

# Embedding Native Values into your Business

## KICKOFF SESSION



## Project Partners



**NORTHWEST  
NATIVE  
CHAMBER**



Portland State  
UNIVERSITY  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



**SUSTAINABLE  
PURCHASING  
LEADERSHIP  
COUNCIL**



INSTITUTE FOR  
TRIBAL GOVERNMENT



**Institute for  
Sustainable Solutions**  
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

# Chrissa (PSU)

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*Institute for Tribal  
Government, Program  
Administrator*

Enrolled member of the Turtle  
Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

**Chrissa Wilkie**  
**(She/Her)**



## **ITG Mission:**

The Institute for Tribal Government arranges and facilitates ongoing training, professional development, and consulting service programs for tribal and non-tribal organizations nationwide.

# Agenda

11:00 - 11:20 AM	<b>Get to know one another</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Project Team Introductions: NWNC, PSU &amp; SPLC</li><li>- Cohort Introductions/Icebreaker</li></ul>
11:20 - 11:30 AM	<b>Grant Overview and Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- How this work is made possible</li><li>- Participant goals and expected outcomes</li></ul>
11:30 - 12:00 PM	<b>Curriculum Overview and Logistics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Review program curriculum</li><li>- Provide information on 'The Gathering'</li><li>- Walkthrough how to access to Video on Demand modules</li></ul>
12:00 - 12:15 PM	<b>Wrap-up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Next Steps</li><li>- Q&amp;A</li></ul>

# Learning Outcomes

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- Build new connections with the project team and fellow cohort members.
- Understand our shared goals for the program.
- Become familiar with the program syllabus, structure, tools and people that can help you navigate and succeed in your learning.

# CONTENT DISCLAIMER

This training program is intended to assist Native business owners in creating successful sustainable business plans aligned with their values. It is important to acknowledge that certain terms and historical references used along the way may evoke strong emotions or discomfort due to their historical significance.

Although it is not our intention to cause any distress or offense, but rather to provide valuable insights into the practices of integrating positive impact-based business operations and sourcing, there still may be portions of the content that you find stressful and challenging. We encourage you to approach the content with an open mind and understanding.

If you have any questions or concerns about the content we encourage you to reach out to us as we are committed to fostering a respectful and inclusive learning environment.



# Introductions



# Introductions

- a. Name
- b. Pronouns
- c. Tribal affiliation
- d. Organization/role
- e. Location
- f. Favorite spot in nature



NORTHWEST  
NATIVE  
CHAMBER

C E S

COMMUNITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES



SUSTAINABLE  
PURCHASING  
LEADERSHIP  
COUNCIL

Photo courtesy of Johanna Anderson - PNW forest





# Northwest Native Chamber Project Team

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*Education Program  
Specialist*

**Kyman Benton**  
**(He/Him)**



**NORTHWEST  
NATIVE  
CHAMBER**

## **Organizational Mission:**

Dedicated to working with all members to  
transform the economic landscape for Native and  
tribal people in the Northwest.



# Community Environmental Services (PSU)

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*Associate Director for  
Regional Partnerships  
and Projects*

**Beth Gilden (She/Her)**



*Partnerships  
Coordinator*

**Rica Perez (She/They)**

C E S | COMMUNITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES

## **About CES:**

Community Environmental Services is a research and service unit of PSU that provides technical assistance and research for partners looking to improve their sustainability and waste management practices.

# SPLC Project Team

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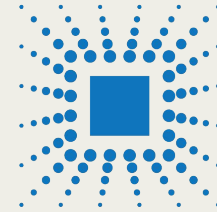
*Sr Manager of Learning and  
Partnerships*

**Katie Saha**  
(She/her)



*VP of Programs and  
Development*

**Kris Spriano**  
(She/her)



**SUSTAINABLE  
PURCHASING  
LEADERSHIP  
COUNCIL**

**Building a sustainable world  
through the power of  
procurement**

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# GRANT OVERVIEW



# GRANT OVERVIEW

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Pollution Prevention (P2) grants provide technical assistance to businesses in order to help them develop and adopt source reduction practices. P2 means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal.

# Defining Our Purpose through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement

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**OUR FOCUS:** Work in consideration of the inequitable limitations faced by small organizations when seeking to integrate sustainable practices. In regards to resources and support, these inequities are further prevalent for minority-owned and minority-serving businesses.

