

# N SQUALLI ABSCH News



Nisqually Tribal News

4820 She-Nah-Num Dr. SE Olympia, WA 98513

Phone # 360-456-5221

Volume 12 Issue 7

[www.nisqually-nsn.gov](http://www.nisqually-nsn.gov)

July 2022

## Elder's Building

By Debbie Preston

Cleo Frank, Elders Program Manager, pauses a moment after a group picture in front of the "Topping Off" beam of the new Elder's Building. Following the installation of the beam and its neighbors, the roof is nearly complete with a target date for finishing in early 2023.

Chairman Willie Frank III sings along with Cleo Frank, Elders Program Manager, and Nisqually 6th Council Hanford McCloud as the Topping Off beam is moved into place.



# Tribal Council Business

## Nisqually Tribal Council Meeting Minutes



Date: 6/2/22  
Minutes Approved on:  
Meeting Called To Order: 1:44

Willie Frank	Chairman	Present
Antonette Squally	Vice Chairman	Present
Jackie Whittington	Secretary	Present
David Iyall	Treasurer	Present
Chayannah Squally	5 <sup>th</sup> Council	Present
Hanford McCloud	6 <sup>th</sup> Council	Absent
Leighanna Scott	7 <sup>th</sup> Council	Present
Derrick Sanchez	Sergeant of Arms	Absent

Guest: Mary S, Gudio L, Deb P, Justine C, Elizabeth D, Liz H, David W, Pete A, Sharlaine R, Nate C, Brent B, Jerry G, Shannon B, Joe C, Norine W, Bob I, Nancy B, Cynthia I, Ezra K.

### Tribal Councils Motions & Consensus:

Mary Szafranski - Tribal member Lottery \$1,000 for five names Drawn. Kevin Kautz, Nicole Sims, Lenord Ikebe III, Nettsy Bullchild and Lorena Kalama.

Mary Szafranski - Week 116 of COVID Vaccine for travel tabled, scheduled meeting with Doctor Spencer later this month to discuss some possible options for health staff. Many departments are back to masking, in need of more PPE and it is in the budget process.

Shannon Blanksma – **A Resolution Approving a Contract with Redline Consulting to Complete Broadband Survey, Assessment, and Pre-engineering work for Underserved areas within Pierce County.** Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution#82

Shannon Blanksma - **A Resolution Approving a Contract with Redline Consulting to Complete Broadband Survey, Assessment, and Pre-engineering work for Underserved areas within Thurston County.** Motioned by Leighanna Scott, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #83

Shannon Blanksma – **A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of the Cost of Living Adjustment Policy.** Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #84

Shannon Blanksma – *Approval of Weekly Budget Consent Calendar for May 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.* Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 4-0-0.

Shannon Blanksma – *Approval of Weekly Budget Consent Calendar for June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022.* Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0.

Nate Cushman – **A Resolution Amending the Nisqually Indian Tribe Financial Services Policies and Procedures.** Motioned by Leighanna Scott, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #85

Nate Cushman – **A Resolution Approving Title 22, Nisqually Residential Leasing Code Tabled.**

Continued on pg. 3-MINUTES

### How to Contact Us

Tribal Center 360-456-5221  
Health Clinic 360-459-5312  
Law Enforcement 360-459-9603  
Youth Center 360-455-5213  
Natural Resources 360-438-8687

### Nisqually Tribal News

4820 She-Nah-Num Dr. SE  
Olympia, WA 98513  
360-456-5221

Leslee Youckton  
youckton.leslee@nisqually-nsn.gov  
ext. 1252

The deadline for the newsletter is the second Monday of every month.

### Nisqually Tribal Council

Chair, William (Willie) Frank III  
Vice Chair, Antonette Squally  
Secretary, Jackie Whittington  
Treasurer, David Iyall  
5<sup>th</sup> Council, Chayannah (Chay) Squally  
6<sup>th</sup> Council, Hanford McCloud  
7<sup>th</sup> Council, Leighanna Scott

### Where to Find Information:

#### Squalli Absch Newsletter

- Mailed, on website

#### Street Buzz

- Mailout, on She Nah Num

Facebook and website

#### Nisqually Indian Tribe Facebook

- geared toward educating the public

#### She Nah Num

- Private Facebook page

Website - [www.nisqually-nsn.gov](http://www.nisqually-nsn.gov)

### In this issue:

TC Minutes.....	pg. 2
Employee Appreciation .....	pg. 5
River Ridge High School .....	pg. 6
Retirements .....	pg. 8
Library News .....	pg. 9
Medicine River Ranch .....	pg. 11
Youth GONA .....	pg. 14
Good COVID News .....	pg. 17
Announcements .....	pg. 15



Nate Cushman – **A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Residential Lease of Tribal Land to Monica Kautz.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #86*

Nate Cushman – **A Resolution to Approve and Authorize an Extension of the Terminal Allocation Agreement with the Makah Tribe.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #87*

David Wolff – **A Resolution to Approve and Authorize an Addendum to Agreement with HBG Design.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #88*

David Wolff – **A Resolution Adopting Title 23 (Business Leasing Code) Of the Nisqually Tribal Code.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #89*

Liz Henry – **Approval of JD: Health Systems Administrator.** *Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Liz Henry – **Approval of JD: Compliance Officer.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Liz Henry – **Approval of JD: Director of Operations.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Liz Henry – **Approval of Org Chart. Tabled.**

Liz Henry – **A Resolution Proclaiming the Official naming of the Nisqually Tribal Health & Wellness Center (NTHWC).** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #90*

Liz Henry – **A Resolution Authorizing the Health Department to Allocate Reserved Funding for the Health and Wellness Center.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #91*

Liz Henry – **Approval of JD: Health Benefits Coordinator.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes. 4-0-0.*

