



# SHOALWATER BAY INDIAN TRIBE

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## DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY AND DISASTER

I, Charlene Nelson, Chairperson and duly authorized official of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, do hereby declare a STATE OF EMERGENCY AND DISASTER for the lands and persons of SBIT.

This declaration is made after due consideration of information provided by internal SBIT departments and a variety of cooperating agencies on the Covid-19 outbreak in Washington State and across the United States. The state of emergency is effective as of February 1, 2020.

Pursuant to the declaration, I do declare the following MANDATORY measures are in effect as of March 18, 2020 and will remain in effect at least until midnight on April 1, 2020 and may be renewed:

1. All restaurants, cafes, and bars will close. Restaurants and cafes will be able to provide take-out and delivery services, but no in-person dining will be permitted.
2. Entertainment venues, like the Shoalwater Bay Casino, will close to customers.

Georgetown Station is considered an essential service and will remain open. Please note the above measures are MANDATORY and failure to comply may result in legal action.

The Shoalwater Bay Dental Clinic will close at 4:30pm on March 20, 2020 and will remain closed through midnight on April 1, 2020. A dentist will remain on call for dental emergencies for tribal members and existing patients from the community – we won't be accepting new patients during the state of emergency. This closure will be reviewed at the end of March and may be extended.

The Shoalwater Bay Medical Clinic will move to essential staff only, but will remain open for tribal members and existing patients from the community – we won't be accepting new patients during the state of emergency. The clinic will shift to essential staff only by 4:30pm on March 20, 2020. There is a triage line – if you have symptoms (shortness of breath, cough, fever – 100.5° F or higher) or are concerned that you have been exposed to Covid-19, please call (360) 267-0119.

In order to mitigate this health emergency, I do HIGHLY RECOMMEND these social distancing measures:

1. Avoid all gatherings with more than 10 people;
2. Stay 6 feet away from people when in public;
3. Avoid all unnecessary travel and interpersonal interaction;

4. Avoid contact with any person showing Covid-19 symptoms (shortness of breath, cough, fever – 100.5° F or higher);
5. If you are sick, please stay at home;
6. Wash your hands frequently and each time wash for at least 20 second, soap is best;
7. If you can't wash your hands with soap, use hand sanitizer; and
8. Cough/sneeze into a tissue and throw it away or into your sleeve if you don't have a tissue.

During this health emergency, the health of everyone – our staff and community – is paramount. We are trying to maintain continuity of operations, provide essential services, but keep all people safe. The Administration has created personalized plans for high risk staff. We have introduced a Telecommute Policy, so some staff can work from home. If they must come to the office, we have introduced a Flex-time Policy so they can practice social distancing. However, these measures are not suitable for all positions. Therefore, SBIT may provide Administrative Leave to individual staff members or specific departments, as needed during the Covid-19 emergency.

During this state of emergency, the Administration is allowed to bypass human resources, procurement, purchasing, and fiscal management policies in order to secure critical supplies or emergency support, if needed.

The Council will manage tribal business through emails and conference calls. All community events and in-person meetings are cancelled through midnight on May 1, 2020. However, this doesn't mean you can't be heard. If there's an issue you would like to bring to Council, please contact the Administrator at (360) 267-6766 and provide information regarding your request.

If you have questions about Covid-19 or our response to the crisis, please email [publichealth@shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov](mailto:publichealth@shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov).

Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> date of March 2020, in Tokeland, Washington by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlene R. Nelson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Charlene Nelson, Chairperson

Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe