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April 9, 2020

ATTENTION KASKA: MESSAGE FROM KASKA LEADERSHIP

EASTER LONG WEEKEND

The Easter long weekend is almost upon us. This is a time when we typically get together with family and enjoy Easter celebrations. This year we MUST not celebrate as we usually do.

Kaska Leadership implores everyone to respect the rules and regulations surrounding social distancing and refrain from getting together with family over Easter, outside of those you are currently living with.

Do NOT travel to other communities and continue to protect our Elders.

We have yet to record a positive COVID-19 case. Please continue to do what you are doing.

COVID-19 is not just a danger to our **ELDERS**. More and more, **ADULTS and CHILDREN** are starting to die because of this virus. **NONE OF US ARE IMMUNE**.

It cannot be stressed enough: WE CANNOT AFFORD TO ALLOW FOR COVID-19 TO GET INTO OUR COMMUNITIES.

By the time a person tests positive for COVID-19 in a Kaska community, 50% of the community will likely have already been exposed. That means we will **LIKELY LOSE MOST OF OUR ELDERS** in that community. This virus will devastate our communities if we allow it to reach our Territory.

Right now, our communities are at a **CRITICAL STAGE**. Right now, we are **MOST VULNERABLE** because confirmed COVID-19 cases are both to the North (Whitehorse) and South (Prince George, Terrace and Smithers) of us.

Prevention is the only thing that stops this virus from reaching our communities and the only thing that will save Kaska lives.

STOP MOVING AROUND. STOP GOING TO OTHER COMMUNITIES. LIMIT THE NUMBER OF TIMES YOU GO TO HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS SUCH AS THE STORE AND POST OFFICE. STAY HOME.

Please ensure you do the following:

SOCIAL DISTANCING: Ensure you stay a minimum of 6 feet away from other people.

WASH YOUR HANDS: Wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds or more. Soap is the bestknown remedy for killing this virus so wash frequently.

DON'T TOUCH FACE: Don't transfer the virus into your body by touching your face.

SELF ISOLATION: It is strongly recommended that those at risk, including Elders, self-isolate; in other words, stay away from people outside your household.

We need two more weeks of these strict measures to see if we have any confirmed cases and know if what we are doing is working.

Stay Safe,

Danny Case

Chair, Kaska Dena Council

Chief Myles Manygreyhorses Dease River First Nation

Deputy Chief Fred Lutz Daylu Dena Council

Chiếf Donny Van Somer Kwadacha Nation