Liz Henry/Jerry Guerrero – **Approval of JD: Behavioral Health Director.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Pete Ansara – **Approval of ARPA Process & Procedure.** *Jackie Whittington, second Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Cynthia Iyall – **Approval of JD: Chief Court Clerk.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Cynthia Iyall – **Approval of JD: Wellness Court Coordinator.** *Motioned by Leighanna Scott, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Cynthia Iyall – **Approval of JD: Court Bailiff / Process Server / Community Service Officer.** *Motioned by Leighanna Scott, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Joe Cushman – **A Resolution Authorizing the Tribal Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Chief Executive Officer or Chief Finance Officer to Conduct Business with the office of Special Trustee for American Indians.** *Motioned by Antonette*

*Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #92*

Sommer Sanchez – **Approval of TC Minutes from 5/5/2022.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Pete Ansara – **Approval of JD: Data Analyst.** *Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

David Wolff – **A Resolution to Issue a Liquor License Renewal to Medicine Creek Enterprise Corporation DBA Red Wing Casino.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #93*

Joe Cushman – **A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with Nisqually Construction Services LLC for the Demolition of Buildings on Tribal owned land at 3663 and 3653 Pacific Ave SE and 924 Poplar Street SE in Olympia Washington.** *Motioned by Jackie Whittington, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0. Resolution #94*

**Executive Session 2:21-2:41**

**Consents for Emergency/ extreme hardship housing for Anna Eaglebear.**

**Approval of Dr.Larson 1 Year Contract.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

Elizabeth DeGroff – **Approval for two move in Request.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

*Motion to Adjourn by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-0-0.*

**Meeting ends 2:50**

---

**Tribal Council meeting minutes for:**

**Date: 6/16/22**

**Minutes Approved on:**

**Meeting Called To Order:**

Willie Frank, Chairman	Present
Antonette Squally, Vice Chairman	Present
Jackie Whittington, Secretary	Present
David Iyall, Treasurer	Present
Chayannah Squally, 5 <sup>th</sup> Council	Present
Hanford McCloud 6 <sup>th</sup> Council	Absent
Leighanna Scott 7 <sup>th</sup> Council	Present
Derrick Sanchez Sergeant of Arms	Present

Guest: Nate C, Justine C, Deb P, David T, Mary S, Deb L, Liz Henry, Alvin A, David W, Brent B, Ezra K, Jerry G, Julie K, Sharlaine R, Shannon B, Jamie S, Heidi P. Deb L.

**Tribal Councils motions & Consensus:**

Mary Szafranski – Week 118 of Covid, 13 positive cases.

Alvin Aganon – **Approval of Weekly Budget Consent Calendar.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

Leslie Ferrer / Shannon Iyall – **A Resolution Approving the Automatic Enrollment in the Nisqually Indian Tribe of Noah**



**Continued from pg. 3-MINUTES**

**Alferd.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #95*

**Leslie Ferrer / Shannon Iyall – A Resolution Approving the Automatic Enrollment in the Nisqually Indian Tribe of Stanley John.** *Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #96*

**Jerry Gurrero – Approval of 2 JD’s: Director of Operations and Compliance Officer.** *Tabled.*

**Nate Cushman – A Resolution Approving Vessel Registration Guidelines.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #97*

**Nate Cushman- Approval of JD: Public Health Officer.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0*

**David Wolff – A Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Washington State Gambling Commission.** *Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #98*

**David Troutt – Approval of 2022/2023 Annual Hunting Regulations.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #99*

**David Troutt – Approval of 2022/2023 Annual Fishing Regulations.** *Motioned by Leighanna Scott, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #100*

**David Troutt – A Resolution to Modify the Contract with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Design, Construction and Installation of an adult fish trap and the Centralia Diversion Dam.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #101*

**Pete Ansara – Approval of New JD: Group Fitness Instructor.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 4-1-0. Antonette Squally Against*

**Pete Ansara – Approval of New JD: Health Coach** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

**Pete Ansara – Approval of New JD: Community Dietitian.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

**Pete Ansara – A Resolution to Approve and Authorize a Contract with McKinstry Essention LLC.** *Motioned by David*

*Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #102*

**Pete Ansara – A Resolution to Approve and Authorize a Contract with Moss Adams LLP.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #103*

**Pete Ansara – Approval of Updated JD: Human Resources Director.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

**Sommer Sanchez – Approval of TC Minutes from 6/02/2022.** *Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

**Pete Ansara – Approval of New JD: Executive Assistant for CEO.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

**Shannon Blanksma – “Approval of Tribal member Covid-19 Economic Relief assistance based on significant adverse economic impacts from the Covid 19 public health emergency, exacerbated by historic inflationary pressures and economic instability to include food and other household expenses.”A Resolution Providing COVID-19 Economic Relief to all Tribal Members Using the Tribes American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State Fiscal Relief Fund Monies.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Leighanna Scott. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #104*

**Nate Cushman – A Resolution Approving Annual 2022 Fireworks Regulations and Authorizing Enforcement of Civil Infractions.** *Motioned by Antonette Squally, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0. Resolution #105*

**Chayannah Squally – A Resolution to Approve and Authorize A Professional Services Agreement with DR Cory Larson.** *Motioned by Chayannah Squally, second by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0. #Resolution 106*

**Executive Session 2:18-3:12**

Action out of Executive session

**Liz Henry – Approval of Org Chart.** *Motioned by David Iyall, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

*Motion to Adjourn by David Iyall, second by Chayannah Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.*

**Meeting ends 3:13**

# New Garden

By Debbie Preston

Above, crews work to assemble a large green house on the garden property across from the cement plant on Old Pacific Highway. The garden crew removes weeds and rocks from a plot of land at the new garden property on Pacific Highway. A pumpkin patch is part of the plans for this area.





# Nisqually Tribe Employee BBQ

By Debbie Preston

The first employee function in several years was held Friday, June 3 and included the first Awards ceremony. All those receiving awards were nominated by their peers in categories ranging from Excellence in Customer Service to Esprit de Corps.

