

Memo

Subject: Office Closure
Date: March 18, 2020
To: ?aqam Community
Cc:
From: Chief, Council, and Administration staff
Attachment:

Chief and Council have met to discuss the escalating spread of COVID-19 in Canada. A clear message has been received that the action needed to end this pandemic is social distancing, sanitising, and hand washing.

In our efforts to protect community members, staff, and to contribute to the end of this pandemic, a decision has been made to close the office and daycare for 2 weeks.

Our school is currently closed for Spring break, while teachers are slated to return on March 30th, we will be asking students to not return to school. School staff will be exploring online learning options for students. Please monitor your student's Class dojo for information on this. If you have not already signed up for Class dojo please contact Eryn Geddes at egeddes@aqam.net for assistance in signing up.

Chief and Council will be re-evaluating the closure on March 27th, and will release a statement for next steps by March 28th.

During this closure, a skeleton crew of staff will remain on-site and continue to sanitize the buildings, test water and run building checks. Staff will also be on-call to assist members with delivering supplies.

Many of the staff will be moving to a work-at-home model and continue with their duties remotely. Please feel free to continue to contact these staff via email or phone with questions, concerns, or requests. The Health Team will periodically phone homes to see if anyone has health concerns and will make themselves physically available when requested and provided they are not infected.



Plans are being finalized to ensure that there is no impact to Social Assistance cheques and further information on that process will be released. If we do not have current contact information for you, please contact Jodi Gravelle to update your information.

BC Hydro is offering relief to individuals who may be struggling to pay their bills. The COVID-19 Customer Assistance Program provides customers the option to defer bill payments or arrange for flexible payment plans with no penalty. Customers are encouraged to call our customer service team at 1 800 BCHYDRO (1 800 224 9376) to discuss bill payment options

Requests for assistance, questions or feedback can be sent via email, text or phone. Council and Staff available to assist you at this time include:

Joe Pierre 250-417-1491 or jpierre@aqam.net
Vickie Thomas 250-919-9027 or ythomas@ktunaxa.org
Julie Birdstone 250-421-9811 or juliebirdstone@aqam.net
Jason Andrew 250-919-1925 or jandrew@ktunaxa.org
Codie Morigeau 250-489-9042 or cmorigeau@ktunaxa.org

Jodi Gravelle 250-423-1877 or jgravelle@aqam.net
Michelle Shortridge 250-420-1083 or mshortridge@aqam.net
Julie Couse 250-432-9799 or jcouse@aqam.net
Andrew Fletcher 250-919-9346 or afletcher@aqam.net

If you are in need of supplies, please contact Michelle Shortridge and she will ensure you receive a hamper to assist your household.

For all general inquiries, please contact Jodi Gravelle.

Please remember to call your neighbors, see how they are doing, in times like this social isolation can impact ʔaqatxuniyam.

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Nasuʔkin Joe Pierre