**OUR GOAL:** Provide culturally-relevant sustainability and sustainable procurement training (through curriculum, workshops, and learning) to Native and Tribally-owned and/or serving organizations wishing to further address key sustainability impacts such as toxins, greenhouse gas emissions and fair labor in their supply chains; while growing their business via alignment to customers seeking suppliers such as them in order to build community.

# Grant Obligations / Program Output: Embedding Native Values into your Business

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- Capture business' understanding and use of sustainability and sustainable procurement practices before and after taking the program, through:
  - Pre- and post-program surveys
  - Worksheets
- Gather feedback to improve content and delivery of curriculum
- Impact from Program
  - Grant requirement
  - Helps us improve the program experience for future cohorts
  - Track and share impacts to Native communities

*We ask for full participation in the surveys and follow-up for these reasons!*

## Safer and More Sustainable Products Pre-Training Survey

This form will help us understand Native businesses' current sustainability practices before taking the "Embedding Native Values in your Business" course and capture how the curriculum has enhanced the sustainability and sustainable procurement strategies of these businesses post-training.

Please fill out the form below to help us learn more about your organization and its involvement in sustainability and sustainable procurement activities.

\* Indicates required question

Email \*

Your email

Organization Name \*

Your answer

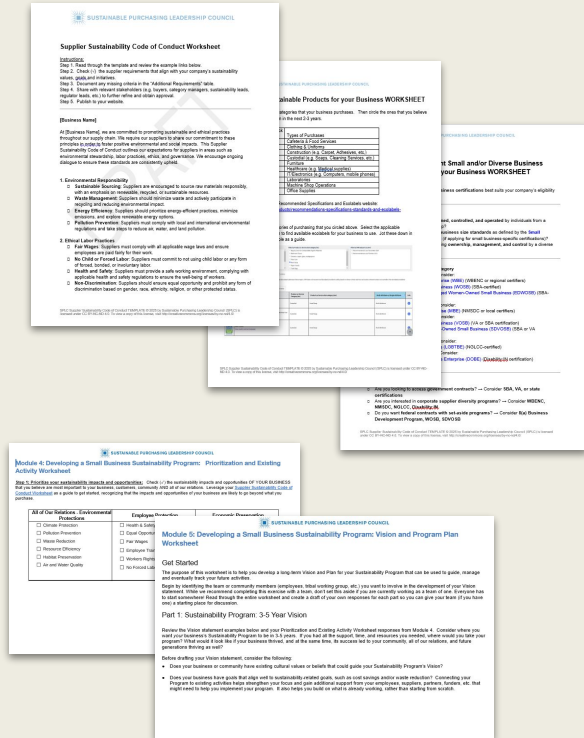
Website URL

Your answer

**If you haven't already, please  
complete this survey!  
[forms.gle/5PDTJT9f1G9wKh3V9](https://forms.gle/5PDTJT9f1G9wKh3V9)**



# Program Deliverables: 5 Program Worksheets!



Please submit worksheets to Rica Perez ([ricperez@pdx.edu](mailto:ricperez@pdx.edu)) no later than Friday, October 17th:

- ❑ Supplier Sustainability Code of Conduct
- ❑ Choosing More Sustainable Products
- ❑ Determining the Right Business Certification
- ❑ Developing a Small Business Sustainability Program
- ❑ Your Vision and Program Plan

# **CURRICULUM OVERVIEW**



# Curriculum Overview:

## Embedding Native Values into your Business

<b>Goals</b>	<i>Develop an understanding of how sustainability and sustainable procurement can enhance your business in alignment with Native values</i>	<i>Apply this foundational knowledge to your business - identifying the work to be done and prioritizing next steps to set a course for realizing the benefits to your business, employees, the environment and our communities.</i>	
<b>Sessions</b>	<p>VOD 1: Intro to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement</p> <p>VOD 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business</p> <p>VOD 3: Becoming a Certified Small and/or Diverse Supplier</p> <p>OPTIONAL Office Hours</p>	<p>Developing Your Sustainability Program - PART I: <i>Prioritization and Existing Activities</i></p> <p>Developing Your Sustainability Program - PART II: <i>Vision and Program Plan</i></p> <p>Sustainability Program Plan: Report Out</p> <p><b>Portland, OR</b> <b>October 8-9, 2025</b></p>	<p>OPTIONAL: Peer Learning Circles - Ongoing sharing and support (3 sessions)</p> <p><b>11/4/2025</b></p> <p><b>12/2/2025</b></p> <p><b>1/9/2026</b></p>