**Leschi-Quemuth Award:** Emiliano (Nano) Perez, Field Crew Supervisor

**Billy Frank Award:** Sam Stepetin, Crew Lead, Native Plant

**Cecilia Svinth Carpenter Award:** Cynthia Iyall, Tribal Administrator

**Esprit de Corps:** Adrian Scott, Motor Pool Coordinator/dispatcher; Clifton "CJ" Young, chef; Christine Robbins, Adult Education Counselor

**Outstanding Achievement:** Joe Cushman, Director Planning; Margaret Homerding, Shellfish Manager; Debra Marrero, HR Generalist

**CEO Award for Staff Excellence:** Josette Ross (Health CEO Award); Andrew Squally Wilkins (Pete Ansara CEO Award)

**Excellence in Customer Service Award:** Lorena Guidry, Receptionist; Kristie Tweed, Behavioral Health Secretary

**Excellence in Program Development:** Jamie Bryk, Interim Court Administrator; Keoni Kalama, Medicine River Ranch Manager

**MVP:** Mary Szafranski, Public Health Officer; Jeff Smith, Corrections Lieutenant

**Law Enforcement Meritorious Service Award:** Jeff Jackson, Fish and Wildlife Officer

**Correction Officer Meritorious Service Award:** Christopher Kimbrel, Corrections Officer; Russell Blacketer, Corrections Officer

*Congratulations to all!*





# River Ridge High School and Nisqually Tribe

By Debbie Preston

As late as the middle of the 20th century, tribes were prohibited from speaking their language in schools. In a landmark moment for Nisqually, the language will be taught in the North Thurston School district and students will get dual credit, both for high school and college.

The Nisqually Tribe's working relationship with the North Thurston School District continues to bear fruit as evidenced by the June 7 Board of Directors Work Session meeting with Nisqually.

During the meeting, an architect discussed how the confluence of the Nisqually River with South Sound inspired their design of the soon-to-begin renovation and addition to River Ridge High School, where elements of Nisqually culture will be incorporated into the design and overall look of the campus which will emphasize connecting the campus to the outdoors.

The meeting was attended by three Nisqually tribal council members and numerous staff who have participated in joint education projects such as the science technology engineering and math (STEM) curriculum used to bring several hundred fourth graders to Nisqually's Culture Center. The Science Journals completed by the students had Nisqually

language used throughout (the school was chosen for its high levels of Nisqually students), and student reviews were glowing and enthusiastic about the pilot project.



Jared Koepp, Washington state's Teacher of the Year, and a Wuckchumni tribal member, discussed the interactions he had all over the state and in Washington, D. C. as he

works to improve the .7 percent of teachers who are tribal members. Koepp and other teachers helped bring three different courses to River Ridge teaching tribal history and civics that will be expanded to all three high schools in the future.

All three council members expressed their gratitude to the partners who have worked with the tribe to make these projects a reality.

The district is exploring ways to expand the STEM project but mindful of not taxing Nisqually's Culture department.

"The fact that we have so much going on and didn't even review the fact that a Nisqually flag flies at every school shows just how much good work is going on right now," said Koepp.

## Broadband Graduation

By Debbie Preston

Nisqually partnered with many groups to assist eight students who received two weeks of training to become Underground Communication Construction employees that involves everything from learning to shore up a ditch to protect workers, to operating a tractor with a shovel, finding the proper path for the cable and cleaning up. Most of the graduates had a job before leaving on graduation day, held May 27 at the Nisqually Health Center conference room.

Nisqually is working with their partners to install an Open Access Network(OAN) cable to Little Rock as part of their current grant that will eventually run a line to Chehalis. This will allow high speed internet to be provided to rural residents who have no reasonable way to obtain the kind of high speed internet needed for online classes and other sorts of training that require much better internet speeds. Some of the graduates may end up working on that project.





# Wells Receives First Nisqually Contractor License Under Tribal Ordinance

By Debbie Preston

**Editor’s Note:** *This is one of the occasional pieces on Nisqually-owned businesses, on or off reservation. While not an endorsement one way or the other, the purpose is to let folks know about Nisqually-owned businesses.*

Sandee Wells’ construction company, *First Native American Construction Company*, is the first Nisqually contractor to be accredited by the Nisqually Tribe under the tribal ordinance.

Wells started learning the business through the intern program. She assisted framing up the Nisqually Market on the reservation as part of her training. “I also just wanted to know more how to take care of my own house,” Wells said. “That’s how it really all started.”

Wells got her Associate in Applied Science in Construction Management that teaches the skills to participate in the development of construction project and oversee organization, scheduling budgeting and implementation.

“I could see I could do it for my own community, and that was really motivating. Bob Iyall



Construction Management that teaches the skills to participate in the development of construction project and oversee organization, scheduling budgeting and implementation.

(Medicine Creek Enterprise Corporation CEO) told me about the ability to register my business with the tribe and with a number of people supporting me, I went for it.”



Wells also employs partner Scott Brito and together the pair have painted the Nisqually apartments in

Tumwater and several homes along with general maintenance and repair.

Ray Iyall is one person who was happy that tribal members were there to paint his house and go above and beyond to help with his gardens and other issues on his property. “They helped me with my gate when strangers were seen around my property. They are like family, and I really appreciate the work they did,” said Iyall.

“We had some youth work on this project with us, too. I really want to encourage youth. I came from nothing – and I just want to show them they can do whatever they set their minds to do,” said Wells.

# New Juvenile Probation/Truancy Officer-Gus Williams

I’m Gus Williams Jr., the new hire to the Probation Department. I have lived in the Lacey area for more than 22 years. I was recently working for WA State as an Employment and Training Program Manager. I worked previously as a Corrections/Transportation Officer for the Nisqually Tribe before being activated with my U.S. Navy Reserve Unit to Afghanistan. I also have several years of experience in corrections from Stafford Creek Correctional Center with Adult Offenders and with Green Hill Training School as a Juvenile Rehabilitation Residential Counselor.

