



## 2019 Tribal Canoe Journey: Paddle to Lummi

*Sqweshenet Tse Schelangen "Honoring Our Way of Life"*  
July 24, 2019 – July 28, 2019

*by Brady Rosnagle, DSHS Economic Services Administration*

### Mark Your Calendars – Do Not Miss This Great Event!



The 2019 Canoe Journey will be held at the [Lummi Nation](#) in Bellingham 7/24/19 – 7/28/19. The main Canoe landing will be on Wednesday 7/24/19 with Protocol (songs, drumming, dancing and stories) the following days. Here is the official Website for the [Paddle to Lummi](#) and their [Facebook Page](#). The Lummi Nation expects over 100 canoes and over 10,000 people to participate.



### What is a Tribal Canoe Journey?

The journey honors the rich traditions of Coast Salish tribes of the Northwest, who travel the waters to meet and gather for trade, ceremony, and celebration. Canoe Journeys hold special significance to Coast Salish tribes as they truly honor relationships, as well as, connections with the land and water. July 24, 2019 is the main landing; the day when canoe families from Western Washington, Alaska, Canada and other locations will land at Lummi and ask to come ashore. What follows over the next several days is a Potlach Protocol Celebration that includes the sharing

of meals provided by the host Tribe, gifting, honoring and sharing of traditional prayers, drumming, songs and dances by each tribe.

### How Can I Volunteer?

Volunteers play an important role in the success of Canoe Journeys. Typically, the hosting tribe will need over 500 volunteers from the community during the event. If you are interested in volunteering, here is the [Volunteer Application](#). You can also volunteer at soft landings at other tribes along the route in the days and weeks leading up to the main landing at Lummi. Here are the [Draft Route Dates](#). Check with local tribes to confirm the date and find out how you can help.

The Lummi Nation will need volunteers in many different areas, including: Registration, Safety & Security, Food Preparation and Meals, Kitchen & Clean-up, Hospitality, Merchandise, Medical, Youth Activities, Elders, Recycling, Transportation & Parking, Public Works & Camping, Event Equipment, Media, Vendors, etc.



### Why Participate or Volunteer?

- To build state/tribal relationships.
- To not only learn more about tribes and tribal culture, but participate in a tribal cultural experience.
- To enjoy everything that this event offers, including amazing people, canoes, protocols, presentations, prayers, songs, regalia, drumming, dancing, stories, food, and arts and crafts.
- Local tribes need many volunteers for this community event.
- It is often hard work, but also very rewarding and a whole lot of fun.



### Where Can I Find More Information about Canoe Journeys?

- VIDEOS: [Paddle to Lummi 2019](#) (2 min.), [Canoe Journey 2018 – Lummi Landing](#) (6 min.), [Power Paddle to Puyallup 2018](#) (4 min.)
- ARTICLES: Here are two DCS articles packed with tons of great information and pictures from the [2016 Paddle to Nisqually](#) and the [2013 Paddle to Quinault](#).
- HANDBOOK: [Tribal Journeys Handbook and Study Guide](#).

### Questions?

If you have specific questions regarding the Paddle to Lummi, contact the Tribe at (360) 312-2260 or you can send them a message by going to their [Contact Page](#) and click on “Drop us a Line.”

