FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, March 16, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 Jamestown S’Klallam Response Plan

To our Tribal Citizens, Employees, and Olympic Peninsula Community:

The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe is actively monitoring COVID-19 and the associated impacts on our region. As a sovereign nation, healthcare provider and one of the largest employers on the Olympic Peninsula, we are working diligently to develop responsible plans to keep our people and our community health and safe. Jamestown is working with local, state, Inter-Tribal and federal agencies, as well as our own public healthcare and emergency operations personnel.

Our goal is to do our part in containing the spread of the virus and protect the more vulnerable populations. We are adapting to new information as it becomes available and are fully aware that the decisions being made to limit the spread of COVID-19 impact everyone. The health and wellbeing of our Tribal and Olympic Peninsula community is of the utmost importance. If you feel sick or have any cold/flu-like symptoms, please stay home. Please continue to practice good hygiene by washing your hands thoroughly and frequently.

Seven Cedars Casino will be closed temporarily in support of statewide efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. The Longhouse Market will remain open with frequent cleanings of the gas pumps and other high-touch surfaces, all “takeout” deli orders will be served to-go. The Cedars at Dungeness will remain open for golf, sit-down dining will be closed. Jamestown Family Health Clinic will remain open and continue serving the healthcare needs of our community. The dental clinic will remain open at this time. Our Tribe agrees with the collective view that a coordinated effort to contain the spread of COVID-19 is in our region’s best interest. Our Tribe recognizes there is an important balance between public safety and continuing to help our business survive and protect jobs. We will continue to evaluate the situation and consider additional recommended measures throughout this rapidly changing crisis.

Expect more information in the coming days and weeks on the Tribe’s plans, as well as updates from expert agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control, the Washington State Department of Health, and our region’s public health officials, Dr. Locke and Dr. Unthank.

If you are a Jamestown employee working at the Tribal Government, Seven Cedars or Jamestown Family Health Clinic, you should be discussing any COVID-19 related concerns with your department director or supervisor, so that if scheduling changes are needed (to work from home, to self-quarantine, to care for a family member, etc.), your supervisor can accommodate.

This is a difficult time for all of us and we are working hard to ensure everyone’s health and safety. In the meanwhile, please be kind and understanding to each other and help one another. We will get through this together.

Sincerely, Jamestown Tribal Council
W. Ron Allen, Chair/CEO
Loni Greninger, Acting Vice-Chair
Rochelle, Blankenship, Acting Secretary
Theresa Lehman, Treasurer
Kurt Grinnell, Councilman