COVID-19 Community Update 3/21/2020

*Skokomish Tribal and Community Members:*

We want to let the community know that we are committed to the health and safety of everyone. For weeks now, we have been in dialogue with tribal, county, state, and federal governments. Please know that in this time of crisis it is very important to call on everyone’s assistance. Take care of yourself, your families, your elders, and neighbors. It is of great importance to stay well and provide assistance to others as needed.

We need everyone to comply with standards that have been issued by leadership at all levels. These times are unprecedented. We continue to monitor and participate in many teleconferences, webinars, telephone calls, and emails regarding COVID-19. We have hired Leslie Taylor, Public Health Official for the Tribe who will work with myself and an Incident Command Committee.

We will continue to have difficult conversations and make decisions to keep you well and safe. Please know that we have your best interest in mind and will do whatever we can to get us through this time. We are consulting daily with our partners, our medical staff, and staying connected so that information is made available to you as soon as it is available to us.

We have restricted nonessential operations to protect our staff, allowing us to focus on necessary governmental services that we know many people depend on. As updated information is received, our IT Staff is posting to our web page (www.skokomish.org), social media platforms, and fliers which are delivered with our elders’ meals to keep everyone informed.

Please consider that staff are working long, hard hours to ensure services are delivered and to assist with wellness initiatives. This has been very arduous and continues to be complicated as funding guidelines, support, and supply information is released. We will continue to provide you with information as we receive it. There are many unknowns at this point, however our leaders are working out these provisions to ensure our community is taken care of. We thank all of them for their dedication as they have families to consider as well. Please do your part to help by adhering to the recommendations that have been set forth by all of our partners. Thank you.

*Annmarie Johnson, CEO*

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