

# MEDIA RELEASE

**Date** Monday, 22 March 2020

**Subject** Updated #2 Response to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

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Newcrest Red Chris (Red Chris) continues to closely monitor and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic embracing the globe. To date the implementation of our precautionary measures has resulted in no confirmed COVID-19 cases from Red Chris.

As always, our primary objective is to maintain the safety and well-being of all Red Chris employees and their families through the reduction in the risk of infection to individuals, their family members and neighbouring communities. This is a joint effort and we continue to work with our employees, contractors and directly with Tahltan representatives to support the health and safety of all people that work at Red Chris Mine, and live in the surrounding communities and the broader community.

We continue to take a very cautious approach, working with our medical professionals under the guidance of the World Health Organization, the Province of British Columbia, Northern Health, our medical provider Iridia, and advice from other experts in this field.

Precautionary measures in place include:

**Emergency Management Team:** The Emergency Management Team (EMT) continues to meet at a minimum twice daily to evaluate all information available and adjust our precautionary measures as necessary. It has daily access to the Newcrest Crisis Management Team (CMT). A daily conference call with other Northern British Columbia mines takes place.

**On-site Medical Provider:** We have increased the medical presence on site with additional professional medical staff. We require any on-site person who presents with flu like or possible COVID-19 symptoms to report immediately to the medical centre for assessment.

**Onsite Isolation protocols:** If an onsite person shows flu like or COVID-19 symptoms they are moved into isolation, within a dedicated section of the camp. These personnel remain in isolation whilst their symptoms are assessed and remain in isolation until a medical professional has completed a detailed assessment and they are deemed asymptomatic.

**Screening for Return to Work:** In early February Red Chris implemented return to work restrictions for personnel who have travelled to or returned from any international locations. In these cases, the person must remain in self-isolation for 14 days prior to them being permitted to return to work. Several people have 'self-isolated' following the introduction of this process. All international FIFO and technical visitor travel has ceased.

**Controls and Communication:** Red Chris has and is continuing to implement additional precautionary controls that are specific to our operation. We are providing regular updates regarding these controls to employees, contractors, and Tahltan representatives.

For instance, we have cancelled in person townhall meetings used to address the whole site to avoid gathering groups with more than 50 people. Any face to face meetings such as daily pre-starts (toolbox meetings) are restricted to very small numbers, and alternate communication is used instead such as email and / or paper notices

**Camp and dining room facilities:** The dining facility on site has been modified to introduce additional controls related to hygiene with new hand washing stations, removal of “self-service” options and individual wrapping of food. The dining facility is now limited to 49 seats to accommodate physical distancing requirements. In addition, cleaning services have been increased with particular attention to high traffic areas and “touch points”.

**Local Community Re-entry Controls:** To support the request from the Chiefs of the Iskut and Telegraph Creek Band Councils, we request all personnel who are returning to their communities to maintain strict compliance with the 14-day self-isolation requirement. Furthermore, we have eliminated direct interaction with the community avoiding the Dease Lake store and suspending hockey games at Iskut.

**Working Remotely:** To reduce the influx of people into Red Chris, we have identified roles that can be undertaken remotely instead of onsite. This measure is consistent with global government efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Transportation hygiene protocols:** We have increased the cleaning activities on our charter flights. In addition, we now require the mandatory use of masks while travelling to and from site where physical distancing may not be reasonably achievable. This directive will reduce the likelihood of people who may be a carrier of the virus but have not shown symptoms, from transmitting COVID-19 to others within 1-2 meters.

We wish to assure the community we are doing everything possible to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, and thank Tahltan for working with us as we implement our precautionary measures. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ben Wither, HSEC & People Manager ([ben.wither@newcrest.com.au](mailto:ben.wither@newcrest.com.au)) or Scott Paddington ([Scott.Paddington@newcrest.com.au](mailto:Scott.Paddington@newcrest.com.au)), Manager Technical Services.

Yours sincerely



Mark Adams

**General Manager Red Chris JV.**