



Snuneymuxw

First Nation

www.snuneymuxw.ca

POTENTIAL COVID-19 EXPOSURE AT JOHN BARSBY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

November 10, 2020

Dear Snuneymuxw Community:

Snuneymuxw First Nation received notification late this afternoon about a positive case for COVID-19 at John Barsby Community School in the School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith). The dates of potential exposure at the school are November 5 and 6, 2020. Due to privacy issues, Island Health and the School District 68 are not able to give any further information.

Island Health is currently conducting, and will complete, contact tracing to identify any staff or students who may have been exposed, and who will need to self-isolate. If you have been contacted by Island Health, please follow their instructions and guidelines for self-isolation including monitoring for symptoms. If you do develop any symptoms while in isolation, please call 8-1-1 immediately and a health professional will provide you with instructions and determine whether you need to be tested. If you would like to inquire about getting tested for the coronavirus, please call the Island Health COVID-19 testing call centre at 1-844-901-8442, Monday to Sunday, 8:30AM-4:30PM.

If you have not been contacted by Island Health, please continue to attend school and monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. Please continue to practice social distancing, only have your 'Safe Six' in your household bubble, and practice enhanced personal hygiene.

We recognize that COVID-19 has had significant impacts on the well-being and mental health of families. Snuneymuxw First Nation is working hard to keep you and your families safe, strong, and resilient. Thank you for taking care of yourselves and each other.

Chief and Council will continue to closely monitor this matter and ensure appropriate community and workplace safety measures.

If you have any further questions, please contact Emmy Manson at 778-971-0715 or Marina White at 250-668-5244.

Thank you.

Snuneymuxw First Nation, 668 Centre St., Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 4Z4

Tel: 250-740-2300 / 1-888-636-8789 Fax: 250-753-3492 info@snuneymuxw.ca

Excellent care, for everyone,
everywhere, every time.



November 10, 2020

**RE: Notification about COVID-19 exposure at John Barsby Community School,
550 Seventh Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 3Z2**

Dear Parents, Guardians and Families,

This letter is to provide notification that a member of the John Barsby Community School community has tested positive for COVID-19. They are isolating with support from Island Health. The dates of potential exposure in the school community occurred:

November 5, 2020 and November 6, 2020

Island Health completes contact tracing to identify any staff and students that need to self-isolate.

Receiving this letter does not mean you have been exposed to COVID19.

Health and school officials have been working to identify potential high and low risk contacts, and **any staff member needing to self-isolate or self-monitor as a result of this exposure has already been notified.**

The intent of this letter is to share information with the school community and advise you on next steps being taken by Island Health.

HOW IS COVID-19 SPREAD?

This virus is spread between people by droplets. This means you need to be close enough to be exposed to saliva or mucus from the mouth, nose or throat of the infected person.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Phone calls are being made to staff and students that Island Health has identified as close contacts and who need to self isolate for 14 days from when they were exposed.
- Letters are being sent to students who will be asked to self-monitor for symptoms. These students may continue to attend school while monitoring for symptoms.

Medical Health Officer - Central Island Cowichan Valley Region
4th Flr, 238 Government St, Duncan, BC V9L 1A5
Tel: 250.850.2100 ext. 45528 | Fax: 250.737.2008

viha.ca

- If you do not receive a phone call or letter, continue to attend school and monitor for symptoms compatible to COVID-19 as per your school policies.
- Due to privacy reasons we are not able to give out further information, however, we want to assure you that our organizations are working together to maintain a safe and healthy school environment for students, families and staff.

We know this message will cause a variety of feelings and reactions within the school community. Your Principal and Vice Principal, as well as the resources of the District are available to support you. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

Huy ch q'u (Thank you),



Shannon Waters, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Health Officer
Cowichan Valley Region

Sincerely,



Scott Saywell
Superintendent/CEO

SW/sv