



č?é?x^wa? syácam

July 2026

CANOE JOURNEY SPEECHES

Canoe Landing Speech

si?ám'sčáy?ə?čal

Honored friends and relatives

_____ cə nəsna

My name is _____

č?é?x^wa nax^wsłáyəm st

We are Klallam from Elwha

ša?šú? st ?a? č?i stáčil ?a? tiə ?ənščtəŋlən

We're glad we arrived on your land

słé č?i stánł k^wa ?anətúŋł

We'd like to come ashore if you will allow us



Canoe Welcoming Speech

si?si?ám'sčóya?ča? ?i? ?əs?i?áyəx^w

Honored friends, relatives and elders

mán' k^wu ?áy'?a? č?i k^wənnúŋəl

It's very good to see you

_____ cə nəsna?

My name is _____

č?é?x^wa? Nax^wsłáyəm cn

I am Klallam from Elwha

mán' k^wu ?áy'?a? č?i ?ənstáči ?a? tiə ?é?x^wa?

It's very good that you've arrived here at Elwha

?ən?á k^wi ?ilən, t iyəm ?i? ?áyəs hay

Come to eat, sing and be happy!

?ən?á č?i tan

Come Ashore

Listen on YouTube.

Use QR Code for link or visit:

www.youtube.com/KlallamLanguage

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From Acknowledgement to Action—By Suz Bennett, Museum at the Carnegie

For the last several years, land acknowledgements have become an increasingly popular way for businesses, organizations, and events to open gatherings. Most follow a familiar format: “We’d like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the local Tribe. We honor their wisdom, stewardship, and dedication to preserving natural resources,” and so on.

Many of these acknowledgements begin with good intentions. Acknowledgement matters. Understanding the history of the place we call home matters. Recognizing that Indigenous people have deep and enduring connections to these lands matters. But acknowledgement alone is not the same as engagement, accountability, or action.

Without meaningful action, land acknowledgements can risk becoming symbolic gestures rather than genuine support for Native communities. Acknowledgement is important, but it should not be where the work ends.

For tribal communities, there is an added weight in constantly being asked to remind others of Indigenous presence and history while continuing to protect treaty rights, sacred places, cultural practices, and natural resources in the present day. Indigenous people are not just part of history. Tribal nations continue to live, govern, teach, create, and care for these lands today, just as they always have.

Acknowledgement alone cannot uphold treaties, preserve language, protect natural resources, or support Native youth and elders. Those things require ongoing commitment, resources, and relationships. If land acknowledgements are going to matter, they should inspire people to move beyond words and toward action.

Some tribal members are happy to write, review, or deliver land acknowledgements and see

them as a valuable educational tool. Others may feel differently. There is no single Native perspective on land acknowledgements. The concern is often not with the acknowledgement itself, but with the expectation that Native people should always be responsible for creating it. If an organization wants to acknowledge the people whose homelands they occupy, they should also be willing to learn about those people. Tribal members may choose to help review acknowledgements for accuracy or provide guidance when asked, but that responsibility should not automatically fall on Native communities.

So what does meaningful action look like?

It can be as simple as showing up. Visit tribal museums and cultural centers. Attend educational programs, cultural events, lectures, and film screenings. Read books by Native authors. Bring your children and encourage them to learn about the histories, cultures, and contemporary experiences of Indigenous peoples. Support Native organizations, artists, and programs through your attendance, advocacy, and financial contributions.

Meaningful relationships are built through engagement, not acknowledgement alone.

If an organization has time for a land acknowledgement before every meeting, it also has time to invite tribal speakers, support Native-led programs, educate staff about local tribal history, or create meaningful partnerships with tribal communities. The goal should not simply be to acknowledge Native people. The goal should be to engage with Native communities in ways that foster understanding, respect, and lasting relationships.

A land acknowledgement should be an invitation to learn more, not the end of the conversation.

ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ Council Corner

The Tribal Business Committee is beginning to use this space to share brief updates with the community on recent work, priorities, and upcoming opportunities. We are committed to keeping our community informed and engaged.

A MESSAGE FROM TRIBAL COUNCILWOMAN MELISSA

GILMAN

I am deeply honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve our Tribe as your newly elected Tribal Chairwoman. Thank you to everyone who placed their trust in me. I look forward to working alongside our Tribal Council, staff, and community members as we continue moving our Tribe forward together.

