

May 7, 2024

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
& Whatcom County Council  
311 Grand Avenue  
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Honorable Mr. Sidhu & *Honorable Whatcom County Council Members,*

Now't Si'am e ne schaleche Si'am ~ (*Hello my respected friends/relatives*),

We cordially invite your participation in the 4th Annual Gathering of the Eagles, May 19-26, 2024. Our week-long canoe journey will paddle through the San Juan Islands with potlatch-style gatherings of food, arts and cultural exchanges -- returning to the mainland on Friday, May 24, 2024. This is a celebration of our intergenerational, intertribal, cultural heritage, sharing and educating with our extended family around the world.

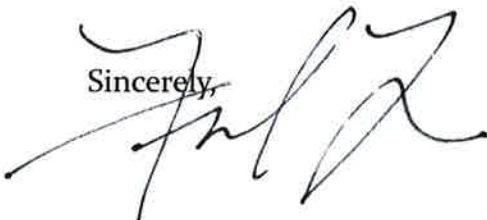
Our gatherings will host islanders, tribes and First Nations from across North America, including the interfaith community of the Pacific Northwest along with special guests from South Africa, Australia, Egypt and Navajo Nation. This is a canoe encampment for all of our participants on the paddle -- all of our friends at each stop are diligently planning for canoes arriving throughout each island and village.

This year, our journey concludes with 'Coast Salish Day at Whatcom Creek' on Saturday, May 25, 2024 (*in old-town Bellingham*). It's quite exciting to coordinate an arts and culture event that bridges our Lummi and Whatcom County communities together in a good way. This is a coordinated effort of grassroots organizers in cooperation with tribal, port, city and county officials working together -- so we hope you consider our invitation to join the Gathering of the Eagles & Coast Salish Day at Whatcom Creek events.

The Gathering of the Eagles is a spiritual journey of *healing, hope, honor, happiness and hospitality* -- Our 2024 motto: Celebrating Intergenerational Cultural Heritage. Let's all come together to share and care as neighbors of the Salish Sea. Your generous tax deductible contribution is welcome through our partners at: 'Friends of the San Juans.' This will help our committee to acquire the necessary funding of our unmet needs. If you have any questions, call me anytime at: (360) 391-7560.

Hy shqe Si'am e ne schaleche Si'am. ✚

Sincerely,



Sul ka dub ~ Freddie Lane (*Lummi*)  
Co-Founder & Director

 Gathering of the Eagles (Esqalph else Kwelengsen)

# we raise our hands



Gathering of the Eagles  
c/o Friends of the San Juans  
PO Box 1344  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

[friends@sanjuans.org](mailto:friends@sanjuans.org) • [sanjuans.org](http://sanjuans.org)

(360) 378-2319 • EIN #: 91-1087153

Hy shqe Si'am e ne schaleche Si'am (*thank you friends/relatives*)

We are proud to partner with 'Friends of the San Juans' as our official fiscal sponsor for the Gathering of the Eagles & Coast Salish Day. Friends of the San Juans is a 501-c 3 non-profit who honors this beautiful place we strive to protect and restore comprises the lands, waters, and tangible and intangible resources of the Northern Straits peoples.

It's with your generous contributions that we are able to make these events and gatherings possible. Gathering of the Eagles is a spiritual journey of *Healing, Hope, Honor, Happiness and Hospitality*. Our 2024 goal: To continue Celebrating *our* Intergenerational Cultural Heritage. Thank you for helping us come together to share and care as neighbors of the Salish Sea. Hy shqe Si'am - PHRED (360) 391-7560

 [Gathering of the Eagles \(Isq'alph eisa Kw'w'w'ngsen\)](#)

