



INFORMATION RELEASE

May 14, 2020



Our May Long Weekend Message - *Please Visit Later*

With the approach of the May long weekend, St'át'imc communities and the District of Lillooet are asking visitors to *Please Visit Later* to reduce the risk to our local residents who are vulnerable to the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 illness.

While we understand the desire to visit our beautiful region, the risk to our communities posed by travellers bringing the COVID-19 virus is high and our local health care resources could easily be overwhelmed. We ask would-be visitors to "Stay Home" at this time. What you view as recreational enjoyment, we view as potentially life-threatening behaviour.

In the words of BC Premier John Horgan: "Let's stay close to home. This is not the time for a road trip to another community for a hike or a holiday."

We would like to remind everyone that while some BC Provincial Parks and Recreational Sites will re-open for day use only on May 14, many of the parks in our area will not be open, including Marble Canyon and Joffre Lakes. Local campgrounds will not be opening for the May long weekend and access to some areas, such as Seton Lake beach and boat launch, is still severely restricted. Barricades are in place to discourage campers from parking overnight on side roads and pull-outs.

Local residents also need to do what they can to ensure the curve stays flattened. Please stay at home and do not travel this weekend, continue to practice heightened hygiene protocols, ensure you are leaving at least 6 feet of space between you and people from outside your household when you make trips to the grocery store or other retailers. Our continued success relies on everyone working collectively to protect one another.

Helpful links related to COVID-19:

Interior Health: <https://www.interiorhealth.ca/Pages/default.aspx>

First Nations Health Authority: <https://www.fnha.ca/>

BC Centre for Disease Control: <http://covid-19.bccdc.ca/>

Health Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html>

If you have health concerns, call HealthLink BC at 8-1-1

**Issued by District of Lillooet Emergency Operations Centre
in conjunction with St'át'imc communities**

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