

NUNAKAUYAK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL
TOKSOOK BAY

TRIBAL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

COVID-19 is a foreign virus that can cause fatal and severe pneumonia and organ failure in elders and people with common existing health conditions including diabetes, asthma, heart disease and lung disease.

COVID-19 is spread through the air and can be breathed in or picked up from surfaces where the germs have landed.

The only method known to stop the spread of COVID-19 is to not have any contact with an infected person. There is no cure.

People infected with COVID-19 may not become sick for up to 14 days, but can still pass the dangerous virus silently to others.

WHEREAS: The Nunakauyak Traditional Council is the Tribal Governing Body for the Native Village of Toksook Bay, and;

WHEREAS: The foreign disease novel coronavirus COVID-19 has spread throughout the world and has now been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

Whereas: COVID-19 can be deadly for elders and people with common existing health complications; and

WHEREAS: COVID-19 is spread through the air from person to person through breathing, coughing or sneezing and from contact by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it; and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States has issued guidance intended to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Native Village of Toksook Bay declares a Public Health Emergency to protect our community from the new threat COVID-19. We will follow the guidance of the Center for Disease Control and health professionals in implementing urgent health strategies.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NTC Tribal Administrator is authorized to take necessary actions, in accordance to the Constitution of the Nunakauyarmiut Tribe; ARTICLE VI-POWERS OF THE NUNAKAUYAK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL; Section 1. A) & I)


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, To protect our people, our community, and our traditional way of life from this sickness, the following policies and strategies will be formally adopted, effective immediately:

1. All non-essential travel is prohibited. Essential travel, if possible, shall be postponed until the COVID-19 threat has subsided.
2. People who are returning to the community will have a mandatory 14-day quarantine in which they are to have no contact with other people for the protection of our people. The quarantine shall last at least 14 days, even if the person is healthy and shows no symptoms. If the quarantined person does become sick, quarantine shall last for 14 days from the last date they report symptoms, or until medical attention is needed.
3. A Quarantine Task Force will be created with members appointed by the Council.
4. The Quarantine Task Force will meet people at the airport and direct them to a quarantine facility. Any person arriving who refuses quarantine shall be forbidden from entering Tribal Lands because of the danger they pose.
5. People traveling from other villages via snowmachine, ATV or boat are required to report to the Quarantine Task Force to comply with the 14-day quarantine or be forbidden from entering Tribal Lands.
6. While a person is quarantined, no visitors shall be allowed in the same room because the sickness is spread through the air and can live for days on surfaces near the infected person.
7. The Tribal Government Staff will organize resources to bring food to individuals in quarantine.
8. Quarantine locations may include the school, utility buildings with an office or other locations where a person can stay for 14 days in isolation.
9. Elders and people with existing health conditions need to stay at home and limit contact with others substantially. Maintaining a distance of at least six feet can protect a person from a cough or sneeze but the virus can live on surfaces like a table or door handle for days.

CERTIFICATION

This Declaration was passed by the Nunakauyak Traditional Council, of which a quorum was present, with a vote of 7 yes; and 0 no; and 0 abstaining; 0 absent, on this 20 day of _____ 2020.

President: 
Emil T. Amik

Secretary: 
Simeon Aluska