As I begin this new role, I want to recognize and express my sincere appreciation for Frances Charles. Frances has dedicated countless hours to serving our Tribe, and her leadership, knowledge, and commitment have helped guide our community through many important projects. I have great respect for her service and am grateful that she continues to serve on Tribal Council. I look forward to learning from her experience and building upon the strong foundation she has helped create.

One of my priorities as Chairwoman is strengthening relationships, both within our Tribal community and with our partners throughout the region and nation. By fostering strong connections and open communication, we can create more opportunities, address challenges together, and better serve our members.

I am also excited to focus on revitalizing several Tribal committees and encouraging greater community participation. Committees provide an important opportunity for members to share their voices, contribute their knowledge, and help shape the future of our Tribe. Whether your interests are in education, health, culture, natural resources, youth programs, elders' services, or economic development, there is value in having community members actively involved in the work that affects us all.

I encourage everyone to attend General Council meetings, participate in committee work, and share your ideas and perspectives. The strength of our Tribe has always come from our people. When we come together, listen to one another, and work toward common goals, we can accomplish great things for current and future generations.

I am excited about the opportunities ahead and remain committed to serving with integrity, transparency, and respect. My door is always open, and I welcome your thoughts, concerns, and ideas as we continue this journey together.

Thank you again for your trust and support. I look forward to working alongside all of you to build a strong and vibrant future for our Tribe.

With gratitude,
Melisa Gilman
Tribal Council Chairwoman

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ELWHA PLACE AND WHY?

Frances - "The Elwha River. Watching the changes of the seasons take place in our Olympic areas are beautiful. Families gathering at the river."



Melissa - "My favorite place is the tribal center! It is a place to gather and see everyone, whether it's for business or community events!"

Tia - "Deep Creek, because I have fond memories spending summers there camping, playing, and enjoying the land. It's a special place because it's the land of our ancestors and we continue to bring our children there to build memories of their own and connection to the land."

Steve- "The Elwha River is my favorite place. So many great memories have been made there - like growing up and learning to fish as a kid."

Razz - "My favorite Elwha Place is Pillar Point. I enjoy the memories of my fishing partner, Greg Williams, and visiting with our Makah friends and relatives. Of course, I also like to catch all the Super Coho salmon out there too."

Community Health

June Highlights

June was a busy month of event planning, graduation celebrations, and building capacity for the Community Health program! The “Into Adulthood” event successfully connected young people to community resources to support the transition to the next phase of life. Thanks to everyone who joined and helped spread the word.

New Faces of Community Health

Sabrina Peraza

Community Health Representative



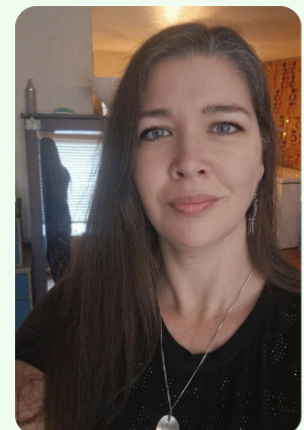
Sabrina is a mestiza herbalist and farmer. She centers the wisdom and healing traditions of her Cuban American ancestry to enculturate and enrich her farming, medicine making and healing practices. Sabrina moved to Port Angeles in 2019 and has been growing,

foraging, and teaching at her medicinal herb farm, Flora Farm since then. She’s looking forward to meeting more members of the Lower Elwha community and is honored to be the newest addition to the Community Health team.

Jessica Johnson

Community Health Driver

Hello my name is Jessica Johnson. I come from the Johnson/Dick family at Jamestown. I am excited to be a part of the Community Health Department at Lower Elwha Clinic as the newest Transportation Driver. On my off time I enjoy walking my dog, fishing, and hanging out with my family.



LEKT Health Dept. Highlight

The Lower Elwha Health Department is pleased to announce the addition of a mental health provider to our medical practice!



Jennifer Smith-Grady, previously in practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner with the Lower Elwha clinic, has recently completed the additional requirements to provide mental health services as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Jennifer is passionate about promoting wellness and improving mental health and is honored to be able to serve the community in this capacity. She will provide psychiatric diagnostic evaluation, medication management, consultation, and limited mental health therapy. We are currently scheduling patients. Please reach out to your primary care provider in the clinic for a referral if needed.

What's happening at the Museum?

Summer is here, and the Museum is a great place to slow down, explore, and connect. Whether you're a longtime community member or visiting for the first time, we'd love to welcome you and your family. Admission is always free, and summer is a wonderful time to explore the exhibits and learn more about Klallam history, culture, art, and stories.