I’m excited to be returning to the Nisqually Tribe as a Juvenile Probation/Truancy Officer and look forward to working together.



# Happy Retirement Larry Sanchez



There are many Nisqually tribal members retiring after decades of service lately. Larry Sanchez retired, May 27 after more than three decades of working for the tribe. A small gathering wished him farewell.

# Happy Retirement Tom and Sheila McCloud



An official farewell to the retiring McClouds was given, including a brief visit from Richard Wells, who hired Tom McCloud decades ago when he first started as an Assistant Administrator. He also helped build up the Nisqually transportation department, among many other jobs in the more than 40 years he served. Sheila, who worked for all western Treaty Tribes at the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission for more than 30 years, then worked for Nisqually as a member of tribal council and worked for Emergency Management, among her other jobs.



# Leimomiwainui Canoe

By Debbie Preston

In anticipation of a time when canoes can gather this summer, the ceremony to awaken Leimomiwainui was held on June 12 at the tribe's Lake St. Clair property.

The canoe was smudged and blessed before being launched and paddled in the lake. Lunch was served and hosted by the Brian McCloud family, owners of the canoe.



*Kyle Sanchez skippers the canoe.*



*Merlin Bullchild gifts a paddle to Ila'Iani McCloud.*



*Nisqually Vice-Chair Antonette Squally smudges the canoe.*

## Library Soft-Grand Opening

The Nisqually Tribal Library had their soft-grand opening May 12, 2022. This was an unofficial re-opening event. As we did not want not to move our Grand-Opening date. But originally we had planned for more speakers and nice weather. Hopefully in the not so distant future we are able to have an official walk-through of our updated library.

I want to thank the many community members and patrons that made the giveaway very fun and inviting. A special shout-out to Melissa and Taylor, some of our Traditional Healers at the Nisqually Health for providing traditional tea. Thanks to Chad



Wall for giving away signed copies of his book.

We hope to see you in the Library again. Remember we are only open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

All requests can be emailed to Darla Obi at [obi.darla@nisqually-nsn.gov](mailto:obi.darla@nisqually-nsn.gov)

## Congrats Christine Robbins!

Nisqually Indian Tribe Award winner esprit de corps  
Congrats to our friend Christine Robbins-Adult Education Counselor



Christine was nominated by a good friend Catalina Sanchez. I am so proud of Christine Robbins. She has shown tremendous strength, acceptance, pride and influence in the Nisqually Tribal Community. There is no one more passionate about tribal education than our great friend Christine.

Christine is traveling with family, for a well deserved break for one of the strongest women with-in our tribal community.

I also wanted to thank some of her good friends that signed her letter of support Kayla, Haley, Cassi, Sommer, Kahelani, Karen M., Jamie, Darla, Nicole S. And Diana M. Thank you so much. And a special thanks to Pete Ansara, Leighanna Scott and Amanda Hicks for hosting the Nisqually Tribes Employee Appreciation luncheon.



# Congratulation 2022 Graduates!

The Nisqually Adult Education Graduation Ceremony honored what is believed to be the second-highest numbers of degrees received by Nisqually tribal and community members so far. A total of 44 students registered their degree or certificate accomplishment, including six masters degrees (up to 7 years), 14 bachelor's degrees (4 years), 17 associate degrees (2 years), 7 Adult High School Completion (21 + program) and three certifications. Congratulations to all!

## Associates Degrees

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Terri Capoeman</b><br>North West Indian College          | <b>Elizabeth 'Liz' Stewart-McGee</b><br>South Puget Sound CC  |
| <b>Marjorie Hill</b><br>North West Indian College           | <b>Jeffreen Patton</b><br>North West Indian College           |
| <b>Kristin 'Krissey' Jones</b><br>North West Indian College | <b>Philip 'Soaring' Peterson</b><br>North West Indian College |
| <b>Kystan Kalama</b><br>North West Indian College           | <b>Sophia Pinon</b><br>North West Indian College              |
| <b>Suan 'Wicket' LaClair</b><br>North West Indian College   | <b>Ayanna Sherman</b><br>North West Indian College            |
| <b>Andrea LaPointe</b><br>Pierce Community College          | <b>Joseph Thomas</b><br>North West Indian College             |
| <b>Jacqueline Lambert</b><br>North West Indian College      | <b>Danielle Waters</b><br>North West Indian College           |
| <b>Celeste McCloud</b><br>North West Indian College         |   |

## High School Graduates

- Gabriela Arellano-Villegas**, River Ridge  
**Mahiulani Armento-Wilkins**, River Ridge  
**Tayonna Birdtail**, North Thurston  
**Simyan David**, Madres High School  
**AJ Kalama**, El Dorado High School  
**Alohilani Kalama**, New Market  
**Kulaque Kalama**, Riverside Indian School  
**Jacob Kautz**, River Ridge  
**Emilio Lopez**, River Ridge  
**Aiden McCloud**, Chief Leschi  
**Danielle McGee**, Yelm  
**Ealy Payne**, Shelton  
**Nanalei Sanchez**, Riverside Indian School  
**Annelisa Tom**, River Ridge  
**Malia Tweed**, Summit Virtual Academy  
**Lokelani Villegas**

## Bachelor Degrees

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Juanita Black</b><br>North West Indian College          | <b>Frances Rohr</b><br>Evergreen State College              |
| <b>Orinda Goddard</b><br>North West Indian College         | <b>Aiyana Sanchez</b><br>Evergreen State College            |
| <b>Jacob Iyall</b><br>University of Washington             | <b>Andrea Squally</b><br>Evergreen State College            |
| <b>Sela Kalama</b><br>North West Indian College            | <b>Chayannah Squally</b><br>Evergreen State College         |
| <b>Lacie Lewis</b><br>Evergreen State College              | <b>Matthew Youngblood Hawk</b><br>North West Indian College |
| <b>Lorena 'Linda' McCloud</b><br>North West Indian College | <b>Henry Martin</b><br>North West Indian College            |
| <b>Kelly McCloud</b><br>North West Indian College          | <b>Alisa Smith-Woodruff</b><br>North West Indian College    |