# Coast Salish Day

at **Whatcom Creek**

**Saturday, May 25, 2024**

- 
- 5AM Breakfast at Lummi | Wexliem House  
6AM Paddle to Bellingham departs Lummi\* | Stomish Grounds  
8AM Arts & Food Vendors Open | Maritime Heritage Park  
9AM Coast Salish Day Concert Series | Waypoint Park  
10AM Opening Ceremonies | Waypoint Park  
▶ Invocation & Welcome | Coast Salish Day Committee  
▶ Tribal Leaders Welcome & Introductions Civic Leaders  
▶ Water Blessing Ceremony with the Interfaith Community  
11AM Official Canoe Welcoming Ceremony | Waypoint Park  
▶ Hawaiian Voyaging Canoe Society from Maui HI  
▶ Carvers Camp (Octopus Canoe) from Tacoma WA  
▶ Puyallup/Chief Leschi School from Tacoma WA\*  
▶ Kingfisher of Orcas - International delegation  
12PM Protocol (Cultural Exchange) Presentations  
Arts & Culture Street Fair | Maritime Heritage Park  
Native Art Market & Food Vendors  
3PM Coastal Jam / Concert Series | Maritime Heritage Park  
6PM Conclusion ~ Canoe Family dinner at Wexliem House, Lummi

Presented by: The Gathering of the Eagles Committee, Friends of San Juans, Children of the Setting Sun Productions, Nimiipuu: Protecting the Environment  
Volunteers Welcome | Free and Open to the Public

This is a grassroots gathering. Donations welcome to: Friends of the San Juans  
\*Times Subject to change or revision due to weather and/or safety conditions

CONTACT: FREDDIE LANE 360.391.7560 | VENDORS CONTACT: 360.296.2962



Made possible with your donations  
Thank you ~ Scan QR Code to help



Gathering of the Eagles (Esqalph etse Kwelengsen)

**CELEBRATING INTERGENERATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE**

# gathering of the eagles

& Coast Salish Day at Whatcom Creek

May 19 - 26, 2024

Seven Island Canoe Journey  
Water Blessing Ceremonies  
(Potluck) Potlatch Dinners  
Arts & Traditional Foods  
Cultural Protocol

CELEBRATING INTERGENERATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE



Lopez Island  
May 19, 2024

San Juan Island  
May 20, 2024

Orcas Island  
May 22, 2024

Lummi Island  
May 24, 2024

Lummi Nation  
May 24, 2024

Bellingham  
May 25, 2024

EAGLE PHOTOGRAPHY BY RAY MORRIS



# gathering of the eagles

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### **THUR May 16, 2024 • Event Orientation •** *for staff, volunteers, vendors & grounds keepers*

12PM Orientation for Gathering of the Eagles | Stommish Grounds at Lummi (and Zoom)  
5PM Orientation for Coast Salish Day | Maritime Heritage Park, Bellingham, WA

### **SAT May 18, 2024 • Safety Boat & Skippers Meeting**

4PM *For all captains, skippers and paddlers preparing for the Paddle to Lopez in the morning*

### **SUN May 19, 2024 • Paddle to Lopez Island**

**Day 1**

Departure: Washington Park (Fidalgo Island), Anacortes WA | **TIDE** 1.5 Low Tide @ 9:25 am  
Contact: Kai Sanburn - 206.679.8363 | Paul Henriksen - 360.298.2803 | Judy Meyer - 360.468.2136  
7AM Skippers Meeting  
8AM Calling of the Witnesses & Water Blessing Ceremony  
12PM Soft Landing | Point of Spencer Spit - Bring your own chair & lunch  
1PM Official landing | Spencer Spit State Park  
3PM Visiting Hour | Lopez Community Center  
4:30<sup>PM</sup> Potluck Dinner | Lopez Community Center  
6PM Protocol (Cultural Exchanges)

### **MON May 20, 2024 • Paddle to San Juan Island**

**Day 2**

Departure: Spencer Spit State Park (Lopez Island) | **TIDE** 0.5 Low Tide @ 9:56 am  
Contact: Stephanie Buffum - 360.472.0404 | Matt Wickey - 360.440.5927 | Jan Sanburg - 360.298.5762  
7AM Continental Breakfast | Lopez Island  
8AM Departure Blessing & Protocol  
10AM Water Blessing Ceremony | Odlin Park, Lopez Island  
12PM Soft landing | Friday Harbor Long Dock, San Juan Island  
1PM Official Canoe Landing at Jackson Beach  
4PM Visiting Hour  
5PM Potluck Dinner | Culture Exchange  
9PM Fireside Storytelling