We're also excited to launch new **Museum Activity Sheets** designed for K–12 students. These interactive sheets encourage observation, exploration, and deeper engagement with the exhibits. While created with students in mind, anyone is welcome to participate.

We need your help testing them out! Complete a sheet and short review during your visit to be entered into a drawing for a **Welly's gift card**.

One entry per person, regardless of how many sheets you complete.

We're also continuing our community **photo preservation** efforts. The Museum has a scanner available to help digitize older family and community photographs for future generations.

Many of our stories live in albums, shoeboxes, and drawers. These photographs help preserve the history of our families and community.

To schedule a photo scanning visit, call **360.452.8471 ext. 2908** or email [**klallam.museum@elwha.org**](mailto:klallam.museum@elwha.org).

We'd also love your input. What programs, films, speakers, or events would you like to see at the Museum? Your ideas help shape the work we do.

Thank you for your continued support. The Museum continues to grow little by little because of this community.

Meet Your Constitutional Amendment Committee

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Constitutional Amendment Committee has been established to thoughtfully review, discuss, and develop proposed amendments to the Tribe's Constitution. Committee members represent a diverse range of perspectives, experiences, and commitment to the future of our Nation. Through community engagement, education, and careful consideration, the Committee will work to ensure that any proposed changes reflect the values, sovereignty, and long-term interests of the Lower Elwha Klallam people. We are honored to introduce the individuals serving on this important committee.

Tim Goldsbury, Chairman

My name is Tim Goldsbury, and I am honored to serve on the Constitution Committee. I am a lifelong member of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, a commercial fisherman since 2012, and a commercial diver with over 14 years of experience. I currently serve on the Tribe's Fish Committee, where I work to represent tribal fishermen and help address issues affecting our fisheries and treaty resources.



My experience on the water and involvement in tribal affairs has given me a strong appreciation for our treaty rights, traditions, and future generations. I look forward to helping strengthen our Constitution and ensuring it reflects the voices and values of our tribal membership.

Keri Ellis, Secretary

My name is Keri Ellis, my mom is Becky Charles and my grandma was the late Viola Cagey. I am proud to serve on the Constitutional Amendment Committee for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. As a Tribal member who has dedicated most of my adult life to advocating for members through Tribal administration, I know our Constitution can

reflect who we are today while preserving the morals, values and traditions that have guided our people for generations.

I have seen firsthand how the Constitution influences the decisions we make, the services we provide, and the opportunities available to our members and future generations. I



coordinated startup of this committee because it is important that every Tribal member has a voice in shaping our governing document.

Constitutional amendments should be thoughtful, transparent, and centered on strengthening our sovereignty, honoring our ancestors, and creating a stronger future for our children and grandchildren, ideally 7 generations.

I am committed to listening respectfully to all perspectives, encouraging open dialogue, and helping ensure that the amendment process is informative and inclusive. My goal is not to advocate for change for its own sake, but to carefully evaluate how our Constitution can best serve the needs of our Tribe today and for generations to come.

It is a privilege to serve alongside the strong and diverse committee members we have and I look forward to working together with our community throughout this important process. Thank you all for bringing immense value to our everyday lives! Just by being you.

Anthony Fernandes, Member

Anthony Fernandes is the Grandson of Violet Charles and the son of Roger Fernandes. He holds a Bachelor of Science in American Indian Studies from Haskell Indian

Nations University where he graduated Suma Cum Laude. He holds a Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance from the University of Victoria. Anthony's primary educational focus was in the fields of Federal Indian Law, sovereignty, cultural revitalization, and

