

## Notification Notice

### Re: Canine Parvo Virus found in Community

September 29, 2020

A Band Member has brought to the attention of Adams Lake Indian Band that a few cases of Canine Parvo Virus are in the IR #4 community. Urge dog owners to keep a close eye on their pets. It is an extremely contagious virus, puppies younger than a few months and those that have not been vaccinated are at most risk, though any dog can ultimately become ill from the virus.

What is Parvo? It is a highly contagious virus. It causes an infectious gastrointestinal (GI) illness in puppies and young dogs, and without treatment, it is potentially deadly. Part of what makes the virus so dangerous is the ease with which it is spread through the canine population.

How does a dog get parvo? Parvo is typically spread directly from dog to dog, but contact with contaminated stool, environments, or people can also spread the disease. Once infected, a dog with parvo may contaminate food, water bowls, collars, and leashes – as well as a dog's bedding or crate.

What are the first signs of parvo in a dog? Some of the signs of parvovirus include lethargy; loss of appetite; abdominal pain and bloating; fever or low body temperature (hypothermia); vomiting; and severe, often bloody, diarrhea. Persistent vomiting and diarrhea can cause rapid dehydration, and damage to the intestines and immune system can cause septic shock.

Is Parvo curable? There is no cure for parvo. Your vet will offer your puppy supportive care over the course of the illness, treating symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration, and making sure that your puppy gets adequate nutrition.

### Referral

Local band member Talitha Wispinski has been in touch with area rescue organization and they have offered discounted rates for vaccinations, animals that need to be spade or neuter etc. **Please call Talitha at (250)851-1312** and she can refer you onto the rescue organization.

BC SPCA has reported Parvo Virus Outbreak in other areas of BC as well.

If you suspect your pet has parvovirus, immediately isolate your pet and contact your primary care veterinarian.