will support the 8 canoes, many of them travelling without road crew!