## Adult High School Completion

- Willie Aquino**  
**Yasuno Kalama**  
**Victoria Jackson**  
**Cheyenne Sanchez**  
**Samantha Shaw-Ferry**  
**Elizabeth Son**  
**Steven Vantiem**

## Masters Degrees

- Hiran Eskeets**  
University of Washington  
**Morningstar Means-Marcellay**  
Evergreen State College  
**Josette Ross**  
Evergreen State College  
**Ashley 'Ash' Ross**  
Evergreen State College  
**Lavita Plumage**  
University of Arizona  
**Kim Yazzie**  
University of Washington

## Certifications

- Leon Dunston**, Federal Police Academy  
**Mandy Iyall**, Certified Personal Trainer  
**Richard Iyall**, Sustainable Marine Agriculture





# Head Start Graduates

By Debbie Preston

Nisqually Head Start graduation was held this week for this group that is headed to first grade next year. They sang and drummed around the Administration building with Hanford and Joyce McCloud and parents and other supporters on Wednesday. Paddles, designed by Leighanna Scott and Jack George, were created by George for all Head Start students. Other students will be honored at a date to be finalized yet.



# Medicine River Ranch

By Debbie Preston

Nisqually's Medicine River Ranch hosted Nisqually Head Start students for a morning visit that included learning about two kinds of hay and meeting some of the horses, pigs, goats, ducks and sheep on the ranch.

"It's just the beginning," said Derrick Sanchez. "We hope to truly make a petting zoo type of pen on another part of the property so kids can really get to know these animals."

Kids hopped on a saddle and asked many questions about pigs, horses and other animals. It was a restart



of a program that was supposed to start earlier in the year, but like many things, was affected by

COVID-19 infection rates.

Medicine River Ranch hand Derrick Sanchez tells the students of Head Start about the strength and speed of Appaloosas, who are prized for their stamina as well as speed. All the horses the students



met are excellent around all people.

Students also got to pet and feed horses, feed the pigs by dropping vegetables in their trough and see goats, lambs and ducks.



# PRIDE Health Fair

By Debbie Preston

What a great event and excellent turnout at the PRIDE/Health Fair event on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The music was pumping, there were three food stands, shave ice and several dozen stands with information, goodies and positivity.

Nutritionist Bernita LaCroix enjoyed seeing people as her appointments have all been virtual.

David Iyall, Nisqually Tribal Council Treasurer, hears about the project completed by Josette and Ashley Ross for their master's program. It is a resource guide for LGBTQ + and Two Spirit clients (2SLGBTQ+) that is being shared as a model with other tribes.





# 2021/22 Winter Steelhead Return

By Craig Smith

Nisqually winter steelhead have seen decent returns in the recent five years however, nothing like runs seen in the 1980s. Up through the 1980s the run size for Nisqually winter steelhead averaged 6,000-8,000 returns to the river. In the 1990s region wide steelhead survival took a big downturn and the Nisqually run size dropped down to an average of 500-1,000 well under the escapement goal of 2,000.

Recent five years seemed a bit brighter at 1,000-2,000 return. The reason for the downturn has been mostly due to early marine survival (Puget Sound) and larger ocean marine survival. This years ocean conditions are very good compared to recent years but the 2022/23 Nisqually winter steelhead return has returned down in the 500ish range.

Why? It seems that early marine survival is to blame when smolts migrated to salt which includes warm Puget Sound and ever-increasing seal, porpoise, and sea lion abundance. The steelhead smolts that went to sea two years ago hit a very warm Puget Sound and less than ideal Ocean Conditions. The glass half full perspective is that the few steelhead that did return this winter came back to a full river with lots of available habitat due to the cold wet conditions.

Let's hope that the early marine survival after a year of ideal freshwater rearing will help boost the recruits for this year's brood and we can continue making gains on rebuilding this important stock to harvestable levels.

---

## A Brief History of Microsoft Windows

Tips from the IT-WebDev Department

Microsoft launched its first Windows operating system in 1985, called "Windows 1". Yes, in the 80s - A period noted for its pop music, transition from radio to TV music videos, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the release of the Macintosh computer, the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the Chernobyl disaster and the release of the first series movie Top Gun.

- 1993 – Windows NT
- 1995 – Windows 95
- 1996 – Windows NT 4
- 1998 – Windows 98
- 2000 – Windows ME and Windows 2000
- 2001 – Windows XP
- 2005 – Windows XP PRO x64 edition
- 2007 – Windows Vista
- 2009 – Windows 7
- 2012 – Windows 8
- 2013 – Windows 8.1
- 2015 – Windows 10
- 2021 – Windows 11



Before Windows, personal computers ran on MS-DOS – it was a command line input screen and not a graphical user interface (GUI) screen. Originally Bill Gates wanted to name it "Interface Manager", but the "Windows" name prevailed since it best described the boxes or computing windows that

represented the new operating system.

### Windows Major Versions Release Timeline:

- 1987 – Windows 2
- 1990 – Windows 3
- 1992 – Windows 3.1

What does the latest release of Windows 11 feature? Some top enhancements in Windows 11 include:

- The addition of Android apps, via the Amazon app store
- The addition of a weather app on the taskbar
- The ability to mute Microsoft Teams meetings from the taskbar
- Easier screen sharing in Teams from the taskbar
- Updates to Media Player and Notepad



# Youth GONA Spring 2022

(Gathering of Native Americans)

Cispus Learning Center at Randall was the location for this year's Youth GONA on May 20 – 22, 2022. It was a beautiful spring weekend. This gathering has been coordinated through the Health Department's opioid prevention and recovery grant under the HCA's Indian Nation Agreement. Our goal is to grow this event into something bigger – we ask the youth participants to complete a survey after every Youth GONA so we can be sure to incorporate activities our youth are looking for. We are also growing the collaboration with the Youth Program, Culture Department, and STEM experts.



