



# Metlakatla First Nation

## COVID-19 Update - June 5, 2020

### Message from Metlakatla Governing Council

This week work continues on a return of ferry service and a very minimal number of staff back into the community. However, there remains some scheduling and safety measures that remain outstanding and, as such, the return of staff and the ferry service has been postponed.

When the ferry service returns, there will be a maximum of eight people permitted on board, with the morning run from Prince Rupert and afternoon run from Metlakatla reserved for staff and the morning run from Metlakatla and afternoon run from Prince Rupert reserved for Metlakatla residents. Guests will not be permitted aboard the ferry and all passengers will be required to wear masks and adhere to physical distancing.

The Metlakatla Development Corporation continues to work on a set schedule for the ferry service to and from the community. The schedule, along with information about fares and boarding procedures, will be provided to residents through online sites and door-to-door delivery as soon as possible.

**ANY STAFF OR RESIDENTS WHO DO NOT ADHERE TO PHYSICAL DISTANCING MEASURES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO BOARD THE VESSEL METLAKATLA VESSELS.**

As we prepare for ferry service and staff to return to the community, Chief and Council continue to remind residents that visitors are not permitted in the community in order to ensure the safety of our Elders and community members. While only essential staff will be returning to the office at a later date, the office will remain closed to the public indefinitely while healthy measures are put in place.

Please note that, as restrictions for access to Prince Rupert have been eased, fuel delivery to the community has been discontinued.

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding.

**Stay safe and have a great weekend everyone.**

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#### **Executive Committee Decisions (week of June 8)**

1. Non-residents will not be permitted to enter the community and will be asked to leave.
2. Only essential service staff from Prince Rupert will be permitted in Metlakatla.
4. Reception services are ongoing. However, the Band

Office will remain closed to the public until further notice.

5. Grocery and supply deliveries for Elders will be brought to the community at 2:30 p.m. on Monday and Friday.
7. Until further notice, the Community Van will not be operating.

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### **Assistance for individuals experiencing COVID-19 Finance Challenges - PLEASE NOTE CONDITIONS**

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.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/covid-19-financial-supports#CATC>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html#individuals>

**Look for regular updates on the Metlakatla First Nation Facebook Page and at [www.metlakatla.ca](http://www.metlakatla.ca).**

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