



Snuneymuxw

First Nation

www.snuneymuxw.ca

April 17, 2020

Good afternoon Snuneymuxw,

Your continued strength, unity, compassion, and determination to get through these challenging times is extraordinary. Walking together with one heart and one mind, is a source of strength for all of us in order to persevere through this pandemic.

This week, our Nation processed approximately 658 COVID-19 benefit payments. This means that 658 Snuneymuxw citizens can expect to receive money from our Nation to help off-set financial hardship for Snuneymuxw families. I want to thank everyone who is working behind the scenes to ensure financial support gets to our people, quickly. Our Nation will process the next cycle of benefit payments on April 23, 2020 and I encourage you to review the weekly newsletter for more information.

Currently, Chief and Council are developing a traditional foods distribution plan that outlines a way to distribute traditional foods to Snuneymuxw people in a safe manner and adheres to public health standards. At this time, traditional food distribution will only take place on Vancouver Island. Snuneymuxw citizens abroad will have an opportunity to receive traditional foods when the public health officer advises the health orders are no longer in effect.

During the Easter long weekend, all of us witnessed BC Ferries transport a high volume of vehicle traffic from the mainland to Vancouver Island. This action heightens the risk of increasing the outbreak on the island. Our Nation is communicating our deep disappointment with the province and BC Ferries for allowing these ferry operations in our traditional territory at Duke Point during a state of emergency.

I want to thank Kwumut Lelum for donating \$10,000, the Hope Lutheran Mens Group for donating \$400, and Fortis BC for donating \$500 to our Nation to help protect and enhance health and safety for our people.

Through these unprecedented times, negotiations and business of our Nation continue. We will have updates for you at a later date.

Please be safe and have a good weekend.

Respectfully,

Chief Mike Wyse