Through the course of the weekend, we emphasized important youth-focused resources in opioid prevention and recovery, had language bingo and weaving activities facilitated by the wonderful culture team with Daydishka and Joyce McCloud, STEM activities with Sheila Wilson and Ph.D Juan Carlos Chavez and their teams- plant identification and even programming and building rockets!

The Cispus staff guided the participants through a morning team building challenge course – our youth and facilitators working together to complete the challenges. We enjoyed hiking and action packed activities throughout each day, with our public health expert Mary Szafranski there to keep us all safe. And stories were shared around the campfire each evening with s'mores enjoyed by all.



The Youth Center team guided by Kevin Moore is already thinking about plans for our next Youth GONA, in collaboration with Health and Culture and any other programs who are interested – and we would love to hear from you as we begin planning. To our youth – please reach out and tell us what you would like to see. Join us in the planning. Help us grow this wonderful gathering into something even bigger. Stay tuned for our next Youth GONA.



# LGBTQ and Two Spirit

By Debbie Preston

Josette Ross, Nisqually Health Center Health Services Manager and Nisqually descendant, gave the land acknowledgement and acknowledged all the LGBTQ and Two Spirit people who still need inclusion and support. Ross has been on the Washington State LGBTQ Commission for three years, beginning in its inaugural year. "I'm really glad to bring a voice to our Two Spirit people in Washington State. Too often they get overlooked," said Ross

Washington State Supreme Court Justice G. Helen Whitener, the first African American Washington State Supreme Court Justice, addresses those gathered about how the support of Gov. Inslee in both nominating her and embracing her in totality when he interviewed her with her wife. Whitener serves on the board of the International Association of LGBT Judges as well as on the Washington State Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee.



## USP Certified

If you consumed a supplement would you want the product to contain what it says? What if I told you that most supplements do not pass this test? If you were to pick up a supplement, wouldn't you want it to pass an off-the-shelf test to confirm that a product continues to meet science-based quality standards and actually contains what it says it does?

Just because a vitamin or supplement says 'certified', 'made with good manufacturing processes/practices', 'quality tested', 'potency lab tested' among others, doesn't mean anything; It is equivalent to buying juice that says 'made with 100% fruit juice' when in actuality they can take 1 pound of sugar mixed with water and add 2 teaspoonfuls of pure 100% juice because they haven't lied to you.

**Look for USP brands/products! Verified by the United States Pharmacopeia**



USP Verified dietary supplements mean that the product:

**CONTAINS THE INGREDIENTS LISTED ON THE LABEL IN THE SAID POTENCY AND AMOUNTS DOES NOT CONTAIN HARMFUL LEVELS OF SPECIFIED CONTAMINANTS WILL BREAK DOWN AND RELEASE INTO THE BODY WITHIN SPECIFIED AMOUNT OF TIME HAS BEEN MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES USING SANITARY AND WELL-CONTROLLED PROCEDURES, & MANUFACTURED WITH CONSISTENT BATCH TO BATCH QUALITY**

The Only Current USP Verified Brands:

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| NATURE MADE      | KIRKLAND          |
| BIOASTIN         | TRUNATURE         |
| NATURE'S BOUNTY  | PURE ALASKA OMEGA |
| FINEST NUTRITION | YOUTHEORY         |
| NATROL           | MEMBER'S MARK     |
| FLOMENTUM        | VITAFUSION        |
| RITUAL           |                   |

If you can't make it yourself, the next best thing is to make sure you are taking what you intend to take. "If you can't make it yourself you'd better make sure", by Dr. Richelle Kistler



# COVID Testing Update

By Addie Spencer, MD

Here we are in the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic. As we move toward the warmer and sunnier days of spring, I hope you are celebrating the resilience of the Nisqually Community. Thank you for masking, distancing and caring for two long years.

Since COVID will be part of our lives for months or years to come, I want to remind you of one of the key tools we have to control the pandemic: **TESTING**.

**COVID-19 Vaccines  
ages 5 and up  
Available by appointment  
Call today to schedule your  
Moderna or Pfizer vaccine  
360-413-2733**

## Why test?

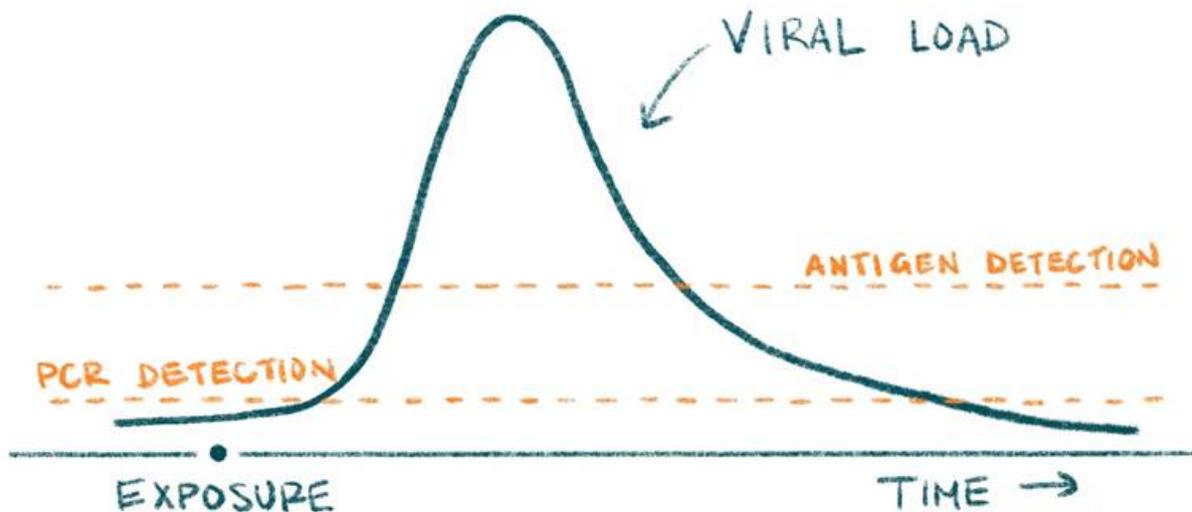
Good news! Now there are treatments for people at risk for severe illness due to COVID infection. We have **Paxlovid** antiviral pills to help. When taken for 5 days early in the course of the infection, this medication reduces the risk of landing in the hospital by over 80%. In addition, we can refer people at high risk to get **Sotrovimab** monoclonal antibodies against COVID at the Providence clinic in west Olympia. This one time injection is 85% effective in keeping high-risk people out of the hospital. Both of these treatments are used under a EUA (emergency use authorization).

