

Transcription

Production	Conversations COVID 19
Episode	Skagit Leader's personal message
Duration	03:08"
Deliver format	H264

This is a very, very difficult time for Skagit County, as well as for our entire nation. Our lives have been disrupted. We have many concerns for our health and the wellbeing of our loved ones and neighbors.

Coronavirus is taking a large toll on our finances and local businesses.

At times, it seems our lives have completely changed.

But Skagit has faced hard times before and we have always joined together and risen to the challenge.

As we enter into our third week of staying home – with the prospect of more weeks to come – know we are here for you, doing the best we can to fight this pandemic and keep people healthy.

Our medical professionals, public health professionals, first responders and essential workers are hard at work - day after day, night after night to keep Skagit safe and assure our basic services are functioning.

But we have to ask you to do one, one thing.

One big thing.

Please stay home.

We know from our doctors and public health officials that staying home is the way to stop the spread of coronavirus.

That and frequently washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and hot water.

But staying home is more difficult than we could have imagined.

It's hard to be away from family and friends, to not be able to give them a hug, a kiss or a handshake.

It's hard to start each morning dreaming up new things for your kids to do.

It's hard to have schools close and community events canceled.

As the weather gets warmer, we will be tempted to get out of the house – way out of the house.

But we can't have our loved ones, our neighbors become sick.

We cannot risk their lives.

Staying home and staying healthy is the best way we can take care of each other and our community.

If you look at it, day-to-day, it'll go by quick, but please, **please**, listen to the experts.

For those among us who have been laid off or had to close their business, it's tremendously, tremendously difficult. Our hearts go out to you.

Skagit is in this together.

Know as community leaders we are doing our best to lead through this trying time.

We are in this for you.

Call us or email us with your concerns and your ideas.

We will do what we can to help.

Thank you for staying home.

Thank you for keeping all of us safe.

Thank you for helping stop the spread of coronavirus.

But Please, please, listen to the experts... And we'll get through this and there'll be stories that we pass down to our kids and their kids – how we managed to get through this together.

Haishkusia

Skagit, thank you for being the true heroes you are.