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# KWAKIUTL EOC NEWSLETTER

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TEL: (250) 949-6625 FAX: (250) 902-2246 EMAIL: eoc@kwakiutl.bc.ca

## Kwakiutl Emergency Operations Update

February 5, 2021

*"The darkness will pass, so together we should stand strong and protect each other"*

- Elder, Richard Dawson

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### When is the security checkpoint coming down?

The security check point will be in place until 4:00 February 5, 2021. **The community remains closed to non-residents excluding staff and essential workers.** Please stay the course and do not have visitors or gatherings in your home. The provincial mandate of "no social gatherings of **any size** at your residence with anyone other than your household or core bubble" remains in place. The RCMP will be notified to disband parties that are being held in the community.

### Are there any active cases of Covid-19 in Tsakis?

To our knowledge, there are **no active cases in community**. In the case of a positive test result for a community member the Chief Counsellor and Health Director will be notified by FNHA directly. The individual who received the positive result is not identified, only the result. If the individual self identifies to the Kwakiutl Health Centre measures will be put in place to support them and their family for the duration of the illness.

Please, if you are experiencing symptoms, call for an appointment to be tested. VIHA Call Centre 1-888-268-4319

### What Happens if I Test Positive?

If you are unable to self-isolate in your home, the Literacy Centre has been outfitted with everything needed to accommodate either yourself, or your family, to stay for the two week period. Island Health and the Kwakiutl Community Health Nurse will work closely with you to monitor your condition and ensure that your needs are being met. Cluxewe Resort is also on

stand-by with cabins available for this purpose. In cases where it is deemed necessary, or the individual would feel safer closer to a larger medical centre, Viha has arranged for lodging in Campell River at the Anchor Inn. Costs for transportation to either Cluxewe or Campell River are not at the expense of the individual.

## **When is the vaccine coming?**

FNHA Regional leadership is working closely with Island Health to plan for the needs in First Nations communities. A provincial commitment to roll out vaccine to all 50 Vancouver Island Nations by the end of March. To date, with initial vaccine supply, Nations who have experienced clusters and have limited access to health and emergency services have been identified for the first allocation. Each nation has the discretion to determine who will receive the vaccine first. It is currently being advocated that the whole Tsakis community be vaccinated together.

If you have questions about the Covid-19 vaccine please contact Community Health Nurse, Renee Williams at 250-230-4407 for resources.

## **What Phase are We In?**

We are currently in the Yellow phase. For a detailed description of the Emergency Phase System please see the next page.

## **Are the Band Office and Health Centre open?**

The band office is closed to the public until further notice. All appointments can be scheduled through email with direct staff or through reception at [reception@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:reception@kwakiutl.bc.ca).

KWAKIUTL BAND OFFICE Phone: 250.949.6012  
99 Tsakis Way, Fort Rupert Fax: 250.949.6066

1 Doug Brown Band Manager 3171 250.949.6066 (250)-230-5154 [manager@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:manager@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

2 Noramay Isaac Accountant 3150 (250)-230-8990 [Accountant@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:Accountant@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

3 Cristina Hunt Finance Assistant 3151 [Account-assistant@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:Account-assistant@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

4 Lavina Hunt Social Development 3153 250 230-4341 [Social-dev@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:Social-dev@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

5 Marion Hunt Education 3154 250 949-0500 [education@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:education@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

6 Sherri Labour Lands & Resource 3157 [lands-resources@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:lands-resources@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

7 Jamie Hunt Health Ambassador [ambassador@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:ambassador@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

8 Helen Wilson Housing/Membership 3158 [housing@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:housing@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

9 Cherise Matilpi Reception/Com Specialist 3160 250-949-6066 250-949-6012  
[reception@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:reception@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

10 Aggie Hunt Finance Clerk 3172 [clerk@kwakiutl.bc.ca](mailto:clerk@kwakiutl.bc.ca)

11 Elijah Anderson Payroll Clerk 3159 payroll@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
11 Margaret McDougall Lands & Resources Assist. 3162 lands-galgalis@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
12 Kitchen 3165  
13 Council Room 3152  
14 Dwayne Worthing Human Resources 3164 HR@kwakiutl.bc.ca

The Kwakiutl Health Centre is open by appointment only. Please contact staff directly by telephone or email to book.

KWAKIUTL HEALTH CENTRE Phone: 250 949-6625  
97 Tsakis Way, Fort Rupert Fax: 250 902-2246

1 VACANT Receptionist/PT 102 250 230-2378 patient.travel@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
2 Sherry Humchitt CHR 120 250 230-4531 chr@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
3 Renee Williams CHN 119 250 230-4077 chn@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
4 Robin Hunt HCC 117 250 230-4867 hcn@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
5 Deanna Jewell RCA 116 250 902-7902 rca@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
6 Nadine Pluzak CWW 116 250 902-7586 cww@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
7 VACANT MHASC 115 mhasc@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
8 VACANT CYW 112 cyw@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
9 VACANT CYWA 112 cywa@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
10 Marie Hunt HD/Patient Trav. 106 250 230-4532 Health-director@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
11 VACANT Janitor 127 janitor-health@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
12 Carole Ford Head Start 110 frhs@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
13 VACANT Infant Dev. 109 fridp@kwakiutl.bc.ca  
14 Lisa Greer office 118 250 902-6009 cell 250 230-1100 lisa.greer@viha.ca

# Kwakiutl First Nation Summary of COVID-19 Phases

Adapted from Quatsino First Nation COVID-19 Phases



## Green: Limited Risk (Low)

<b>Spread</b>	COVID-19 is broadly contained and a vaccine and/or effective treatment is available.
<b>Cases</b>	Outbreaks and clusters are rare.
<b>Travel</b>	No Restrictions
<b>Community Transmission</b>	Low to undetectable.



