



## **UPDATED: Nooksack Tribal Operations During COVID-19**

**Week of April 4, 2020- April 11, 2020**

Our top priority is the health and safety of our tribal elders, our tribal members, our clients and our employees. The Nooksack Tribal Offices will remain closed. Nearly all of our directors and managers are working remotely, and a very small team continues to handle essential business tasks in the office. They are working in the safest way possible and in accordance with the tribal health and local guidelines. We hope to welcome you back at our offices as soon as it is safe to do so.

The Nooksack Tribal Clinic will remain open for urgent care only Mon-Friday 10am-3pm. Please call ahead of time to discuss your healthcare needs 360-966-2106. You may also contact the clinic to seek Nooksack Behavioral Health services and Chemical Dependency services. For methadone treatment services please contact Rick George.

Tribal Law Enforcement and the Tribal Gaming Agency will conduct business as usual. During this emergency closure, if you need emergency assistance please do not hesitate to call 911!

The Nooksack Tribal Court will remain closed and all civil matters scheduled for April are continued and will be rescheduled by the Court Clerks once normal court functions have been resumed. All criminal matters scheduled for the month of April are continued tentatively to the normal criminal docket set for May 14, 2020 at 9:30am and for good cause, all speedy trial time frames are extended until further order of the court. Contact the Nooksack Tribal Police Department or the Office of Tribal Attorney for other emergency court matters.

If you are in need for Victims of Crime Services (domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse) please call 911 if your needs are urgent and are an emergency. If you need advocate services, please contact Katrice Rodriguez, Family Services Director.

Nooksack Elder's Lunches will continue to be delivered by the Social Services Department (this program is limited, for more information contact Heidi Davis). Social Services programs will continue to provide TANF benefits, food bank, energy assistance, and food vouchers through telephonic appointments only. All payments will be mailed only.

The Nooksack Child Support Department will continue to collect child support payments and all child support checks will be mailed to the custodial guardian/parent.

Nooksack Indian Housing Authority will not charge late fees, delinquencies, or evictions during COVID-19 closure. Those who are able to make their payments during this time, please use online banking or mail a check or money order to Nooksack Indian Housing Authority, PO Box 157, Deming, WA 98244.

Any questions about the COVID19 Emergency Assistance checks from the Nooksack Tribal Council, please contact Frank Leyva.

Traditional phones and our robust technology infrastructure enable us to continue to successfully conduct business and hold virtual meetings in order to maintain some business structure to provide services during this challenging time. Until further notice, we ask that clients, staff, and community members to forgo all in-person interactions with staff and others who do not live in your immediate household.

## Navigating Tribal Resources During the COVID-19 Closure

We're here to help you navigate services and resources during the crisis – please contact us so we can help you.

Katherine Romero, General Manager (360)383-6510	Darryl Gray, Housing Director (360)812-0044
Charity Allen, Chief of Staff (360)319-7503	Katrice Rodriguez, Family Services Director (360)305-9633
Elizabeth Ames, Chief Financial Officer (360)389-7384	Joseph Bob, Water Department Manager (360) 339-1597
Heidi Davis, Social Services Director (360)393-5363	Charles Hurt, Senior Tribal Attorney (360) 739-9851
Lona Johnson, Health Director (360) 319-9245	Rick George, Genesis II Program Manager (360) 303-6738
Frank Leyva, Accounting (360) 303-3887	Tribal Police: 911 (you can request to speak to a Nooksack Officer)

On behalf of all of us at the Nooksack Indian Tribe, I want you to know we are thinking of your and your family's well-being. Right now, taking care of yourselves and each other is what matters most. Please reach out to me with any questions. We are here to help you in any way we can.

Be safe and stay home,

Katherine Romero, Nooksack General Manager