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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ellensburg Rodeo Cancellation

ELLENSBURG, WA – July 1, 2020 - The Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce has helped pave the way for event planners in the county since the rise of COVID-19. Event planners from Kittitas County have been meeting with the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce on a weekly basis via Zoom, to navigate re-opening events through the state's phased approach.

The Ellensburg Rodeo came to every meeting and has worked diligently with Kittitas County Public Health to try and make the traditional 2020 Ellensburg Rodeo possible. After careful consideration with their board, staff and Kittitas County Public Health, with heavy hearts they have decided to cancel this year's Rodeo to ensure the safety and well-being of our county.

The event committee aided the process of developing a guidebook, *Play Hard, Play Safe, Play Smart Playbook - A Guide to Re-opening Events* to compare industry standards of event planning through the unprecedented situation of COVID-19. This comprehensive guide includes recommendations by Dr. Mark Larson and the Emergency Operation Center. This resource will act as a living document, which is updated as the situation changes. The guidebook can be found at kittitascountychamber.com/host-an-event.

Just like the Ellensburg Rodeo's core values, community, teamwork, leadership and ownership, the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce believes Kittitas County exudes all of these traits, especially in the face of COVID-19. Kittitas County remains strong and united as we look ahead to the rest of 2020.

For more information about the cancellation of the 2020 Ellensburg Rodeo, please refer to their press release. The public can also contact the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce CEO Amy McGuffin at amy@kittitascountychamber.com.

About the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce: The Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce is the largest business support and development organization in Kittitas County, and one of the largest in Central Washington. With just over 500 members representing every business sector, the Chamber and its committees oversee county-wide tourism promotion and economic development initiatives and a range of business support tools including publications, web services, seminars and even leadership development for a new generation.

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