



## *Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc*

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

### Chief and Council update – May 14, 2020

#### **BC Long Weekend**

As the May long weekend approaches, Chief and Council would like to remind members to avoid all non-essential travel to prevent the spread of COVID-19. If you want to be outside, please stay local.

The Province has issued the following tips to help you enjoy the long weekend while following the public safety guidelines set by the provincial health officer (PHO). For more detailed information, please see the TteS website or Facebook:

- **Have fun close to home**
- **Do not visit vacation properties**
- **Do not go pleasure boating right now**
- **Only visit your local provincial park or recreation site**
- **Enjoy outdoors safely**
- **Small campfires are allowed but other burning prohibitions remain in place**
- **Plan ahead and stick to well-marked trails**
- **Conservation officers will be monitoring activity**

Though some restrictions are expected to ease next week, it remains vital for everyone to maintain physical distancing and take other important measures to limit the spread of COVID-19. This includes staying home if you have any symptoms of illness, washing your hands frequently with soap and water, and not touching your face.

#### **Other updates from the Province**

This week Minister Farnworth extended the current state of emergency through the end of the day on May 26, 2020.

#### **New supports from the Federal Government**

This week, Prime Minister Trudeau announced additional supports for seniors:



- Providing additional financial support of \$2.5 billion for a one-time tax-free payment of \$300 for seniors **eligible for the Old Age Security (OAS)** pension, with an additional \$200 for seniors eligible for the **Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)**. This measure would give a total of \$500 to individuals who are eligible to receive both the OAS and the GIS, and will help them cover increased costs caused by COVID-19.
- Temporarily extending GIS and Allowance payments if seniors' 2019 income information has not been assessed. This will ensure that the most vulnerable seniors continue to receive their benefits when they need them the most. To avoid an interruption in benefits, seniors are encouraged to submit their 2019 income information as soon as possible and no later than by October 1, 2020.

Chief and Council continue to be committed to providing you updates during this stressful time. Although we have made progress in flattening the curve, we all need to be cautious about relaxing the precautions against COVID 19.

Please stay safe, wash your hands and continue to respect the requirements for social distancing.

Yecwestsútce = look after yourself

Ta7 us ke7 snes tri7 thé7en = don't go anywhere

Mútce ne7 tsitcw = stay in your house

Kukwstép-kucw

Yours truly,  
**Tkémúlps te Secwépemc**

Kukpi7 Rosanne Casimir (Chief)  
On behalf of Council