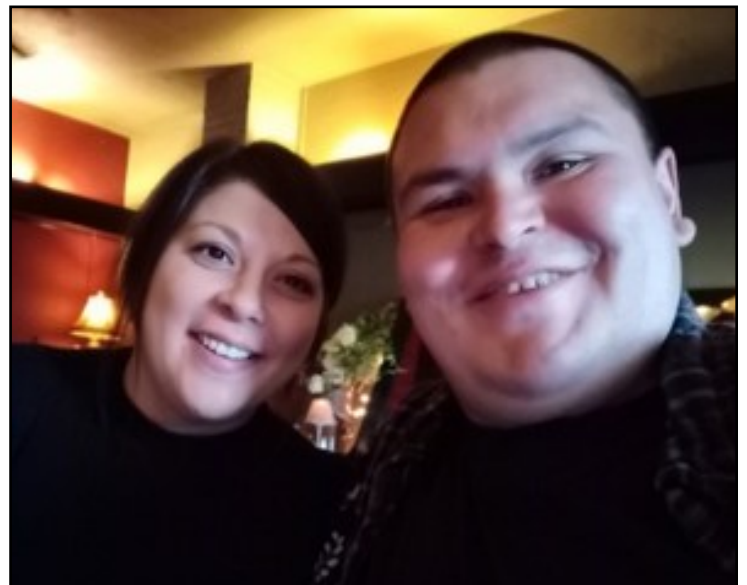


return to traditional Governance systems. He has worked throughout the US and Canada with Native youth in the field of gang intervention and substance abuse intervention and prevention. He co-drafted curriculum for University 101 courses for unhoused Native People in Victoria, BC while co-drafting research protocol for non-Native peoples doing research of Native Peoples and Nations. Anthony is currently helping to establish the West Coast Indigenous Studies Program while instructing Indigenous Studies Courses at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Ryan Charles-Elofson, Member

I, Ryan Charles-Elofson, am grateful to have been selected to serve on the Constitutional Amendment Committee as a committee member for a 2-year term. I wrote a letter and signed up to be on the committee to do my best and make positive change to our constitution not only for my family and kids but our future generations. One of my main focuses is our blood quantum and of course amending our constitution first. I have lived on the Reservation and in Port Ange-

les all 37 years of my life. I am also a committee member on the housing board for the tribe at the moment. I love helping and being part of our community. Making our community a safer, better place has always been my goal for my children and community. I have worked for the tribe since October 3rd, 2016, and started as a custodian and am now a Groundskeeping Safety Compliance officer for the Children's House of Learning and enjoy working for my tribe and with all our young future leaders and kiddos up here. I worked for Pacific Northern Environmental Corporation and helped build Klallam Counseling Services, Lower Elwha Food and Fuel, Natural Resources, Lower Elwha Children's House of Learning and helped remodel the Justice Center as well. I have Been Married to my wife Jessica Charles-Elofson since August 3rd 2013 and we have 3 beautiful children Dasan, Reighlynn and Jaxxon plus 3 dogs and 2 finches. My family is my everything and everything I do is for them or involves them in some shape or form I do my best to be a good father and husband at all times. I take my kids fishing and hunting as much as I can have them or us involved in canoe journey, drum group, and dinners when we can make time for it in our busy life. I appreciate you taking the time to read this and if you have any questions feel free to reach out to me on my cell (360)-406-1574.



Carmen Watson-Charles, Member

ᑭᓴᓴ'skwáči.

I am Carmen Watson-Charles, granddaughter to late Garold Charles Sr. and late Vare Charles. My beautiful mother is Ellen Charles.

As I grew up right here in Elwha, I spent much of my time with my grandma Vera where she taught me how to organize community events that she coordinated. She was a mighty leader taking on roles of head cook for funerals, main Coordinator for Canoe Journeys, head of delivering commodities, and annually buy turkeys and all the fixings for Thanksgiving and delivering them door to door with me by her side through it all, and Spike too. Grandma Vera was my super hero!!

As I got older Jamie Valadez, pulled me into our culture program were I helped develop dances to songs in 1994 along with our first drum and dance group members. Jamie Valadez is my



culture mom. I also got to tag along my whole little life with my Aunt Frances Charles, attending meetings and learning the importance of building relationships with many agencies and later fighting along side her for our village site.

Community has been at the heart of all my teachings from many amazing women in my life and from the most charming grandpa ever, Jerry. I have had the honor to serve our community in multiple generations starting with protecting our ancestors, still to this day, helping mothers birth our next generations, fostering many of our children and taking care of my elders until their last breath. I humbly share all this as I know I would not be were I am today with out many before me plowing the way that would later guide me to who I am today.

yəhúmæct

Yoga at the Heritage Center

Yoga is Back! Fridays | 9am - 10am



Featuring Melanie McHugh Barclay of Life Force Ayurveda.

Learn techniques from both Hatha and Vinyasa Yoga. The health benefits include enhancing strength and flexibility, stabilizing blood pressure, managing stress and anxiety, increasing bone density, and uplifting a sense of well-being.



Scan the QR Code to sign up

UNEARTH A STORY™

READ AND EARN COOL PRIZES FROM THE LIBRARY THIS SUMMER!

Kids up to age 18 can win prizes just for reading!

Pick up a reading log and bingo sheet at the Library. See Jason M. if you have questions.

You can also call 360-452-8471 ext. 7431 or email jason.morris@elwha.org.

