



Metlakatla First Nation

COVID-19 Update - March 27, 2020

Message from Metlakatla Governing Council

The Metlakatla Governing Council has been closely watching the COVID-19 pandemic and the spread of the virus. While the global situation changes on an almost daily basis, our priority is and always has been the health and safety of our members, our community and our staff. Given the threat this virus poses to the population, in particular our Elders, leadership has had to make some difficult but necessary decisions to protect our more vulnerable members. In addition to encouraging continued social distancing and frequent hand-washing, below are some of the changes that have been implemented to date. We will continue to update the community on a regular basis as this situation evolves.

We understand that some of these measures have caused some hardship, however they will greatly reduce the chances of this virus spreading further and causing pain or distress to our members and staff. On behalf of the Metlakatla Governing Council, we appreciate your understanding and patience during these challenging times.

Governing Council Actions

1. Non-residents will not be permitted to enter the community, with the exception of a once-per-week charter to allow essential services staff to access key resources.

This will be enforced.

2. Reception services will begin again to ensure staff are more readily accessible. However, the Metlakatla Band Office will remain closed to the public.

3. The Social Development Program and Health Department are reaching out to residents to ensure necessary groceries can be purchased and delivered to those needing assistance.

4. The Health Department can do grocery and medical shopping in town. The food and supplies will then be brought to the community for distribution. Please call the Metlakatla Health Centre for more information and to utilize this service.

5. Those delivering supplies into the community are regularly briefed on best practices related to social distancing and healthy handling of goods.

6. As well as working remotely, the management team of all organizations are meeting weekly to update executive management on emerging issues. A committee of upper management has been struck and will meet regularly to make critical decisions.

Development Corporation Actions

1. Until further notice, regularly scheduled ferry service to the community is suspended. This is to further reduce the chance of spreading the virus.

2. Grassy Bay Services is self-serve only and the convenience store is closed. Status gas is still available through the service window. The hours of operation will be Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Stewardship Society Actions

1. Staff are continuing to work remotely and are in regular contact with each other and government agencies to ensure Metlakatla's voice is heard as it relates to protecting the resources and environment within Metlakatla Territory.

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

Please share this update with family and friends who may not have access to the Internet or Social Media.