# Curriculum Overview:

## Embedding Native Values into your Business

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# Curriculum Overview:

## Embedding Native Values into your Business

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# Why we're meeting in person + during *The Gathering*

- Our October in-person sessions are designed to:
  - Deepen relationships
  - Reflect on your sustainability work
  - Celebrate Native-led business
- They coincide with NWNC's annual gala, **The Gathering** — an inspiring celebration of Native innovation.
  - Attendance for The Gathering is optional, and stipends may help offset ticket costs, though NWNC can't provide free admission.



NORTHWEST  
NATIVE  
CHAMBER

# THE GATHERING

OCTOBER 9, 2025

MOVEMENT TO POWER. OUR CULTURE.  
OUR PROSPERITY. OUR FUTURE

Castaway Portland  
1900 NW 18th Ave. Portland, OR

**Optional - Purchase your ticket for the Gathering at [NWNC.org/gathering-2025/](https://NWNC.org/gathering-2025/)**

- All cohort participants can receive a 20% discount on their ticket purchases for the Gathering 2025. Please use the discount code **N8tvBiz** upon checkout.



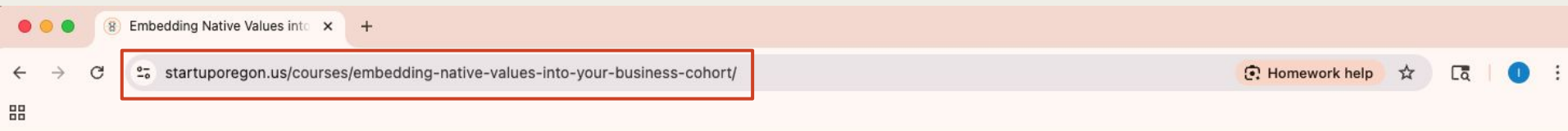
# **NWNC Video on Demand (VOD) Platform Instructions**





# Start Here!

- You do not need to create an account to complete the online modules. Please contact NWN Technical Assistance Program Manager **Alyssa Camp** ([acamp@nwn.org](mailto:acamp@nwn.org)) for questions about the online platform or VODs.



## Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement



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## ➤ **Select the Module You Want to Work On.**

- Scroll to the bottom of the course page to select a module. Note: the recording of the Kick-Off on September 9th will be posted to the first module listed.

### PROGRAM VISION

We aim to assist up to 100 small and medium-sized businesses in the states of Oregon and Washington. Our goal is to provide additional “tools in the toolbox” via curriculum, workshops, networking, and additional resources to interested Native and Tribally-owned and/or serving organizations who are starting or currently progressing in their journey of developing, refining, and implementing sustainability and sustainable procurement practices into their businesses.

### Course Content

☐ Kick-Off: Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement

☐ Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement

☐ Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business

☐ Module 3: Introduction to Business and Product Certifications

➤ Each Module will contain a **video** to watch with the course content. Below the video, you will find a **description** of the module along with **timestamps** for specific **sub-topics** throughout the lesson.

The screenshot shows a web browser with the URL `startuporegon.us/courses/embedding-native-values-into-your-business-cohort/lessons/module-1-introduction-to-sustainability-and-sustainable-procurement/`. The page features a sidebar on the left with a list of modules. The first module, 'Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement', is highlighted in red. Below it are three other modules: 'Kick-Off: Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement', 'Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement' (which is the current selection), and 'Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business'. The main content area displays the title 'Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement' and a sub-header 'Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement > Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and...'. Below this, there are two tabs: 'Lesson' (which is selected and highlighted with a red box) and 'Materials'. The 'Lesson' tab shows a video player with the title 'Introduction to Sustainability and Standards in Business Practi...' and a duration of 27 min. The video player has a play button and a volume control icon. The video content shows a lightbulb on a wooden surface with the text 'Embedding Native Values into your Business' and 'Module 1 Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement (SP)'. The video player also shows a 'Project Partners' logo.