Grand Prizes include:

- Wireless headphones
- LEGO X-Wing or Stitch set
- 85-piece art kit
- Giant 24" Squishmallow

Weekly prizes include:

- Fortnite V-Bucks
- Pokémon cards
- LEGO sets
- STEM kits
- And more!

Weekly prize drawings are every Monday at 3pm in the Library, June 22 – August 31. You must be there to win!

Grand Prize drawing: September 2 at 3pm.



Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Education Department | Library

SUMMER READING  JUNE 13 - SEPTEMBER 2



collaborative
summer library program™

© CSLP 2026 • Artwork by Tom Bonson



Traditional Canoe Carving at Lake Crescent

During the month of July 2026, artists from the Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, and Quileute tribes will be carving traditional cedar dugout canoes on the NatureBridge Olympic campus, along the shoreline of Lake Crescent in Olympic National Park. This is the first canoe carving to take place at Lake Crescent in over 100 years!

Daily visitation of the carving site will be open to the public Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to ask questions and interact with the artists during those times. The carving site will be closed Friday through Sunday.

The public is also invited to attend the tribal blessing ceremonies on July 1 and July 30, which will be held on the NatureBridge campus.



Schedule of Events

July 1

- Opening ceremony and blessing

July 2-29 (M-Th)

- Public visitation every Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Observe, ask questions, and interact with the carvers
- Closed to the public on Fridays and weekends

July 30

- Blessing ceremony and canoe launch
- Culture sharing with communal meal, dances, and songs

**Location: NatureBridge Olympic Campus
111 Barnes Point Road, Port Angeles, WA**

For additional information, contact:
Darrell Charles at Darrell.charles@elwha.org
NatureBridge at info@naturebridge.org



Darrell Charles, Jr.

I am a member of the Elwha Klallam tribe, and I've been an artist since I was 17 years old. I started learning to forge tools, repair canoes, and carve rattles, masks, and paddles. My first instructor was tribal elder Chucky Mike, and since then I've participated in various apprenticeships in Canada and the U.S. I've carved ocean-going canoes, paddles for decoration plus personal use, and masks of various styles. I prefer to build functional cultural items—rattles, paddles, masks, and other ceremonial property. Contributing to the growth of myself and other artists is my main goal. Teaching and being taught helps boost creativity. Seeing how others teach helps me to be better instructor.

**Darrell Charles, Jr.****Micah McCarty**

I am Michah McCarty, Makah Artist and Master Carver. With over 33 years of experience, I have made four dugout canoes (33ft, 20ft, and two 12ft canoes). Most of my art is made in community, for traditional teachings, education, and continuity of our culture. As a cultural ambassador, I live with the ethos of cross-cultural appreciation and respect of the natural world. As native artists we illustrate who we are and where we come from in the natural world.

**Micah McCarty****Randy Eastman, Jr.**

My name is Randy Eastman, Jr. I am a Quileute tribal member and the Cultural Advocate for the Quileute Tribe. I was introduced to carving in the sixth grade at our tribal school. Some of my influences are individuals like Chris Morganroth, Danny Smith, Don Smith, Rob Taylor, and Sharra Woodruff. Only in the last two years have I started to carve full-time, facilitating our community carving shed through the New Beginnings program. I have partnered with the Quileute Tribal School, Quillayute Valley School District, Early Headstart, Quileute Human Services, and First Step, bringing cultural awareness and a hope for passing on traditional knowledge to our youth and community members. My goal for my career as artist is to simply remain teachable. I want to continue to partner with other tribes and artists which will strengthen ties and bonds between our neighboring villages. I want to rejuvenate and replenish our art at home on the Quileute reservation so that future generations have something to inspire and even reference.

**Randy Eastman, Jr.**

The 2056-2026 School Year



End of School Year Party



KPop Demon Hunters Fans



School trip to the Underground Tour



Celebrating the Seahawks win



Free time in the gym

THE LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE PRESENTS: FREE SUMMER MEALS

Meals TO-GO For Kids & Teens | Free | 18 And Younger!



Scan the QR code below to find a summer meal pick-up site near you!



Three pick-up locations:

Lower Elwha Tribal Center:

2851 Lower Elwha Rd.

Children's House of Learning:

291 Spokewes Dr.

Lower Elwha Veteran's Center:

247 NS'Klslam Dr.

Monday-Friday

June 16-Sept. 2, 2026

(except 6/19 & 7/3)

Kids or parent/guardian may pick up meals

Meal Times:

- Tribal Center: 11:30AM-12:10PM
- CHOL: 12:25PM-12:55PM
- Vet's Center: 1:15PM-1:45PM

Open to all children 18 and younger, no registration required!

