



# PAYING IT FORWARD

*Kalispel Golf and Country Club is where deer, moose, and a few lucky golfers play.*

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON: Throughout its 100+ year history, Kalispel Golf and Country Club (formally known as Spokane Country Club) has been an important part of golf's history in the Pacific Northwest. The club hosted the inaugural U.S. Women's Open won by Patty Berg in 1946 and Tom Watson holds the course record with an impressive 11 under par.

After a tumultuous decade as a member-owned club, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians purchased the facility in 2015 to diversify beyond gaming and add another guest amenity.

"The story of the Kalispel Tribe is remarkable," explained Nick McCaslin, head PGA golf professional at Kalispel Golf and Country Club. "It was once considered one of the poorest tribes in the country [running water wasn't fully introduced to the reservation until the late 1960s]. Through careful planning and smart management, they have turned Northern Quest Resort & Casino from a small nondescript room offering slot machines into a stunning vacation destination that employs 1,700 and donates around \$1 million annually to local charities.

"Since day one, tribal elders held a strong conviction to support social initiatives," said McCaslin. "By continually investing in the community, future generations will be offered opportunities that, only a few years ago, would have been unimaginable. What started as an ambitious goal to support the Tribe, now supports a whole region, with multiple businesses and over 2,100 employees in two counties."

## *AN EMOTIONAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT*

Northern Quest Resort & Casino is a Forbes Four-Star and AAA Four-Diamond rated hotel offering more than a dozen restaurants, 24/7 gaming, the Kids Quest fun zone, and a 5,000-seat outdoor amphitheater that draws big-name acts, including Toby Keith and Steve Martin.

"Since the purchase, the Tribe has invested millions of dollars in upgrades and renovations into the course," said a pleased Bob Castle, general manager at Kalispel Golf and Country Club. "Their commitment has preserved a Spokane treasure that plays through a pristine ponderosa pine forest peppered with weeping willows."

Northern Quest Resort & Casino offers amenities similar to Las Vegas, but with the ambience and friendliness found in a small town. "Our guests can take advantage of world-class gaming and entertainment without experiencing the 'sin city' feel of Vegas," said Castle. "We have dining options all under one roof, access to an award-winning spa, and one of the best golf courses in the Pacific Northwest.

"We have added a net new 101 members since our ownership transition," stated Castle. "It's likely that in the near future, with our positive momentum, unless you are a member or a guest of the resort, accessibility to our world-class golf course will be limited." ■

*For information on membership, visit [KalispelGolf.com](http://KalispelGolf.com); and on seasonal stay-and-play packages, visit [NorthernQuest.com](http://NorthernQuest.com).*

## • WHILE YOU'RE THERE •

REFRESH with a sip from the 17th hole drinking fountain that flows directly from an underground aquifer.

INDULGE with an extra-long rinse in the resort's Kohler multi-head rain shower.

RESERVE a table on the Legends of Fire Cigar Bar balcony for a unique bird's-eye view experience.

ADMIRE historic Kalispel Tribal artifacts in the resort's Heritage Hallway.