

April 28, 2020

TAHLTAN NATION COVID-19 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Red Chris (Newcrest)

Newcrest is working with local community members to commission the sewing of 500-1,000 face masks to be used by the Red Chris workforce during travel. There could be a need for additional masks on top of this providing some continued economic benefits to those that may have to stay home.

Newcrest Provided each of the communities with no touch thermometers that can be used to screen people before they enter the community and at local clinic or offices. On April 16th, two were provided to each community with additional thermometers ordered and awaiting delivery.

Newcrest has placed an advanced care paramedic - 16 years work experience predominantly in the North - to provide rotating services in our three local communities for the next six weeks. The paramedic will assist with outreach work in the communities, wellness checks, educational services, ambulance training, preparations for transportation, and community response abilities related to COVID-19. Newcrest is covering all costs associated with this service.

Newcrest provided 30 loads of firewood logs split equally between Iskut, Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek. Tahltan Forestry Ltd. was engaged to do this work. Newcrest also covered the costs of delivery to the three communities.

Newcrest delivered a 200-litre drum of hand sanitizer, on April 16th, to each of our three communities.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the new measures put in place at Red Chris 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

Dease Lake Update

Super A has implemented many changes over the last four weeks, including social/physical distancing.

Beginning April 29th, Super A will be monitoring and limiting the number of customers in the store during the following high traffic times:

Wednesdays	3:00pm to 6:00pm
Fridays	3:00pm to 6:00pm
Saturdays	1:00pm to 6:00pm

If you require access to the gas bar or the liquor store please go to the front door.

If you are purchasing groceries, you will be directed to the side door.

The number of patrons allowed in at any given time will be controlled by staff outside wearing high visibility vests, masks, and gloves. Once the maximum capacity in the store is reached, you will be expected to line up on the designated markers outside and wait your turn. Please always follow staff directions.

Super A provides disposable gloves and hand sanitizer, we advise that you use both.

While you are in the store please follow these simple requests: (1) stay 6 feet apart at all times, aisles are one way and are clearly marked; (2) if you need an item in a specific aisle you may have to circle around in order to approach the aisle going the right direction; (3) the store is not the place to socialize, when you line up at the register make sure you allow 6 feet between yourself and others (there are markings on the floor to assist you with this) and; (4) if the staff directs you to comply with any of these requirements please be respectful and do so.

Super A, Dease Lake Emergency Management Committee and the People's Haven are working collaboratively to coordinate this effort in order to keep our community safe. We all know these are difficult times and would appreciate your patience and cooperation as we navigate through this pandemic.

Please note, times noted above are the busiest times, we encourage the community to come to the store early in the day when it is least busy in order to lessen the traffic and decrease lineups.

Homemade masks are available at People's Haven. Please call 250-771-5577 to arrange for pick up.

REMEMBER THESE EFFORTS ARE FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OF US. PLEASE COOPERATE AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.

Iskut Update

Iskut has been seeing a lot more activity since the snow has begun to melt. We are happy to see households going out for picnics and going for rides; indeed, mental health is a priority.

A friendly reminder to anyone in need: Please do not be shy and reach out for someone to talk to. We have the resources to assist you.

The Kluachon store is still trying to get more groceries, as requested from members. Nice to see the increasing variety of groceries at our store. The café is still doing Take-Out and it's going great. Lots of happy people getting a break from cooking and having a yummy meal. Importantly, the café employs 8 locals in our community.

Our community will be starting a simple community garden. Our youth will be involved, and we hope that this will be a very therapeutic project for anyone who wants to participate, including our youth.

Bingo is going on the 4th game and everyone is having fun. Our youth group has a "Picking Two Garbage Bags of Garbage and Win a Prize" contest. This is a great incentive to get our kids outside and cleaning our community.

Principal Carlene Quock update:

The Klappan School was closed for the week of April 20th for pipe maintenance and the staff worked from home. The school garden's seedling kits went home to interested families and the garden boxes with greenhouse toppers were ordered, supporting small businesses in the Territory. The staff will be making non-surgical masks next week and will be sending them home to students. We will be sending home woodworking kits (birdfeeders, birdhouses, toy train, or robots) to students that are interested. We are gearing up for traditional medicine harvesting and have ordered the materials to make some Tahlitan traditional medicines. The Klappan School staff plan on putting together a video diary documenting our harvesting. The school nutrition program is much appreciated by students and families. The admin team is working hard to complete inspectors' requirements for the fall 2020 semester.

Any questions or concerns please email Natasha Callbreath, Iskut Emergency Coordinator at: emergencycoordinator@iskut.org.

Telegraph Creek Update

Telegraph Creek store prices are noticeably lower, and the store is double ordering everything. We have a grocery committee working to find out what people in the community will be needing for groceries. We are also getting a second order of vegetables on Fridays.

We have started a community clean-up program for youth, adults and elders with prizes for the cleanest yards and community engagement.

We have the community garden under way. We currently have some things planted in the greenhouse and are setting up the drip irrigation in the main garden plot. Some early spring greens just sprouted this week.

We are shutting the gate down here in Telegraph Creek and moving it to Dease Lake. They will get set up in Dease in May.

Food hampers for people in need in the community will be going out this week.

ENDS