



Tahltan Band Council

P.O. Box 46
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April 1, 2020

Dear Community members;

The Tahltan Band Council would like to express our great appreciation to each of you for bringing concerns to our attention and for your passion and caring you show for the well-being of our community. We agree with you and when you are behind us, it enables us to make changes faster and easier to protect our community during this pandemic COVID 19. Meduh!

As you may be aware, for COVID 19, we are working with our fellow Tahltan communities to implement consistent measures to keep our communities safe, while focusing on prevention of the transmission of COVID 19 in our communities. So far, we have been successful, but we need to do more. There are still far too many people moving around, in and out of community. The following measures that are in place and people need to self-monitor and follow the processes we have set up:

Monitoring Access to community with gate on Highway 51:

Traffic monitoring will continue using the gate and having the gate monitors hand out COVID 19 information to educate those who are still coming and going. However, if we find this is not effective in getting people to stay home, self-isolate, we have the following options:

We can block access to IR 12, to stop all traffic from coming and going.

We also may pursue full closure of the highway that goes through to Glenora, although this is a more difficult thing to accomplish, it is NOT impossible and requires the support from MOTI and RDKS.

Construction Sites and crews:

We are maintaining essential services our housing construction is one of the essential projects that we will continue to move forward. The contractor has strict restrictions in place and the crew must follow them. The crew has instructions to isolate from community, by only going to job site and return to their residence and not interact directly with community members. They have ONE person who can go and get supplies and food.

The construction sites are off-limits for ALL community members. WE ask that you DO NOT go to the sites for any reason and allow the crew to do their work.

Drinking and boot-legging concerns:

We are aware of the bootlegging issues and we are looking at some options to deal with this. We have had very in-depth conversations with the RCMP. The bottom line is that RCMP have no jurisdiction and cannot to enforce a "dry reserve" BCR. The other solutions we will be doing around bootlegging is:

- Issuing eviction notice to known drug-dealers and bootleggers if they do not stop when told to via a letter from Band Manager

We also must be very careful how we deal with our members that are alcohol dependent, we do not want them going through withdrawals and having to use our medical teams time. We utilize our health staff to guide through this issue.

We urge our members to report any illegal activities they are aware of directly to the RCMP.

Let me be clear that Tahltan Band Council's priority, first and foremost, is the safety and wellbeing of our community and we expect our community members to do their part in ensuring we prevent the COVID 19 virus from coming into our community and being transmitted through out.

You MUST self-isolate for 14 days, each time you leave and return to the community.

You MUST maintain social distancing whenever you are out and about within the community.

We prefer that you remain in your homes as much as possible, only having one person from your household to go out and replenish food supplies if needed.

Tahltan Centre:

We are working on securing a supply chain for our store and you should see more stock coming in soon. We are sorry for any inconvenience that you may have encountered and know we are working feverishly to mitigate the issues. This is extraordinary times and we are encountering problems that we have not encountered before when it comes to get stock for our store.

Thank you for your cooperation and support, during these trying times, we all need to be in this 100%, only we, as individuals, collectively, can win this war we are faced with.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A McLean', written in a cursive style.

Chief McLean