



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

MAR 09 2018

The Honorable Robert Kelly  
Chairman, Nooksack Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 157  
Deming, Washington 98244

Dear Chairman Kelly:

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement between you and the Acting Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (Acting Assistant Secretary), endorsed by the Acting Assistant Secretary on August 25, 2017, the Nooksack Tribe of Indians (Tribe) conducted a special election which concluded on December 2, 2017 (Special Election), to fill four seats on the Tribe’s tribal council (Tribal Council). The Tribe’s Election Board certified the results of the Special Election on December 8, 2017. The Regional Director of the Northwest Region of the Bureau of Indian Affairs informed me, by memorandum dated March 7, 2018, that the Bureau of Indian Affairs has not identified any reason to reject the validity of the Special Election.

Therefore, consistent with commitments made by the Acting Assistant Secretary in the Memorandum of Agreement referenced above, I hereby recognize the validity of the Tribal Council comprised of the four Tribal Council members elected in 2014 and the four Tribal Council members elected in the Special Election:

Robert Kelly	Chairman
Richard “Rick” D. George	Vice-Chairman
Agripina “Abbie” Smith	Treasurer
Nadene Rapada	Secretary
Robert “Bob” Solomon	Position A
Carmen Tageant	Position B
Roy Bailey	Position C
Katherine Rose Romero	Position D

Recognition of the Tribal Council comprised of the above-listed members shall extend until the results for the general election originally scheduled for March 17, 2018, can be certified. The Bureau of Indian Affairs expects that such election will be scheduled and candidate packets made available to qualified individuals as soon as practicable. I look forward to working with the Nooksack Tribe in the future.

Sincerely,

John Tahsuda  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs  
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary –  
Indian Affairs