



Secwepemc Declaration of State of Emergency within Secwepmculècw

ORDER

WHEREAS Secwepemc Kukukwpi7 exercise our collective rights and sacred responsibilities for the health and safety of the Secwepemc within Secwepmcul'ecw .

WHEREAS there is a Covid-19 pandemic within the jurisdiction of Secwepmculècw; To keep our Secwepemc Nation protected from cases of Covid-19 we are identifying drastic measures to ensure continued safety.

AND WHEREAS the coronavirus poses an existing or imminent threat to our vulnerable Elders, immunocompromised and members with pre-existing and chronic health conditions within Secwepmculècw;

AND WHEREAS this Covid-19 emergency requires prompt coordination of action or special regulation of persons or property to protect the health, safety or welfare of people or to limit damage to property;

AND WHEREAS the Secwepemc call on the Province of BC and Canada for a response that is proportionate to the level of vulnerability of specific populations, namely Indigenous populations who have the highest rates of poverty and chronic illness across the board.

AND WHEREAS the Secwepemc call on the Province of BC to comply with UNDRIP and the Government of Canada uphold the Crowns constitutional and fiduciary obligations to the Secwepemc Nation and uphold the Section 15 of Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms that gives Secwepemc rights to equal protection; equal benefits; without discrimination.

The Secwepemc were devastated and negatively impacted by the lack of an adequate response by the Province of BC and Government of Canada during the 2017 and 2018 BC Wildfires;

NOW THEREFORE:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to [Section 12 (1) of the Emergency Program Act (RS, 1996, Chap 111) / Secwepemc that a state of local emergency exists in Secwepmculècw due to the coronavirus and the Secwepemc members are at greater risk due to isolation, remoteness and lack of access to quality care equivalent to the general public;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT Secwepemc , its employees, servants and agents are empowered pursuant to [Section 13 (1) of the Emergency Program Act/ Secwepemc to do all acts and implement all procedures that are considered necessary to prevent or to alleviate the effects of the emergency.

ORDERED by the Secwepemc Kukukwpi7 this date, March 23, 2020, to remain in force for thirty days until April 20, 2020 at midnight unless cancelled by Secwepemc Kukukwpi7.

Secwepemc Kukukwpi7,



For questions please contact: Eastern Representative: Kukpi7 Patrick Harry 250-440-5645 Western Representative: Kukpi7 Wayne Christian 250-503-7072