



HELP REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Nisga'a Nation COVID-19 Update

August 12, 2020

As we approach end of summer, with many Nisga'a families planning vacations outside of the Northern Health Region, the Nisga'a Emergency Preparedness Committee wishes to emphasize the importance of the Provincial health requirement for self-isolation when returning from destinations outside of the Northern Health Region.

With the steady influx of COVID-19 cases throughout the Province, it is becoming increasingly urgent for all Nass Valley residents to adhere to provincial orders to frequently ***wash your hands***, promote ***physical and social distancing*** and ***self-isolate if you've travelled outside of the Northern Health Region (Prince George – Prince Rupert)***.

Nisga'a Valley Health Authority:

Nisga'a Valley Health Authority nursing staff continue to provide COVID-19 testing at their health centres in New Aiyansh, Laxgalts'ap and Gingolx. Any Nass Valley residents who are generally curious or believe they may have been exposed to or have symptoms of COVID-19 can contact their local health centre to arrange for testing.

As of August 12, 2020 NVHA has conducted ***175 tests***, with ***169 negative, 1 presumptive positive case that turned out negative,*** and ***5 pending*** returned results.

Nisga'a Nation Check Point Plan:

After several employment opportunity re-postings, the Nisga'a Emergency Preparedness Committee is happy to report that 25 individuals are now trained and employed to operate two Check Point stations on Nisga'a Highway 113 on the Lava Bed Memorial Park and the Cranberry Connector at Nass Camp.

The Check Point Stations began operations on Thursday August 6th and expanded to 24-hour operation on Saturday August 8th. The Check Point Stations have already proven useful in tracking incoming and outgoing traffic – including international tourists. The Committee is gravely concerned with international visitors coming in to the Nass Valley and will be addressing this concern directly with local tourist operators immediately.





As we are far from out of the woods with COVID-19 globally, may we all remember to continue:

- ✓ **Social Distance:** Stay Home, refrain from any type of large social gathering, both indoor and outdoor alike – gatherings of more than 5 people outside household is prohibited, 5 or less people should still social distance
- ✓ **Self-Isolate:** If you are returning from outside of the Northern Health Region, self-isolate in your home for a minimum of 14 days – this applies to all household members
- ✓ **Wash your Hands:** Frequently wash with warm lathering soap and/or hand sanitizer for at least 20 seconds. Clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces regularly with a 1:10 bleach solution.
- ✓ **Non-Essential Travel:** Avoid any Non-Essential travel at all costs and stay home

We all have a role to play to keep COVID-19 out of our communities.

Stay safe and stay healthy!

In the Spirit of Sayt-K'ilim-Goot,

NISGA'A EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE:

NISGA'A Lisims Government, NISGA'A Valley Health Authority, SCHOOL District #92 (Nisga'a), RCMP Lisims Nass Valley, GITLAXT'AAMIKS Village Government, GITWINKSIHLKW Village Government, LAXGALTS'AP Village Government, GINGOLX Village Government

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