TAHLTAN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Statement from the Tahltan Central Government: Standing in Unity with the People of Tumbler Ridge

Yesterday's tragedy in Tumbler Ridge has left many hearts heavy across British Columbia and beyond. The Tahltan Central Government extends our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathies to the families who have lost loved ones, to those with injured family members, and to the entire community now facing the shock and lasting impacts of such devastating violence.

To the parents, children, friends, neighbours, and colleagues who are grieving, we stand with you. You are not alone. We lift you up, understanding that there are no simple explanations, and no timelines for grief.

We honour, recognize and thank the first responders, health care workers, teachers, school staff, and emergency personnel who stepped forward in the face of unimaginable circumstances. Your courage, professionalism, and compassion during this profound crisis reflects the very best of humanity. We hold you in our thoughts as you carry the weight of what you experienced.

To all the Tahltan's living and working in the region, and many more across our Nation who share in the sorrow of this tragedy, we are with you. As Tahltan people, we believe deeply in the strength of community and in our shared responsibility to care for one another. In times of darkness, we lean into that strength. We move forward together, grounded in compassion and guided by respect for life and for each other.

This is a loss that reaches across communities. We must allow space for sadness, for confusion, for anger, and for quiet reflection. Healing begins by acknowledging the pain and by standing together in it. We encourage everyone to reach out to one another. Check in on your children, family, your friends, and your Elders. Let the people in your life know they are loved and valued. Seek support if you need it. Sitting together, listening, and speaking openly can help ensure no one feels they are carrying this alone.

Life is precious and fragile. This tragedy reminds us of how closely connected we all are and how important it is to lead with kindness, patience, and love. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the people of Tumbler Ridge and with all those impacted.

TAHLTAN MEMBERS: SUPPORT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE

We recognize that many Tahltan members may be experiencing shock, grief, anxiety, or emotional distress. Whether you are directly affected, have loved ones in the region, or are feeling the broader weight of this loss, support is available to you. Please reach out if you need to speak with someone. You are not alone.

If you require assistance to travel to support immediate family members affected by this tragedy, please contact the Tahltan Central Government or your Band office to discuss available supports.

Tahltan-Specific Services & Crisis Lines

Tahltan Central Government (Main Office)
250-771-3274 OR 1-855-824-5826 (1-855-TAHLTAN)

Tahltan Band
250-235-3151

Iskut Band Council
250-234-3331

Tahltan Health and Social Services Authority (THSSA)
Crisis Line: 1-888-414-2836

Kehke Wellness / Mental Health Services (MST)
Services available at kehkewellness.org
Email: tahltanmst@janeapp.com
250-882-9380 OR 250-641-9648

Fetch Pacific Northwest Crisis Line (Dease Lake / Telegraph Creek)
1-866-278-0006

HealthLink BC
Dial 8-1-1 to speak with a nurse or access mental health support

For emergencies, call 9-1-1