



Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation



Good afternoon, everyone!

As of midnight, last night congress failed to fund the Federal Government. We have been hearing about this for weeks and it is finally here. As you may know, the Chehalis Tribe and the Federal Government have a financial relationship. The Chehalis Tribe has many programs that depend on federal funding in some fashion. However, this like many other stories in the news are designed to instill fear and blame. I am not interested in either fear or blame. I think we should look at history to guide us. The Federal Government has shut down 4 times in the past 10 years. Each of those times the Chehalis Tribe saw little to no impacts. The fact is that funding on the reservation does not work hand in hand with the daily whims of the feds. You are more likely to see effects of the Government shutdown off the reservation. You will see National Parks closed. You may have difficulty getting someone at Social Security to answer a call (delivering social security benefits will not be affected by the shutdown) or experience delays in flights due to fewer traffic controllers on the job. We do not know how long this gov shutdown will last. We do not know when Congress will act. But until they do, you will hear a lot of news about the shutdown. I ask that we all remember that most of what the Chehalis Tribe does for its members in a daily basis will be intact. We have been here before and we were not impacted. We will probably see this again as our leaders in Washington DC can rarely agree. But we will persist like we have since before recorded time.

Chehalis Tribal Business Committee