startuptime.us/courses/embedding-native-values-into-your-business-cohort/lessons/module-1-introduction-to-sustainability-and-sustainable-procurement/

Previous Lesson Next Lesson

Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement

- ☐ Kick-Off: Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement
- ☒ Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement
- ☐ Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business
- ☐ Module 3: Introduction to Business and Product Certifications

Lesson Materials

Summary

Introduction to Sustainability and Standards in Business Practi... 0 0

27 min 7 views

Embedding Native Values into your Business

Module 1 Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement (SP)

1x 27 min Project Partners

➤ To find the **worksheets** and/or **additional resources** for each module, navigate to the **Materials** tab underneath the Module Title. *This example is from Module 2.*

➤ From there, you will find **links** and/or **downloadable PDFs** to all materials.

The screenshot displays a web browser at the URL [startuporegon.us/courses/embedding-native-values-into-your-business-cohort/lessons/module-2-identifying-the-most-valuable-sustainable-procurement-approaches-...](https://startuporegon.us/courses/embedding-native-values-into-your-business-cohort/lessons/module-2-identifying-the-most-valuable-sustainable-procurement-approaches-...). The page features a sidebar on the left with a red header "Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement". Below this header, a list of modules is shown, with "Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business" selected and highlighted in red. The main content area is titled "Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business". Below the title, a navigation bar shows "Lesson" and "Materials" tabs, with the "Materials" tab highlighted by a red box. The "Materials" tab lists six items: 1. Choosing More Sustainable Products for your Business WORKSHEET: PDF / Doc, 2. Determining the Right Certification for your Business WORKSHEET: PDF / Doc, 3. SPLC Office Supplies Specifications Guidance: PDF, 4. Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla - Renewable Energy: Link, 5. Energy Solutions for Native Americans in Oregon: PDF, and 6. Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians - 2025 Clean Energy Summit - Event Venue RFP: Link. At the bottom of the page, there are buttons for "Previous Lesson", "Back to Course", and "Next Lesson".

➤ To navigate back to the **homepage** of the course, click on **“Embedding Native Values Into Your Business Through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement”** at the top of the left-side panel (highlighted in pink).

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [startuporegon.us/courses/embedding-native-values-into-your-business-cohort/lessons/module-2-identifying-the-most-valuable-sustainable-procurement-approaches-...](http://startuporegon.us/courses/embedding-native-values-into-your-business-cohort/lessons/module-2-identifying-the-most-valuable-sustainable-procurement-approaches-...). The page is titled "Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business".

The left sidebar contains a list of course modules, with the current module highlighted in pink:

- ☐ Kick-Off: Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement
- ☐ Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement
- ☒ **Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business**
- ☐ Module 3: Introduction to Business and Product Certifications

The main content area displays the title "Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your Business" and a list of resources:

- 1. Choosing More Sustainable Products for your Business WORKSHEET: [PDF / Doc](#)
- 2. Determining the Right Certification for your Business WORKSHEET: [PDF / Doc](#)
- 3. SPLC Office Supplies Specifications Guidance: [PDF](#)
- 4. Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla - Renewable Energy: [Link](#)
- 5. Energy Solutions for Native Americans in Oregon: [PDF](#)
- 6. Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians - 2025 Clean Energy Summit - Event Venue RFP: [Link](#)

Navigation buttons are visible at the bottom: "Previous Lesson", "Back to Course", and "Next Lesson".

# Next steps...

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## Complete the Pre-Training Survey

### Safer and More Sustainable Products Pre-Training Survey

This form will help us understand Native businesses' current sustainability practices before taking the "Embedding Native Values in your Business" course and capture how the curriculum has enhanced the sustainability and sustainable procurement strategies of these businesses post-training.

Please fill out the form below to help us learn more about your organization and its involvement in sustainability and sustainable procurement activities.

