

## RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS/ANSWERS FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL

(Questions are in bold)

1. **When will they open the rolls to add children born to tribal members? Why are tribal services dependent upon geographic location in RI only for most health and social services?**

An announcement will be made regarding the tribal rolls very soon. The Federal Government/B.I.A. has determined that the majority of tribal services can only include those members that reside in the Washington County area due to the fact that was where our historic reservation was located in Charlestown Rhode Island

2. **When will senior center reopen?**

Once the Senior Citizen building renovations are complete and the Covid-19 pandemic comes to a conclusion we then can open the Senior Center.

3. **Please make known that he URI Tribal waivers are currently available - Right now we are operating on a word-of-mouth system. How are we planning to assist in the verification process for eligibility for URI NIT waivers?**

As for the waivers for the universities we are awaiting on official word from the various universities. Once we get an official word then a process can be developed including tribal membership requirements.

4. **When will un-official members with temporary enrollment numbers will have the ability to be sworn in? Remote options would be ideal as there are many who would have to travel and it will cost thousands for one to come there for a 5 min process. You are the makers of the rules, and it IS possible to change the codes, etc. to accommodate your members. Technology affords us the ability to visually see and acknowledge individuals, as well as send documentation and live photographs instantly for the use of processing tribal ID's. Can we at least vote on it? Thank you very much.**

Upon referencing the tribal by laws all new members must appear in front of the tribal assembly to be sworn in. Technology in this case should not supersede the process that is required by the tribal by laws.

5. **Do the Narragansett have a domestic violence and/or child abuse program? If so what's the program structure consist of? Is the Narragansett Tribe part of any organizations focused in programs for child abuse, domestic violence, & sexual**

**abuse? If so; Local or national? Would I be able to know what current procedures are currently in places for families dealing with child abuse, domestic violence, & substance abuse? Is there someone who can connect with that handles Child abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse, & substance abuse programs and procedures?**

Yes, the Narragansett Indian does have domestic violence and family service programs. Please contact our tribal switchboard so you can be referred to the proper point of contact.

- 6. How is tribal council selected? Does the tribe offer any internships so that tribal members can gain a better understanding of the council. I'm working on my undergraduate degree with the intention of earning a law degree. I would love to get a better understanding of tribal law. Are there any opportunities to work with someone within our tribe to gain hands on knowledge?**

The Narragansett Indian Tribe has an election process for the tribal council. Please contact our tribal switchboard so you can be referred to the proper point of contact.

- 7. My 3-year-old son was scheduled to be sworn in but was unable to do so because of the pandemic. Will he be allowed to be sworn in during a virtual meeting?**

Any attempt to swear in tribal members has been put on hold due to the Covid-19 pandemic. An announcement will be made soon that will clarify how members will be sworn in.

- 8. Will swearing in of interim tribal members be held on Zoom, if so, when will this start?**

See response to question seven.

- 9. Children with temporary numbers will they be able to be officially sworn in?**

See response to question one and question seven.

- 10. Request info to use our # for dental or medical in our local area. I am on oxygen tanks, hard to travel right now, is there options for the disable to swear in. We have been trying to do this enrollment paperwork with uncle Cliff Brown and aunt Janet Brown before he was terminally ill and passed. He took all our paper work for my children as well and Sister Diane when the polls were open before he passed. All the children in their 40s now, how long will they have to wait for their enrollment. I am grateful but still concerned about them. All their paperwork is with Lorraine Key's Office. I am thankful**

Please contact the tribal switchboard so you can be transferred to the appropriate department.

- 11. Will the rolls reopen to those who were never contacted about receiving tribal numbers for children**

Please contact the tribal switchboard so you can be transferred to the appropriate department also review response to question one and seven.

**12. If there's a date set for swearing in new tribal members?**

No date has been set to swear in new tribal members see response to question seven.

**13. I want to know when there Gonna let the children on the roll since the roll was open before Covid-19 add they already had all there paperwork they don't have to go on a Fox hunt you know there family on frost name bases you don't have to look up there Genealogist hey should be a council tech yes waive them over**

Please contact the tribal switchboard so you can be transferred to the appropriate department to address your particular concerns.

**14. Temporary roll numbers for children effected by covid-19. My children were not sworn in and I did not receive the letter about the temporary solution. Will there be an extension due to emergency circumstances? Or will we remain as rigid as those who once oppressed us?**

See response to question one and question seven.

**15. When & where can we go to renew our Tribal ID's?**

- **What programs will be implemented by the Tribal council that will focus on expanding the knowledge of the Narragansett Tribe's history within our youth?**
- **Are there steps to creating or continuing, as I know there were some before, language classes that can be offered so that we can spread education of our native language to all who wish to learn within the Tribe?**
- **For college graduates, are there programs within the Tribe offices that can offer internships into Government & Tribal relations for those studying in that field? Digital Media internships for those youth/young adults who have studied that an are looking to get in world experience?**
- **The youth are the ones who will continue on our Tribe's legacy, what programs will the Tribal Council implement that will benefit the youth and young adults that will take our seats once our bodies have reunited with Mother Earth & our Spirit's with the Great Creator?**

Contact the switchboard so you can be transferred to the proper department. Once the Covid-19 pandemic subsides we can then resume our programs for cultural knowledge. We will also resume our youth program and senior citizen program.

**16. Thank you for the opportunity to ask. When do you anticipate beginning the one-year time frame for swearing in new members, or is it too soon to tell? (I simply want to ensure I don't miss it, as my daughter is on the list and away at college.) Additionally, I currently live in Florida, and want to contribute to our Tribal family how I can. For the last 10 years in my community of Tallahassee Florida, I have led a 14-week divorce recovery program that is free (only a charge to purchase the workbook which gives online access), and we will be leading it virtually this year, beginning November 3, so I respectfully ask you consider sharing that information if anyone is in need. I am**

**happy to answer questions or provide more information. Thank you for all of your continued efforts in caring for our Tribal family now, throughout this pandemic, and always, as well as for the opportunity to participate in the meeting via Zoom.**

See response to question one and question seven.

- 17. I heard some amazing things happening in the meeting that I would like to assist with. How can I get involved and help as there sounds like there a lot of work that needs to get done? Thanks for all you do.**

Contact our switchboard and you will be transferred to the proper department for questions and answers.

- 18. Which seats are vacant? Are there any council seats that can be done remotely? If not, what type of proof of residence would be needed? Can we have vote or insights into how dollars appropriated are spent? It seemed in the last meeting there was a lot going on; however, can we see the list of priority projects - commencement date, scope, time, cost, and estimated completion date(s)? Understanding the importance of carrying on with tradition — Can the constitution be amended (to include flexibility around more remote options to do official business) to assist with the ever-changing times we face with covid?**

An election for three council seats will be held in 2022. No council seat can be held remotely. Please contact the tribal election committee in the coming months for election procedures. Check the tribal website for updates on various projects. Please review the tribal by-laws for amendment procedures. Go to the tribal website for questions on Covid-19.

- 19. Any funding for winter courses**

Contact the tribal switchboard to be transferred to the appropriate department.