



# Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Organized Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 476  
\* 11404 Moorage Way \* La Conner, Washington 98257 \*

May 1, 2020

Dear Tribal Members, Reservation Residents, and Tribal employees:

Thank you for all that you have done to help keep our community and Reservation safe and healthy.

I know it has not been easy. We have all given up so much that matters to us – visiting with elders, weekend activities with family, evenings with friends, our favorite sports ... the list goes on. But the good news is that our work is beginning to pay off and is slowing the toll that COVID-19 is taking.

That toll has been very serious. As of April 29, 2020, there were at least 14,327 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and at least 814 deaths in the State of Washington. Fortunately, the number of confirmed cases and the number of deaths per day in the State of Washington have been generally declining for several weeks, since social distancing and other protective measures have been ordered by the Swinomish Senate and Governor Inslee. The Swinomish Medical Clinic has administered testing for possible COVID-19 infections and all test results obtained as of April 30, 2020 have been negative.

But we cannot stop or let down our guard now. Public health information shows that the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and of deaths per day in Washington are not down to levels where we can end social distancing or other protective measures. Until they are, we must keep on as we have, staying home except for **essential** activities, and when we must go out keeping our distance and wearing masks.

The Senate wants our success in limiting COVID-19 infections to continue, and we will continue to take the necessary and prudent actions needed to see that it does. For this reason, yesterday the Senate determined that it is reasonable, necessary and prudent to **extend its Stay Home Order Resolution until midnight on Monday, May 18, 2020**. The Senate's resolution will be posted on the Tribe's website.

In the meantime, the Tribe will continue to monitor public health information and recommendations so that we can decide if and when, and under what conditions, social distancing and other protective measures can begin to be safely relaxed.

Thank you again for your cooperation. Stay safe, stay healthy and stay home, and we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Edwards".

Steve Edwards  
Chairman