

# The Casino Economy: Indian Gaming, Tribal Sovereignty, and Economic Independence in the Pacific Northwest.

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# INTRODUCTION

- Looking at the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.
- Several positive benefits of the casino economy and the larger community:
  - Business development
  - Higher education
  - Job growth

# COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS REGARDING INDIAN GAMING

- “Tribes do not pay any taxes”
- “Tribes just sit on their casino profits”
- “Tribes never give back to their local communities”



# THE CASINO ECONOMY

- Currently operates two casinos.
- In 2015, the Tribe spent over \$491 million.
- Total taxes collected in 2015 was \$80 million.



# BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT





# TAHOMA MARKET

- Opened in 2011.
- Consists of a gas station, car wash, and convenience store.





# STOGIE'S CIGAR & SPORTS LOUNGE

- Opened in 2015.
- Contains a great selection of imported cigars and fine liquors.





# HIGHER EDUCATION





# GRANT TO UW-TACOMA

- Provided a grant of \$275,000 in 2014.
- Went towards enhancing Native American education and research.





# JOB GROWTH





# JOB GROWTH

- The Tribe is one of largest employers in Pierce County.
- As of 2016, they employ over 3,100 people.



# KEY INSIGHTS TO REMEMBER

Casino profits have been used to develop tribal businesses.

They do share their wealth amongst the larger community.

They are integral to the South Sound economy.



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