



SEP 22 2017

PORTLAND AREA
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
1414 NW NORTHROP, Suite 800
PORTLAND, OREGON 97209

Dear Nooksack Tribal Members:

I am writing to advise you that the Indian Health Service (IHS) has negotiated a contract with the Nooksack Indian Tribe (Tribe) to resume tribally-operated health care services under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. Under this contract, health services are available to all eligible beneficiaries, including Nooksack Indian Tribal members, as well as those recently disenrolled. If you were eligible prior to March 24, 2016, you remain eligible for health services. Health care delivery will be effective on September 22, 2017.

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) has provided interim recognition to the Nooksack Indian Tribe through the current Tribal Chairman, the Honorable Robert Kelly.¹ During interim recognition, Chairman Kelly is the person of authority to represent the Nooksack Indian Tribe in a Government-to-Government relationship with the IHS, as well as other Federal agencies.

The tribal clinic will provide health care delivery to Nooksack Tribal members and their descendants, as well as other eligible beneficiaries from the Nooksack community. As of September 22, 2017, health services provided by the Nooksack Indian Tribe, are considered covered services by the IHS.

The IHS contract with the Nooksack Indian Tribe for health delivery will continue as long as the Tribe meets the requirements set forth by the Memorandum of Agreement with DOI, and the DOI continues to recognize Tribal leadership as a governing body of the Nooksack Indian Tribe.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Terry Dean, Director, Office of Tribal and Service Unit Operations, by telephone at (503) 414-5555.

Sincerely,

/Stephen M. Rudd/

for / Dean M. Seyler
Director

¹ *Memorandum of Agreement between Acting Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs and Hon. Robert Kelly, Chairman of the Nooksack Indian Tribal Council. August 25, 2017.*