



# PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

**For Immediate Release  
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## **Missing Indigenous Woman is Located**

**(Nespelem, WA)** — Multiple law enforcement agencies investigated a missing persons case over the past weekend, beginning on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Colville tribal member Amanda Pakootas was missing and reported by police to be held against her will with a man named Joseph Parisien.

Amanda Pakootas was located on Monday night near E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Nelson in Spokane, Washington. She was reported to be safe. Joseph Parisien was taken into custody Tuesday night, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Amanda's family wishes to thank the law enforcement officers who investigated the case and ultimately found Amanda, including the Colville Tribal Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Washington State Patrol, the Spokane County Police, the Airway Heights Police, the Spokane Tribal Police, and the Kalispel Tribal Police. The family also wishes to acknowledge HEROS, the Find Me Group, and MMIW, the victim advocacy groups that assisted and supported the family during this traumatic event. They especially wish to acknowledge Detective Jordan McNulty of the Colville Tribal Police for her efforts during the investigation.

The Chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Jarred-Michael Erickson, said, "We are very grateful that Amanda was located and returned safely to her family. I want to join Amanda's family in praising the efforts of Detective McNulty and the other officers of the Colville Tribal Police and the other law enforcement organizations who worked on this case. I also want to thank our entire community for getting the word out and sharing information. Keeping tribal members safe is a top priority for the Colville Business Council, as is seeking justice for those who threaten tribal members."

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,214 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlám̓xəx̓w (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; s̓x̓w̓y̓?il̓p (sharp pointed trees) or

Colville; šntíyátk<sup>wəx</sup> (grass in the water) or Entiat; snŋáyckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mət<sup>xu</sup> (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənə<sup>x</sup> (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənpŋ<sup>wilx</sup> (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq<sup>wáwsəx</sup> (people in between) or Wenatchi.