



Metlakatla First Nation

COVID-19 Update - April 3, 2020

Message from Metlakatla Governing Council

As the number of cases and deaths related to COVID-19 continue to increase in the province, including at least one confirmed and media reported case here in the Northwest, it is critical that all of our members and staff take every available precaution to prevent themselves, their family or their friends from contracting this virus. Please continue to practice social distancing, frequent handwashing and stay home with only-those you live with as much as possible.

This week the executive management committee has decided to extend several of the conditions and actions already in place while adding additional measures to keep everyone safe. These are challenging times with preventative measures impacting many aspects of people's lives. However, if we come together and adhere to the best practices and suggestions of our medical professionals and leaders, we believe the impact to the health and safety of everyone can be greatly reduced. Once again, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding and will provide another update on Thursday to accommodate Easter. Please take care of yourself and stay safe.

Executive Committee Decisions

1. Non-residents will not be permitted to enter the community and will be told to leave.
This will be monitored and enforced.
2. Only health staff from Prince Rupert will be permitted in Metlakatla as required for assessments and assistance. Other staff living in Prince Rupert are not to enter the community.
3. To reduce the need for residents to travel to town and to support food fishing, fuel will be delivered this week.
4. Reception services are ongoing. However, the Band Office will remain closed to the public.
5. The Social Development Program and Health Department are reaching out to residents to ensure necessary groceries and supplies can be purchased and delivered. Please call the Health Centre for information.
6. Until further notice, regularly scheduled ferry service to the community is suspended. This is to further reduce the chance of spreading the virus.
7. Grassy Bay Services is self-serve only and the convenience store is closed. Status gas is still available through the service window. The reduced hours remain in effect

Assistance for individuals experiencing COVID-19 Financial Challenges

Both the Federal and provincial governments have made available significant assistance to those who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 virus and business closures. These measures include assistance with rent, deferment of payment for ICBC and BC Hydro, a \$1,000 Provincial Emergency Benefit for workers who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19, and a \$2000 per month from the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

The links below include more information and applications, and will also be included in clickable form in the comments, on metlakatla.ca and in the body of the email blast that follows.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/covid-19-financial-supports#CATC>
<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#individuals>

Look for regular updates on the Metlakatla First Nation Facebook Page and at www.metlakatla.ca.

Please share this with those who may not have access to Internet or Social Media.