- Who is at risk for severe COVID-19**
- Unvaccinated individuals
  - Elders over age 65 years
  - People with weakened immune system
  - People with underlying medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease

Slowing the spread of COVID is still important even now. If you test positive, it is important to isolate yourself for at least 5 days to reduce the risk of accidentally sharing the virus with others. Wearing a tight fitting mask all the time and keeping away from everyone in your household will stop the chain of infection. It is difficult to isolate but it protects the community.

## What type of test is best?

Home tests are super easy and convenient. However, since they detect antigen they will only show positive when you have high levels of virus in your nose. If you are high risk or live/work with high risk individuals, you might want to choose the more sensitive molecular testing. These tests will turn positive earlier and stay positive longer in the course of the infection. Both types of testing are available 5 days a week at the medical clinic.



Take control of the pandemic. Get your COVID test so you can do the right thing to protect yourself, your family and your community. Call to schedule **parking lot COVID testing** Mondays – Fridays 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. **360-459-5312 option 5**.



# Good COVID News

By Addie Spencer, MD

This spring is full of hope. After two tough years, we have good news about COVID to share.

We now have several great tools to fight COVID. Everyone can easily access free vaccines, free tests and free treatments whenever you need them.

1. **Vaccines and boosters** are available to all registered patients, community members and tribal employees over the age of 5 years. The third dose is especially important to give your immune system the boost it needs to beat viral variants.
2. **Testing** is easy and can be done either at home or at the clinic. There are three times to take a test.
  - a. If you feel sick, take a test.
  - b. If you had an exposure, wait 5 days and then take a test.
  - c. If you are going to visit an Elder or attending a gathering, take a test just before you go. If your test shows positive, stay home for five days.
3. **Treatment** to prevent hospitalization or loss of life is also available for those at high risk. The treatments work best if started before symptoms get severe, so call and request a video visit if you test positive for COVID. Your doctor or nurse practitioner can teach you about treatment options and help you get started right away.

Enjoy the longer days and warmer weather. And keep using all your tools to fight COVID this spring and summer. Call the Nisqually Tribal Health medical clinic 360-459-5312 #5 to schedule a visit to get more info.

**DENTAL AND CAFE Services**

HOURS OF OPERATION ARE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 730AM-430PM  
DENTAL CLOSED DURING LUNCH FROM 12PM-1PM  
CAFE IS AVAILABLE DURING LUNCH HOURS

**WELLNESS CAFE** (360) 493-6441  
COFFEE, SPRITZERS, TEA, SNACKS AND FOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

**DENTAL** (360) 413-2727  
AVAILABLE FOR IN-PERSON VISITS TO ALL ELIGIBLE PATIENTS

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NISQUALLY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OBSERVES HOLIDAY CLOSURES SET FORTH BY THE NISQUALLY INDIAN TRIBE. IN THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE CALL (360) 456-5221. THE NISQUALLY TRIBE MAIN LINE WILL HAVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION

TEMP CHECKS AND COVID SCREENING REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT Services**

2022 HOURS OF OPERATION  
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-5PM  
WE ARE CLOSED FOR LUNCH EXCEPT THE CAFE FROM 12PM-1PM.

**PHARMACY** (360) 491-9770 PRESS "0"  
DRIVE-THRU AND IN PERSON PICK-UP AVAILABLE  
PATIENT CONSULTATIONS IN-PERSON AND VIA PHONE

(360) 486-9599 **CHS/PRC**  
ISSUE PO'S AND INQUIRE ABOUT REFERRALS IN-PERSON AND VIA PHONE  
APPLY FOR ALTERNATE RESOURCE AND UPDATE REGISTRATION IN PERSON

**MEDICAL** (360) 459-5312 PRESS "5"  
IN-PERSON VISITS - NISQUALLY TRIBAL ELDER HOME  
VISITS - COVID VACCINE/BOOSTER AGES 5+

(360) 413-2727 **Behavioral Health**  
IN-PERSON SUD APPOINTMENTS AND WALK-IN'S WELCOME

**TRADITIONAL HEALING** (360) 493-6450  
IN-PERSON VISITS FOR ELIGIBLE PATIENTS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

(360) 459-5312 PRESS "5" **COVID TESTING**  
AVAILABLE FOR ELIGIBLE PATIENTS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.  
DRIVE TO RIGHT SIDE OF BUILDING AND CALL WHEN READY

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NISQUALLY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OBSERVES HOLIDAY CLOSURES SET FORTH BY THE NISQUALLY INDIAN TRIBE. IN THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE CALL (360) 456-5221. THE NISQUALLY TRIBE MAIN LINE WILL HAVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION.

TEMP CHECKS AND COVID SCREENING REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING.



# World Hepatitis C Day

By Melissa McFarland

World Hepatitis C Day is July 28<sup>th</sup> and Hepatitis C accounts for more deaths in the United States than any other infectious disease. Since 2010 there has been a dramatic rise in infections. Hepatitis C is virus which infects the liver and can lead to inflammation of the liver as well as cause the immune system to attack healthy liver cells. Inflammation happens when tissues of the body are injured or infected. Hepatitis C can cause cirrhosis, liver failure as well as liver cancer.

