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August 12, 2010

The Honorable Jim Newman
Town of Aquinnah
Board of Selectmen
65 State Road
Aquinnah, MA 02535

Re: Temporary Permission of Pedestrian Access Across Tribal Trust Lands

Dear Jim,

Thank you once again for your continued efforts in seeking alternative and respectful ways to address land use and other issues between the Town and Tribe. We appreciate your willingness to enter into meaningful discussions and consultations, to achieve reasonable resolutions to apparent or perceived conflicts. To that end, the Tribal Council has taken the following steps regarding the foot path access.

In an action taken by the Tribal Council pursuant to the discussions held at the regularly scheduled Tribal Council Meeting on Saturday, August 7th 2010 and the specially called sub-committee meeting held on Monday, August 9th 2010 at the Tribal Office; regarding pedestrian access to the beach along Vineyard Sound, the Tribal Council has decided the following:

The Tribal Council will permit the Town temporary foot access across the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Trust Lands on a designated path leading from Clay Pit Road to Vineyard Sound.

In order to facilitate this action, the Tribe's Natural Resources Department staff will temporarily remove the brush barrier in order to clear the foot path for ease of access.

We hope this helps to provide a workable interim solution for you to present to the balance of the Board of Selectmen. And, we hope that this gesture also demonstrates our commitment to an open and cooperative government to government relationship with the Town. We look forward to continued discussions with you regarding clarification on this, and other issues in the future. We thank you again for your efforts, and the honor and integrity with which you serve the Town of Aquinnah.

In Balance, Harmony and Peace,

Cheryl Andrews-Maltais

Cheryl Andrews-Maltais
Chairwoman