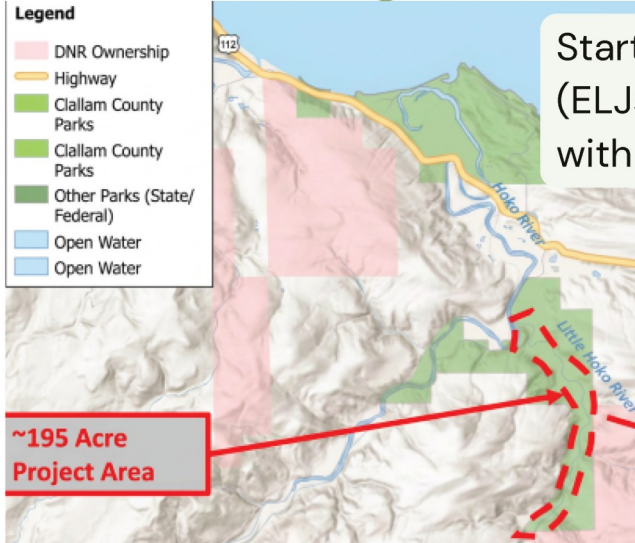


Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Materials staged for Little Hoko River Restoration



Starting September, 62 engineered logjams (ELJs) will be installed from the confluence with the Hoko mainstem to 2.5 miles upstream.



Example of natural logjam on the river.



ELJs will mimic natural jams to make up for the loss of large trees in the watershed. They will gradually collect wood and sediment, helping restore river grade, create deep pools, and reconnect floodplain wetlands critical to spawning and juvenile salmon, as well as other animals like elk who use these areas heavily for Winter foraging.

Seeking Tribal Artists!

Artwork needed for the Climate Adaptation Plan to reflect our connection to lands and waters. Selected artists will be compensated for their time & creativity.

Contact Cameron Macias at **360-457-4012 ext. 7499** or cameron.macias@elwha.org.



Save the Date!

August 31st | 10AM

for the third Climate Change Steering Committee meeting. Community members interested to learn more about the Tribe's Climate Adaptation Plan are encouraged to attend!



There's a fresh face in the forest!



Volunteers help our team expand monitoring by installing and maintaining new cameras on private and public lands. This curious, healthy young male cougar had not yet been observed until these images showed him in the Deer Park area this Spring. Snapshots like these are important to our understanding of their populations and movements.

EMPOWERING THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

TVR's mission is to provide a compassionate, holistic approach in serving Native Americans and Alaska Natives with disabilities. We support individuals in achieving meaningful and stable employment through training and supportive services, fostering self-sufficiency, reducing reliance on public assistance, and strengthening the Tribal community as a whole.

Eligibility for Services:

1. Enrolled with a State or Federally recognized tribe.
2. Reside within the service area.
3. Have a physical or mental disability, documented with a provider.
4. Employment barriers.
5. The applicant requires TVR services to obtain or maintain employment.

What may be considered a disability?

- Mental Health Diagnosis
- Substance use disorder diagnosis
- Blind/Low Vision
- Back/Brain/Limb injury or limitations
- Intellectual/developmental disabilities
- Hearing impairment
- Other physical or mental disabilities that prevent the person from finding and/or keeping employment.

Services Available:

- Vocational Skills Assessment
- Career Counseling & Guidance
- Vocational Training and Education
- Post employment services
- Transportation assistance for job related activities
- Supported employment services, including job placement and job coaching
- On-the-job training (OJT)
- Referral to other community resources
- Job Search Skill Development
- Assistance with work related support services: tools, equipment, license fees, work clothes, uniforms and safety equipment

TVR Team Information

Elwha Heritage Center - (360) 417-8545
 Jim Allen, Program Manager
 Keeoma Messenger, TVR Counselor

Elwha Social Services - (360) 565-7257
 Jeremy Acosta, TVR Counselor

More information at QR Code



www.facebook.com/LEKTVR

PRC NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

Medication Assistance:

We assist tribal members with getting their medications.

We are committed to supporting the health and wellbeing of our community. If you need assistance obtaining your prescribed medications, we may be able to help.

Our services include:

- Assistance with medication pickup from your pharmacy.
- Help with medication payments for those who qualify, subject to program guidelines.
- Patients must have primary insurance, and the medications must go through insurance before contract health will help with the co-pay.

Medication runs:

- Tuesday 1 pm - 3 pm
- Friday 1 pm - 3pm
- Please make sure to inform us of your needs before those times.