Hepatitis C is primarily spread through exposure to infectious blood or body fluids which contain blood. Prior to 1992, it was commonly spread through blood transfusions and organ transplantation but with routine blood testing it is rare to get Hepatitis C this way. Hepatitis C cannot be spread by food, water, sharing eating utensils, hugging, kissing, holding hands, coughing or sneezing.

People who are at risk for Hepatitis C are those who have:

- Injected drugs
- Had a blood transfusion or organ transplant before 1992
- Have hemophilia and received blood clotting factor prior to 1987
- Have been on kidney dialysis, and were born between 1945 and 1965
- Have abnormal liver tests or liver disease
- Have been in contact with blood or infected needles at work
- Have had tattoos or body piercings
- Have worked or lived in prison
- Were born to a mother with Hepatitis C
- Have HIV/AIDS
- Have had more than one sexual partner in the last 6 months
- Have had a sexually transmitted disease
- Are a man who has had sex with men

One subset of the population that is at higher risk for contracting Hepatitis C are those who inject drugs, and it has been estimated

that approximately 80% of opioid dependent patients who are undergoing treatment in an outpatient opiate treatment setting are positive for the Hepatitis C virus antibody. These individuals often face significant challenges when seeking treatment for Hepatitis C from access to care, to insurance denying medication, to reluctant providers providing the treatment.

Treatment for Hepatitis C is possible and through the last decade newer treatments offer fewer side effects and can be treated with oral medication. It has been found by offering Hepatitis C treatment along with treatment for Opiate Use Disorder via Suboxone or Methadone programs, the success rate for treatment is increased. If you have questions about Hepatitis C or Opiate Use Disorder treatment, please schedule an appointment with me at 360-413-2727 the Nisqually Behavioral Health Program.



South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency

## USDA Foods Program July Dates

PT. GAMBLE S'KLALLAM	7/6/22
SQUAXIN ISLAND	7/8/22
SKOKOMISH	7/13/22
NISQUALLY	7/15/22
CHEHALIS	7/20/22



NOTE: Please stick to the monthly schedule for the USDA Commodity Food Program. Food distribution staff have other duties that they are responsible for on the days they are not issuing commodities. If you're unable to make the date, please call and schedule an appointment with appropriate staff. For USDA Food, call SPIPA at 360.426.3990. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.




South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency

## WIC Program July Dates



SHOALWATER BAY	7/6/22
SQUAXIN ISLAND	7/12/22
NISQUALLY	7/13/22
CHEHALIS	7/14/22
SKOKOMISH	7/20/22



**This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.**  
Washington State WIC Nutrition Program does not discriminate.

NOTE: These dates are future projections. While we strive to keep these dates and times, they may be subject to change. This program is not always able to accommodate walk-ins due to their other duties.





# Announcements

Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday Emily Angelica!  
Love, Mom, Dad, Danielle, Megan, & Ginger



Congratulations Danielle & Sam !  
**GO WILDCATS!**  
Love, Mom, Dad, Emily,  
Megan, & Ginger

July 5, Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday AJ, Love The McDonald Family  
July 5, Happy Birthday Johnny, Love the McDonald Family  
July 18, Happy Birthday Querida, Love the McDonald Family  
July 27, Happy 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday Pebbles, Love the McDonald Family  
July 25, Happy Birthday KaraBear, Love the McDonald Family



6/28

**Happy Belated 16. Birthday  
Alex Gonzalez**

**Love mom, brother, sisters and nephews!**



## Tribal Estate and Will Planning

Tribal Estate Planning Services provided by Emily Penoyar-Rambo

Services offered:

- Last will and testament
- Durable power of attorney
- Healthcare directive
- Tangible personal property bequest
- Funeral/burial instructions
- Probate

Zoom meetings will be set up for the first and third Thursday of each month. Available appointment times are 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Please call Lori Lehman at 360-456-5221 to set up an appointment.

## Nisqually Transit

**FREE Rides  
Monday through Friday**

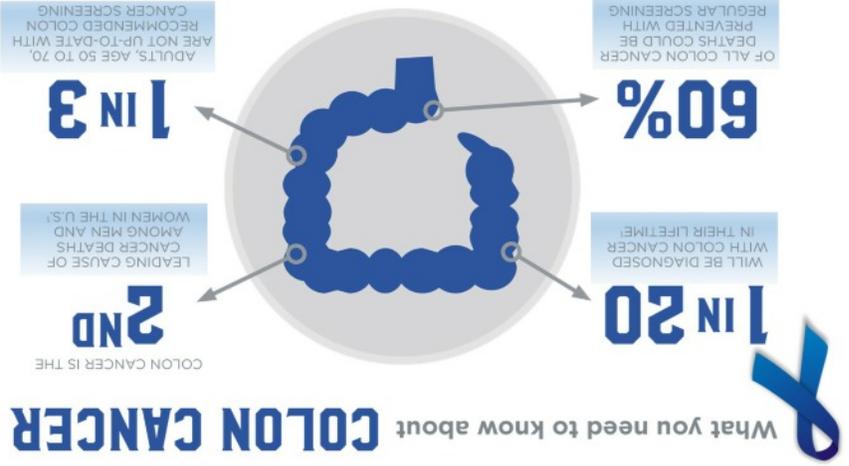
**Transit available  
6:00 a.m. to 6 :00 p.m.  
Open to all tribal, community  
and tribal employees. We offer  
rides from 6:15 a.m. to last off  
rez ride at 5:15 p.m.**

**Contact Adrian Scott,  
Motor Pool Coordinator/Dispatch**

**At 360-456-5236**



**Nisqually Indian Tribe**  
**4820 She-Nah-Num Dr. SE**  
**Olympia, WA 98513**



The Nisqually Tribal Health & Wellness Center and SPIPA's Comprehensive Cancer Grant are offering either a Yeti water bottle or Yeti Coffee mug when you finish your colon cancer screening. Please call 360-459-5312 to schedule your appointment.