## Yellow: Caution (Moderate)

<b>Spread</b>	Cases are increasing linearly and/or Island Medical system has excess capacity.
<b>Cases</b>	Household and close contact transmission could be occurring in British Columbia. Single or isolated small cluster outbreaks which are quickly contained.
<b>Travel</b>	Vancouver Island only. (Except urgent medical needs)
<b>Community Transmission</b>	Low to undetectable.



## Orange: Restricted (High)

<b>Spread</b>	Cases are increasing exponentially and/or Case is Present in Tsakis and/or Island Health system may be approaching capacity and/or Community transmission is occurring on the North Island.
<b>Cases</b>	Household and close contact transmission is occurring on Vancouver Island. New clusters are more common, can be controlled through testing/contact tracing.
<b>Travel</b>	North Island: Comox and North only (Except urgent medical needs)
<b>Community Transmission</b>	Community transmission of COVID-19 is likely occurring.



## Red: Critical (Extreme)

<b>Spread</b>	Cases (3 or more) present in Tsakis and/or <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Island Health Care System at or exceeded capacity</li><li>Outbreak confirmed in neighbouring Nation or community.</li></ul>
<b>Cases</b>	Transmission is at levels that public health & health systems cannot manage.
<b>Travel</b>	Local: Tsakis and Port Hardy only (Except urgent medical needs)
<b>Community Transmission</b>	Community spread of COVID-19 is not contained and/or there are significant strains on our health care system.

**Non-medical** information about **COVID-19** is available 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m., seven days a week at 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319). Visit [bc.thrive.health](https://bc.thrive.health) to download the **COVID-19** BC Support App or conduct a self-assessment. The **BC Centre** for Disease Control is the source of truth for province-wide information, including current COVID-19 case counts.

## **Health Mandate Compliance:**

- Please be advised that RCMP will be called to enforce the current health guidelines mandated by the B.C. Public Health Officers
- If you witness unlawful gatherings, or visitors who should not be here, it is your responsibility and right to call the RCMP at 250 949-6335.

If you need to get tested – call 8-1-1 nurse who will assess whether you need testing. Or call 1 844 901-8442.

**PLEASE make sure to fill out Your Safety Plan so that you are prepared.**

## **Mouth Rinse / Gargle Testing**

Individuals (ages 4+) with COVID-19 symptoms can be tested using a gargle test or a nasopharyngeal swab. Both are good options and will tell you if you have COVID-19. The gargle test method involves swishing and gargling sterile salt water and spitting it into a collection tube. Before calling to book an appointment, please use the self-assessment tool at [bc.thrive.health](https://bc.thrive.health) to determine if you or your child need a COVID-19 test.

If a test is recommended, call **1-844-901-8442** to book an appointment (daily 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

Individuals wanting the option of having a saline gargle test need to review the instructions before coming in for testing, as there is some preparation required.

- For younger children, practice the swish, gargle and spit technique using water at home at least two hours before going to the collection centre.
- One hour prior to the gargle test, do not eat, drink (including water), chew gum, vape or smoke.
- Everyone at appointment must wear a mask Please see [www.islandhealth.ca](https://www.islandhealth.ca) ,click “COVID symptoms and testing” and scroll down for a video on what to expect for children, and/or instructions for adults/youth (13 – 18)

Although gargle testing is available for those ages 4 and up, please note that “rapid testing” is not available for the gargle test; may take 24 – 48 hours. Rural indigenous community members are eligible for rapid testing, so please indicate in your assessment if you live on-reserve.

Remember these **golden rules** to keep each other safe in our new normal:



Stay in your bubble, with those that live in your home.

↔ Keep a 2-metre distance



Wash your hands often



Wear your mask in all indoor public places, and where physical distancing from those you don't live with is difficult. Your mask must cover your nose and mouth, snug to your face.



Stay home and away from others if you have cold or flu symptoms

More info: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/.../covid-19-provinci.../bc-restart-plan...>

## **First Nations Health Authority Information on the COVID-19 Pandemic**

<https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus>

## **What You Need to Know about the Covid-19 Vaccine**

<https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-covid-19-vaccine>

## **Government of British Columbia**

By order and direction of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO), all events and social gatherings are suspended to significantly reduce COVID-19 transmission related to social interactions and travel.

Last updated: **January 29, 2021**

The order is in effect from November 19, 2020 at midnight to February 5, 2021 at midnight.

B.C. COVID-19 update: 69, 245 total cases and 1240 deaths since the start of the pandemic. There are currently 4, 447 active cases <https://news.gov.bc.ca/23353>

Vancouver Island update: 1, 186 total cases and 14 deaths since the start of the pandemic.  
There are currently 199 active cases.


[B.C. COVID-19 Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](#)


 <http://gov.bc.ca/COVID19>

 Latest data in BC [http://www.bccdc.ca/health.../diseases-conditions/covid-19/data](http://www.bccdc.ca/health/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data)

 COVID-19 financial supports [www.gov.bc.ca/covidgovernmentbenefits](http://www.gov.bc.ca/covidgovernmentbenefits)

Non-medical Qs

 Call 1-888-COVID19

 Text 604-630-0300 Medical Qs only 811