



Metlakatla First Nation

COVID-19 Update - May 1, 2020

Message from Metlakatla Governing Council

As we begin the month of May, the Metlakatla Governing Council would like to extend our appreciation for everyone's patience and understanding throughout the month of April as we worked to protect our members during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the past month there has been many changes and decisions made to limit the spread of the disease and assist our members. This includes restricting access to visitors and non-residents, restricting staff from entering Metlakatla, providing fuel to support food fishing in Metlakatla, providing food and supplies to residents and providing a \$500 per member assistance payment. As we move into May, the majority of the services offered and orders made in April will remain in place as the managers and executive team continue to meet on a weekly basis to discuss as the situation continues to evolve. An update will be provided every Friday throughout the month, while regular social media and web postings proceed as needed.

In the meantime, we would like to encourage everyone to continue to practice physical distancing, limiting interaction with those outside of your household, frequent hand-washing and limiting non-essential travel between Prince Rupert and Metlakatla. Through these actions, we can continue to keep COVID-19 away from our community and help to ensure the safety of all members.

Stay safe and have a great weekend everyone.

Executive Committee Decisions

1. Non-residents will not be permitted to enter the community and will be asked to leave.

This will be monitored by the Metlakatla Guardians.

2. Unless approved by Council, only Health staff from Prince Rupert will be permitted in Metlakatla as required.
3. Fuel to support food fishing by our members will be delivered to the community by Public Works staff every Friday and will be distributed by staff.

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. Deliveries by Public Works staff will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays and residents will be notified when their order has arrived.

6. Until further notice, regularly scheduled ferry service to the community is suspended.

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.

****NOTE: Applications for the Provincial Emergency Benefit opened today. Visit www.gov.bc.ca/workerbenefit for more information *****

<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.**