

March 30, 2020

TAHLTAN NATION COVID-19 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

This morning, the Tahltan Nation COVID-19 Emergency Management Team (TNCEMPT) met again to discuss the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the threat to our Territory.

TNCEMPT would like to remind everyone that the situation we are all faced with is fluid and changing everyday. It is important we remain united and understand that TNCEMPT will be adapting to our unique circumstances.

Please be advised of one those changes. TNCEMPT will be moving away from Monday, Wednesday and Friday news releases to Tuesday and Friday news releases. TNCEMPT's next release will be Friday.

TNCEMPT would like everyone to be reminded that the geographical location of our communities makes us low on the priority scale when it comes to medical supplies and support. With such an unprecedented international demand, towns like Terrace and Smithers, for example, are low and in need of supplies. These are not normal times. No amount of money will make you immune from this virus. The best way to save yourself from contracting this virus is to distance yourself from people and stay home. It is working. Continue to do your part and protect your friends, family and community.

The time to act is now. What we do today will impact the health of our community in the weeks to come.

Stay home unless absolutely necessary.

Keep six feet or two metres away from everyone at all times. That is about the width of a car or two length of two arms stretched out. Call your loved ones and tell them to do the same.

Remind young people in your life that they can get sick from this virus. More importantly, they can be carriers and cause a lot of harm to parents, Elders, and other loved ones.

We can do this, but we cannot wait one more hour or one more day. **Let's save lives, together.**

Tahltan Nation COVID Website

TNCEMPT understand that our members want to be informed, especially during times of crisis. That is why we have set up a Tahltan Nation COVID-19 Emergency Management webpage - <https://tahltan.org/covid-19/> - where all of our members can inform themselves about COVID-19 and our response.

Red Chris (Newcrest)

Red Chris (Newcrest) is continuing to closely monitor the developments and escalating global concern around Coronavirus (Covid-19). We are taking a conservative approach and will heed the advice provided by relevant responsible agencies. At this point in time we do not have any confirmed cases on site.

At a site level, we have established an Emergency Management Team (EMT) of key management, in conjunction with our medical provider Iridia Medical and the Newcrest Corporate Office, will be working on a Communicable Disease Control Plan (CDP) and applicable action plans.

This EMT is meeting twice daily whilst we consider all of the current information from a global and a local perspective, amending our response as necessary, and ensure that key messages are communicated to our people with priority.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the new measures put in place please contact either:

Lorraine Callbreath

Email: lcallbreath@redchrismine.ca

Phone: 250-771-4200

Shannon Wilson

Email: swilson@redchrismine.ca

Phone: 604-800-9200 ext 162

3Nations Update

We will release the 3Nations COVID-19 Pandemic Plan on Wednesday.

The overall budget is being worked out today.

Feddie Louie is the Emergency Operation Centre Lead.

Jack Hicks, 3Nations Executive Director, is the lead on mental health supports.

Dease Lake Update

Dease Lake Emergency Management Committee (EMC) has been formed:

Tina Etzerza – Emergency Management Committee Coordinator & Communication Coordinator Regional District Kitimat-Stikine

Kimberley Marion – Vice EMC Coordinator, Tahltan Central Government & Community Representative

Shana Dennis – Finance Coordinator, Finance Administrator Tahltan Band

Carol Danielson – Secretary, Dease Lake Community Development Fund & School District 87

Kim Rowe – Tahltan Band & Peoples Haven

Susan Hotson – Health Administrator Stikine Health Center

Steve Woodcox – RCMP

Ed Van Meirlo – Super A

Hankin Asp – Tahltan Nation Development Corporation

Chief Richard McLean – Chief Tahltan Band

The Dease Lake EMC is for the entire community of Dease Lake, including Tahltan and non-Tahltan. If you live in or near Dease Lake you are represented by the Dease Lake EMC.

A **Dease Lake Emergency Management Committee** Facebook Page has been set up. If you live in Dease Lake please join this page to keep up to date on the Dease Lake EMC and what we are doing.

The Dease Lake EMC Coordinator is Tina Etzerza and I can be reached by phone # is 250-771-3405 or 250-631-2442 or at EMCDL@tahltan.org.

Peoples Haven staff will be contacting households in Dease Lake over the next couple of days to do a short questionnaire. All information will be kept confidential. This will allow us to build a database which will be used to determine how we will move forward in communicating with residents, to establish programs to assist those who may need it, and also to determine which households have high risk occupants and how the Dease Lake EMC can best support them. The information will allow the EMC to build relevant responses to this crisis.

The Dease Lake EMC recognizes that this is a stressful time and we are working quickly and diligently to provide information as fast as possible.

Iskut Update

Thank you for our Gate Monitors for working hard to protect our community. We are working on organizing games and crafts - such as online bingo and crafts for the children - for community members. We are going to be mailing out more information to community members. We kindly ask that you limit your visits to the store to once a week and continue to practice social distancing.

Iskut Store hours: Starting this Thursday 11am to 12pm for Elders. 12pm to 6pm for the rest of the community.

Telegraph Creek Update

We are pleased that our gate monitoring is working and we are getting information out to the community.

Employment, Contracting and Tahltan Businesses Update

TNCEMPT understands that many of you will be negatively affected - employment wise - by what is happening. If you or a family members employment has been negatively impacted due to the virus, please reach out to the TCG's Employment Director Kody Penner employmentdirector@tahltan.org. The Tahltan Nation is here to help assist you and your family through these trying times.

Please continue to check the Tahltan Nation COVID-19 Emergency Management webpage regularly - <https://tahltan.org/covid-19/> - to inform yourself of the services and benefits that are available to you.

ENDS