



# COWICHAN TRIBES

## MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT

5760 Allenby Road Duncan, BC V9L 5J1  
Telephone (236)800-4023 Fax (250) 715-3323

April 30, 2020

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

### **Re: Status Cards and the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Please be advised that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Indigenous Services Canada has limited operations, and it is the federal ministry responsible for issuing the Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS). Cowichan Tribes Membership Department is unable to produce the Certificate of Indian Status (CIS), because Indigenous Services Canada has not supplied the laminated cards, and the Department has limited access to our office due to Cowichan Tribes operating on essential services only.

During this time, it is requested that businesses operating on Cowichan reserve lands accept **all** Status cards, whether they are expired or not. If an individual has an expired Status card, and, the individual's likeness is recognizable, or they are **able** to produce another piece of identification, please accept their Status card for tax exemption. Our **Qw'utsun Mustimuhw**/Cowichan people and **Hwulmuhw Mustimuhw**/Indigenous people are a vulnerable demographic, and tax exemption is a necessity during these unprecedented times.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me at [membership@cowichantribes.com](mailto:membership@cowichantribes.com) or Derek Thompson A/General Manager at [general.manager@cowichantribes.com](mailto:general.manager@cowichantribes.com)

Sincerely,

**Jen Charlie**  
**Indian Registry/Membership Administrator**  
**Cowichan Tribes**

hp/JC

CC: Derek Thompson, A/General Manager