

December 31, 2021

TAHLTAN LEADERSHIP MESSAGE TO TAHLTAN NATION

Dear Tahltans,

We continue to be tested as a Nation, but like our ancestors before us, we are strong and united in the face of a common enemy.

Another challenging year has passed, with COVID-19 continuing to prevent us from gathering in the ways we are used to and need to as a Nation and as a family. We all are feeling this pain.

Currently we have 37 positive cases in Tahtlan Territory. This is an unprecedented number which we expect to grow.

With most of our Elders living inside our Territory, combined with our limited healthcare facilities and unpredictable medevac ease of access, it is critical that we do what is necessary to protect our people and stop this outbreak, which has already made many of us sick and now threatens to put many more of us in harms way. Although for some the symptoms are manageable, that is not the case for everyone.

It is for this reason that tonight, on New Years Eve, we plead for everyone to unite as one, and stay within your household bubble. Please think about those that you love - that individual could be your grandmother/grandfather, your aunt/uncle, or your mom/dad - and refrain tonight from partying or gathering outside your household bubble.

We understand that this is a difficult ask and that for some, this will be disappointing. However, the large numbers of Tahltans sick in our Territory is real, as is the risk of serious illness and death.

Let's bring in the New Year united in our effort to keep everyone in our communities safe by not spreading COVID-19.

Tahltan Leadership thanks you for your cooperation and wishes everyone a safe, prosperous, and united 2022!

Mēduh,

President Chad Norman Day, Chief Carmen McPhee, and Chief Marie Quock