If you or a family member needs assistance, please contact us at the clinic 360-452-6252 ext. 7613 or 7637.

Our goal is to ensure that tribal members have access to medications they need without unnecessary barriers. We are honored to serve our community and look forward to helping you.

Sincerely, Samantha Dawson and Caedence Elofson

Medicare and TrueScripts

- We would like to inform you that we are currently experiencing issues with our secondary insurance billing system. At this time, our secondary insurance is not processing medications correctly with patients that have Medicare. We are actively working to resolve this issue as quickly as possible. We understand this may cause issues regarding medication payments.

- For now, we have deactivated TrueScripts for patients that have Medicare. If you need assistance with getting your medication, please contact us. We will assist with payment and pick-ups. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work toward a solution.

LOWER ELWHA FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Mission: Survivor's Safety and Autonomy through Advocacy and Awareness

- Advocacy - Domestic, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Sex Trafficking.
- Protection Orders
- Resources & Referrals
- Case Management Assistance
- Support for court related appointments.
- Prevention & Awareness
- Crisis Intervention Support
- Address Confidentiality Program

Contact Information

Beatriz Arakawa, Program Manager, Office: 360-565-7257, Ext. 7453

- Lower Elwha Social Services
- Cell: 360-460-1745
- 360-775-9346 - Emergency Phone Number



Happy July and Independence Day America! Thank you Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe for allowing us: Prosecuting Attorney Diane Cabrera, Prosecuting Attorney Sam Feirson, Chief Sam White and myself (Beatriz) traveled to Tucson, Arizona for the 21st ITWG – Intertribal Working Group hosted by Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Although not all tribes were represented, our two days of engaging and discussing about Tribes’ implementation of the VAWA 2013 and VAWA 2022 Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction (STCJ) over Indians or Non-Indians who commit violence in Indian Country while safeguarding Native American victims’ safety were inspiring and empowering experienced. The ITWG was a collective of Tribal leaders, councils, law enforcements, judges, prosecutor attorneys, defense attorneys, domestic violence programs’ representatives, correction officers, court staff, tribal coalitions, OVW staff and TLPI – Tribal Law and Policy Institute staff – the sponsored agency.

The LEFA staff are grateful to Education/

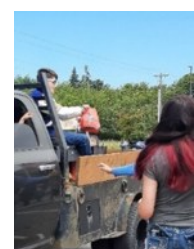
Recreation and Clinic Departments for putting together the End of School Party, High School Graduates Parade and Becoming Adulthood events that we participated in.

In June, LEFA staff are busy preparing for LGBTQ+ Two-Spirit awareness walk which was scheduled for June 29th.

Save the Date:

- **“LGBTQ+ Youth Group”** every Friday, June 26th – September 25, 2026, from 3:00 pm to 4:00 PM at Lower Elwha Social Services Conference Room, Snacks will be provided. See flyer.
- **“Parents in the Know” class** on July 7, 8, and 10 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Social Services building. All supplies, lunch, certification of completion/participation, and incentive will be provided. This class is open to all parents, guardians, or caretakers of minor (s). LEFA - Lower Elwha Family Advocacy was the first few pilot domestic violence and sexual assault programs in Washington state that implemented this prevention class. Additional information will be announced soon.

Respectfully, LEFA



Thank you to our sponsored, the LEKT OVW grant FY2022!

Grateful to our grant funder:

"This project was supported by Grant No. 15JOVW22GG03388TRIB awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice." OVW

Respectfully, LEFA



July 2026

Dear Lower Elwha Tribal Community Members,

The Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church respectfully provides the following courtesy list of individuals who are authorized to conduct blessings and services through the Shaker Church within the Lower Elwha Tribal Community.

Leadership of the Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church

- Jonathan Arakawa, Minister
- Johanna Bowechop, Secretary/Treasurer and 1st Elder

Tribal members may also seek assistance from the licensed ministers of our neighboring Shaker Churches:

- Tom (TJ) Jackson, Minister, La Push Indian Shaker Church
- Harold (Fudd) Charles, Jr., Minister, Queets Indian Shaker Church

Blessings and services through the 1910 Indian Shaker Church include: funerals, weddings, baptisms, memorial services, land blessings, home blessings, and other official religious ceremonies.