\* Indicates required question

Email \*

Your email

Organization Name \*

Your answer

Website URL

Your answer

## Finish Mods 1-3 by October 7, 2025

### Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement

☐ Kick-Off: Embedding Native Values into your  
Business through Sustainability and Sustainable  
Procurement

☐ Module 1: Introduction to Sustainability and  
Sustainable Procurement

☐ Module 2: Identifying the Most Valuable  
Sustainable Procurement Approaches for your  
Business

☐ Module 3: Introduction to Business and Product  
Certifications


## (Optional) Register for The Gathering





# Resources

## Review the [Glossary](#) of Sustainable Procurement Terms



**SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

### Glossary of Sustainable Procurement Terms

**Acquisition**  
Business transaction in which the ownership of companies, other business organizations, or their operating units are transferred to or consolidated with another company or business organization.

**Advocacy**  
An activity by an individual or group that aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social institutions.

**Alternative Fuels**  
Power sources that serve, at least partly, as a substitute for fossil oil sources in the energy supply. Alternative fuels include bio-diesel, bio-alcohol (methanol, ethanol, butane), refuse-derived fuel, chemically stored electricity.

**Alternative Materials**  
Replacements to traditional engineered building materials such as asphalt, concrete, natural aggregates, and others.

**Anti-Competitive Practices**  
Business, government or religious practices that prevent or reduce competition in a market.

**Assessment**  
Assessment here is defined as the process of identifying and ranking priority environmental, social and economic/governance issues, based on criteria specific and material to an organization and/or its stakeholders.

**Beneficial Owners**  
Beneficial owner is a legal term for the individuals who ultimately control and profit from a corporation. Public interest organizations, such as [Global Witness](#), the [B Team](#), and [Transparency International](#), have documented how anonymous, opaque companies enable corruption, fraud, organized crime, tax evasion, and impunity for abusers of human rights and the environment. Recognizing that knowing the true identity of ones suppliers is a prerequisite for effective due diligence, procurement organizations are increasingly requesting beneficial ownership transparency from their suppliers. In 2017, [Open Ownership](#), a global registry of beneficial ownership information launched to support the tracking of beneficial ownership information.

**Benefit Corporation**  
A legal entity with a Board of Directors required by law to consider the impact of their actions on all stakeholders, rather than their stockholders alone. In most cases, they must publicly disclose their social and environmental performance, assessed against a 3rd-party standard (ex. Certified B Corp).

## Access the **NWNC StartUp** Training [Platform](#)

### Embedding Native Values into your Business through Sustainability and Sustainable Procurement



#### OVERVIEW

We acknowledge that across all industries there are practices that contribute to pollution through production and consumption of materials and services.

We're looking for **60+ Native-owned or Native-serving businesses** of all sizes—with a focus on small to medium-sized—to join this free program. Whether you're just getting started or looking to refine and implement sustainability programs and sustainable procurement practices, this program is for you!

#### WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Sept. 9 Program Kick-Off (Virtual) – meet the program team, receive a grant and curriculum overview, and step-by-step instructions on how to access the learning modules.
- 3 self-paced recorded modules that help businesses develop an understanding of how sustainability and sustainable procurement can enhance your business in alignment with Native values.
- Optional weekly office hours
- Apply this foundational knowledge to your business – identifying the work to be done and prioritizing next steps to set a course for realizing the benefits to your business, employees, the environment and our communities at the in-person workshop, Oct. 8-9 in Portland, OR.
- Optional monthly peer learning circles post-workshop
  - Tuesday, 11/4
  - Tuesday, 12/2
  - Friday, 1/5
- **Stipend provided** to participants who complete the self-paced modules, attend the in-person workshop and submit all program worksheets to [Rica Perez-Rivera@pdx.edu](mailto:Rica.Perez-Rivera@pdx.edu).
- **Additional support** available for lodging and travel to the in-person workshop, and missing work time
- For any questions or concerns please contact:
  - [Rica Perez-Rivera@pdx.edu](mailto:Rica.Perez-Rivera@pdx.edu) for questions about the grant and program logistics
  - [Alyse Camp@nwnc.org](mailto:Alyse.Camp@nwnc.org) for questions about the online platform or VODs

#### WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

We aim to assist up to 100 organizations and other organizations in the state of Oregon and Washington. Our goal is to provide additional "tools in the toolbox" via curriculum, workshops, networking, and additional resources to interested Native and Tribal-owned and/or serving organizations who are starting or currently progressing in their journey of developing, refining, and implementing sustainability and sustainable procurement practices into their businesses.

# Questions?

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# Thank You!

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