



Metlakatla First Nation

COVID-19 Update - May 8, 2020

Message from Metlakatla Governing Council

In addition to the measures currently in place, the Metlakatla Governing Council continues to take additional steps to ensure the safety of our members and the residents of Metlakatla.

Effective today, Metlakatla has hired Desi Ryan as the **Pandemic Response Officer**. In his role, Desi will be monitoring vessels coming into the community and informing non-residents of the restrictions in place. He will also be reminding residents traveling to Prince Rupert about healthy best practices.

While many businesses and offices will be reopening next week, we recognize the unique situation and risks the pandemic poses to small, isolated communities like Metlakatla. As such, staff from each of our divisions will continue to work remotely and will not be permitted to enter Metlakatla unless absolutely necessary and only with approval from the Governing Council.

Everyone is also encouraged to continue physical distancing of six feet, limit interactions with those outside of your home, frequently wash your hands and limit travel between Prince Rupert and Metlakatla. Orders for groceries and supplies will continue to be taken by Health and Social Development staff and delivered by the Public Works Department and Metlakatla Guardians to reduce the need to travel to Prince Rupert. Anyone wishing to send supplies to family in Metlakatla can also contact the Health Department.

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 Pandemic Response Officer.**
2. Unless approved by Council, only Health staff from Prince Rupert will be permitted in Metlakatla.
3. Fuel to support food fishing by our members will be delivered to the community by Public Works staff every Friday between 10 a.m. and noon and will be distributed
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 will be brought to the community at 2:30 p.m. on Monday and Friday.
6. Until further notice, regularly scheduled ferry service to the community is suspended.

by Public Works staff.

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 are now open. 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.**