### **TUES May 21, 2024 • San Juan Island Day**

**Day 3**

Jackson Beach, Friday Harbor, WA | **TIDE** -0.4 Low Tide @ 10:32 am  
Please bring your own chairs and picnic baskets for lunch (thank you)  
7AM Breakfast  
10AM Opening Blessing & Water Ceremony | Exhibition Paddle | Paddle to 4th of July Beach  
2PM Lighthouse Tours | Limn Kiln State Park  
4PM Visiting Hour  
5PM Potluck Dinner  
9PM Traveling by the Stars with the Hawaiian Voyaging Canoe Society

### **WED May 22, 2024 • Paddle to Orcas Island**

Departure: Jackson Beach, Friday Harbor WA | **TIDE** -1.1 Low Tide @ 10:56 am  
Contact: David & Geri Turnoy - 503.548.7845 | Sandy & Uuva Taylor - 360.840.0116  
8AM Departure Blessing & Protocol  
11AM Lunch | Shaw Island South Beach  
2PM Street Fair | Olga Community Club  
3PM Official Canoe Landing | Olga Dock, Olga WA  
4PM Visiting Hour  
5PM Potluck Dinner | Protocol (Culture Exchange)



 [Gathering of the Eagles \(Esqalph etse Kwelengsen\)](#)

Gathering of the Eagles • 2877 Lummi Shore Drive, Bellingham WA 98226 • (360) 391-7560 • Celebrating Intergenerational Cultural Heritage  
Please be advised, this is a water festival and we plan for rain or shine. Bring your own chair & picnic lunches. (Donations are welcome to Friends of the San Juans (scan the QR code above). \* Some events and times are subject to change due to weather, tides or funding

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# gathering of the eagles

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (PAGE 2)

### **THURS May 23, 2024 • Paddle to Doe Bay**

**Day 5**

Departure: Olga Dock, Olga WA | **TIDE** -1.6 Low @ 11:30 am

7AM Breakfast | Olga Community Center

8AM Departure for Doe Bay

9AM Swalex Prayer Ceremony\* | atop Mt. Constitution

12PM Doe Bay Canoe Landing & Lunch

5PM Canoe Family Dinner, Skippers Meeting & Storytelling | Olga Community Center

### **FRI May 24, 2024 • Paddle to Lummi Nation**

**Day 6**

Departure: Doe Bay, Orcas Island | **TIDE** -2.0 Low Tide @ 12:06 pm

Please bring your own chairs and picnic baskets for lunch (thank you)

5AM Breakfast

7AM Departure for Lummi Island (from Doe Bay)

10AM Lummi Island Lunch | Legoe Bay

1PM Depart Lummi Island

2PM Soft Landing | Gooseberry Point

3PM Official Canoe Landing | Lummi Stommish Grounds

5PM Potluck Dinner | Protocol | Coastal Jam | Skippers Meeting

### **SAT May 25, 2024 • Coast Salish Day at Whatcom Creek • (Paddle to Bellingham)**

**Day 7**

Departure: Lummi Stommish Grounds | **TIDE** -2.4 Low @ 1:00 pm

*Please bring your own chairs and picnic baskets for lunch*

5AM Breakfast & Skippers Meeting | Wexliem House

7AM Canoes depart Lummi Nation | Stommish Grounds

8AM Arts & Food Vendors Open | Maritime Heritage Park

9AM Coast Salish Day Concert Series | Waypoint Park

10AM Opening Ceremonies | Waypoint Park

- Coast Salish Day Committee
  - Welcoming & Introductions of Tribal & Civic Leaders
  - Water Blessing Ceremony with the Interfaith Community
- 11AM Official Canoe Welcoming Ceremony | Waypoint Park
- Hawaiian Voyaging Canoe Society from Maui HI
  - Carvers Camp (Octopus Canoe) from Tacoma WA
  - Puyallup / Chief Leschi School from Tacoma WA\*
  - Kingfisher of Orcas

12PM Arts & Culture Street Fair | Maritime Heritage Park

Native Art Market & Street Fair featuring Coastal & Community Vendors

3PM Coastal Jam / Concert Series | Maritime Heritage Park

6PM Conclusion

### **SUN May 26, 2024 • Alliance of Earth, Sky & Water Protectors Gathering**

Wexliem House, 2100 Lummi View Drive, Bellingham WA

8AM Breakfast | Wexliem House

10AM Cedar Ceremony

12PM Oyster & Clam Bake | Stommish Grounds

2PM Witnesses & Testimony



 [Gathering of the Eagles \(Esqalphetse Kwelengsen\)](#)

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