



# Snuneymuxw

First Nation

[www.snuneymuxw.ca](http://www.snuneymuxw.ca)

September 25, 2020

Good afternoon Snuneymuxw,

The Covid-19 pandemic continues despite schools re-opening and Dr. Bonnie Henry strongly advises us to remain calm, use all safety precautions and be kind to one another. To-date, there are zero test positive cases in our community. But, our relatives in other First Nation communities are experiencing outbreaks and we send our community prayers and strength to them. This reminds us that we must remain vigilant and mindful to protect our families.

Chief and Council want to assure you that policies and procedures are in place to guide our Nation through this pandemic. The Snuneymuxw Covid-19 Safety Plan outlines processes and procedures that promote, enhance and enforce workplace and community safety during the pandemic. In this newsletter you will see a flow chart that broadly outlines how our Nation will respond to a possible Covid-19 exposure.

While Snuneymuxw people are doing everything possible to protect our community, we must be mindful that if a test positive case happens in our community, Council will activate the emergency health pandemic event policy. Some emergency measures in this policy include a shelter in place order, quarantine order, community shut-down order, food security measures, and initiate a streamlined communication process so that we remain connected to one another.

Please remember that if you experience flu-like symptoms, you are strongly advised to call 811 to speak to a provincial health professional who will provide you with health related instructions. Please contact the Snuneymuxw Health Centre after you have received these instructions.

Almost one week ago, our Nation signed a Land Transfer Agreement and the Reconciliation Implementation Framework Agreement, and I fully understand that there are many questions along with the celebration. These negotiations began many decades ago and on behalf of Chief and Council, we assure you these agreements do not give up any of our rights in our territory. Instead, these agreements enforce our Treaty and inherent rights in our Territory, and enforce shared decision-making between our Nation and the Province of B.C. Much hard work lies ahead of us to specifically outline how issues like the estuary, head leases and sub leases, log storage, and other lands are returned to us. I welcome these conversations with you directly and look forward to when we can have a community-wide discussion about these comprehensive reconciliation agreements as well.

Have a great weekend and please be safe!

Sincerely,

Chief Mike Wyse