In accordance with the teachings and requirements of the 1910 Indian Shaker Church, all blessings, services, and other Shaker religious work **must be performed by an individual who holds a valid 1910 Indian Shaker**

Church License. As emphasized by our Bishop and State Elders, church licenses serve as an important protection for both the Indian Shaker Church and those who seek its assistance. Church licenses are more than a piece of paper, and it helps ensure that services are conducted properly and in accordance with church teachings and regulations. Those who hold a church license hold all the rights and are protected by the laws of the State of Washington, as set forth to us by our Bishop and State Elders, past and present.

When individuals who are not licensed perform Shaker religious work, concerns may arise regarding church authority, liability, and the spiritual integrity of the service being provided. For these reasons, we encourage community members to seek assistance only from properly licensed Indian Shaker Church leaders.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact **Jonathan Arakawa**, Minister of the Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church, at **(360) 565-6957** or **jonathan_arakawa@outlook.com**.

Respectfully,

Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church Leadership







Jonathan J. Arakawa, Minister

Johanna F. Bowechop, Secretary/Treasurer and 1st Elder

Public Works

Every Drop Counts!

Did you know that the water we use every day—for drinking, cooking, cleaning, and watering plants—is a limited resource? The good news is that small actions can have a big impact. By making a few simple changes, we can all help protect our water supply and create a more sustainable future.

-  Take shorter showers and turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.
-  Fix dripping faucets and running toilets—they waste more water than you think!
-  Only run dishwashers and washing machines when they are full.
-  Water lawns and gardens in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation.
-  Sweep driveways and sidewalks instead of hosing them down.
-  Reuse water from rinsing fruits and vegetables to water plants.

Water Conservation Challenge

This month, make a splash by choosing one new water-saving habit and sticking with it for 30 days. Encourage your family, friends, or coworkers to join you and see how much water you can save together!

2025 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT IS HERE!

The 2025 Elwha Heights and Lower Elwha Valley Consumer Confidence Reports and Water Quality Results are available.

Simply scan the QR Code or visit our website at www.elwha.org/departments/publicworks/utilities.



If you prefer a printed report, they are available at the Tribal Center main entrance or at Public Works. To request a printed report be mailed to your home contact Karl Majerle, Utilities Manager at 360-565-7272.

Wipes clog Pipes!

Place these items in the **TRASH** and **NOT** the toilet:

- Disinfecting wipes
- Paper towels
- Baby wipes
- Towelettes
- Mop refills



**DON'T FLUSH
WIPES**



July Birthdays

July 1st

Peyton Cable
Andie Spencer

July 2nd

Nicholas Charles
Christina Sampson

July 3rd

Jais Charging Whirlwind
Roger Hopie Jr

July 4th

Kolby Charles
Aubrey Ruff

July 5th

Ernest O'Neel
Wihinaa Robideau
Wendy Sampson
Jamie Williams

July 6th

Lela Bankson
Kyle Charles
Justice Wells

July 7th

Charlene Charles
Kalika Elofson

July 8th

Lisa Charles

July 9th

Marilyn Edgington
Troy Romero

July 10th

Shyana Manuel

July 11th

Maxine Davis
Kelsey Macias

July 12th

Donald Charles
Addisu Dujue
Karrin Francis
Mariah Francis
Katelyn Roberts
Christine Wilken-Matte

July 13th

Katherine Charles
Janice Sampson
Tidjra Tolliver

July 14th

Russell Johnson

July 15th

Rosalene Boyd

July 16th

Cyde Garza Jr

July 17th

Joshua Charles
Forrest Roberts
Leanna Sampson
Pete Stephan IV

July 18th

Braven Little Youngman
Donald Ludwig
Jaelynn Matheny-Stuntz

July 19th

Joshua Temple

July 20th

Christopher Charles
Gary Charles
River Charles
Edward Johnson
Nicole Johnson
Gabriella Sampson

July 21st

Marci Do
Joshua Hopie
Frances Thompson

July 22nd

Robert Francis III
Micah Needham
Bryan Suluskin

July 23rd

Ryan Carrell
Joseph Luce Sr

July 24th

Keith Lauderback
Anthony Messenger
Steven Robideau

July 25th

Carter Bankson
Vincent Charles Rennie
Darcy Sampson

July 26th

John Charles Jr
Dennis Charles
Steven Elofson

July 27th

Angela Sampson

July 29th

Phyllis Carter
Sahnai Daniels-Charles
Kwistonia Singleton
Pete Stephan III

July 31st

Skyla Black Crow
Virginia Brady
Mason Cayenne
Krystal Charles
Joseph Sampson



Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
2851 Lower Elwha Road
Port Angeles, WA 98363

Tribal Holiday Closure

July 3rd—Fourth of July (Observed)