COVID-19

PANDEMIC PLAN

3Nations

Tahltan • Kaska • Tlingit

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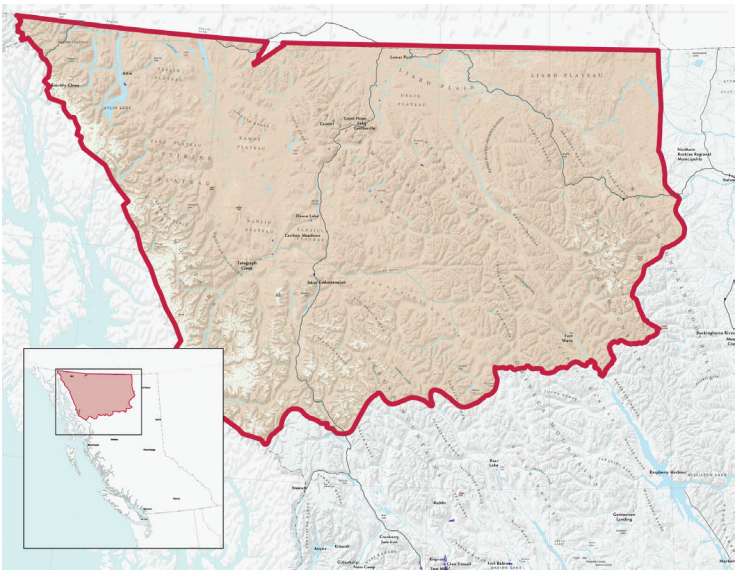
INTRODUCTION

The World and our Nations are in uncharted territory as a result of the pandemic known as the COVID-19 outbreak.



The situation of 3Nations communities is different from cities and towns in southern Canada: we have limited health care services, supplies can be challenging to obtain, and many people are at elevated risk. Isolation has its advantages in situations like this, but it also has its disadvantages.

We must draw upon the strengths that have made the 3Nations and their communities effective in the past, to mitigate the risks that threaten us with this pandemic.

Now is the time for solidarity, community spirit, personal behavioural change and resilience in combatting this infection. We can and must all play our part in trying to delay the transmission of COVID-19.

The actions being taken should be driven by these primary goals:

1. Prevent the arrival of the virus and, if required, limit community spread;
2. Protect and minimize health impacts to our community members at greater risk from COVID-19;
3. Strengthen the public health measures needed to respond to and manage COVID-19; and
4. Reduce the COVID-19 social and economic impacts experienced by our communities.

This Plan charts a course of action for the Tahltan, Kaska, and Tlingit in how we will work in unity, as 3Nations, to address our unique situation within Canada. COVID-19 knows no boundaries. All generations must come together and support each other in the fight against this disease. Working together we will prevail.

HOW CAN WE REDUCE THE THREAT OF COVID-19?

Our 3Nations, communities, leadership, staff, health and social support services, including the Stikine Wholistic Working Group members, will need to implement a new and innovative care model to support our vulnerable groups. This plan is tailored specifically to COVID-19, and the need to social distance, self-isolate and in some cases, quarantine, in order to stop the spread and flatten the curve for our communities.

Federal and provincial public health officials stress that the pandemic may take months, rather than weeks, to run its course.

We are acutely aware that communities closing themselves off from the general public, and practicing physical distancing within our communities, will have significant mental health implications for many people – including our elders, children and youth. We will support communities to implement strategies both from within, and from outside, our Nations to address these serious challenges.

Thankfully, we have small communities, and we can identify our most vulnerable groups and individuals. With the right plan, we can be proactive and reactive, to provide the protection and support needed until the pandemic is over.

3NATIONS

REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE

3N Leaders and Communities

Tahltan EM Committee // Kaska EM Committee // Tlingit EM Committee

Emergency Operations Director

Feddie Louie

Deputy Director

Jody Nishima

Operations
"THE DOERS"

TRT: Vincent Esquiro
Tahltan: Feddie Louie
Kaska: Michelle Miller

Planning
"THE THINKERS"

Jack Hicks
CCEM

Logistics
"THE GETTERS"

Jack Hicks
Supply Distribution

Finance
"THE PAYERS"

Michelle Miller
Funding Partners

Medical and Health Experts

Drs Glazier • Beaulieu & Beselt • FNHA Coordinators
Stikine Health • NHA • NIC • VHS • Red Chris • Testing

Communications & Information

Gordon Infanti, Maureen Garrity, Vince Esquiro (Social Media), David Scott (technology)

3N REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITIES:

3Nations Leaders

- Leaders with ultimate authority that provide mandate to the 3N Regional Emergency Operations Centre (3N-REOC) Director and team.
- To remain 'on top' of the situation in their Nations/communities; to provide overall direction to team; and, to lobby government as required.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE DIRECTOR:

Feddie Louie

- Overall responsibility for the 3N-REOC. Provides leadership to the management team, approves 3N-REOC objectives and communicates with Leadership.
- To provide leadership at the staff level.
- Overall responsibility to ensure effective implementation of the 3 Nations COVID-19 Pandemic Plan.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE DEPUTY DIRECTOR:

Jody Nishima

- Support Director and team to reach objectives.
- Build and maintain relationships with Ministries and Agencies.
- Facilitate communication and co-ordination between all persons and parties.

OPERATIONS SECTION:

"THE DOERS": Vincent Esquiro, Michelle Miller, Feddie Louie

- Remain in close contact with all persons and parties in their Nation who are involved in responding to the pandemic.
- Ensure that elements of the 3Nations COVID-19 Pandemic Plan are fully implemented in their communities.
- Coordinates with Nation/Community EOC and staff
    - Community and Nation administrators
    - Nurses
    - RCMP
    - Social Services
    - Front line staff
- Provides briefings and updates to their Councils and staff they represent.
- Supports and relays Nation/Community specific needs back to the 3N team.
- Assists Nation/Community with implementation of plans and strategies.

PLANNING SECTION:

"THE THINKERS": Jack Hicks w/Emergency Mgt Contractors (CCEM)

- Updates and develops plans, task lists, and creates status reports.
- Follows up with team members to ensure tasks are on track and rolling list is updated.
- Conducts long-term and advanced planning.
- Supports 3N and each community to setup EOC's and develop their plans (and implementation).
- Collects, evaluates and develops specific 3N relevant COVID-19 materials for distribution by Comms Team.
- Recommends alternative actions.
- Advises on strategies specific to the COVID-19 state of emergency.
- Develops a mental health plan to immediately support the needs of communities and members.

LOGISTICS SECTION:

"THE GETTERS": Jack Hicks w/Distribution Partners

- Ensures communications tools and technology are in place for effective operations.
- Coordinates supply chain needs - orders resources and arranges transportation.
- Establishes transportation resources for incoming and outgoing services.

FINANCE SECTION:

"THE PAYERS": Michelle Miller

- Oversees and manages all emergency funds incoming and outgoing.
- Ensures prompt processing of contracts, invoices and assists with procurement.
- Coordinates cost reimbursement claims.
- Coordinates with Nation/Community finance teams to keep track of emergency expenditures; supports the processing of applications for reimbursement.

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT & LEADER SUPPORT:

Jack Hicks

- EOC Director will focus on overall Emergency Operations, but this role is responsible for overall administrative oversight and that all aspects of current and future 3N management is considered.
- Along with Nation, leads to ensure leaders always have a direct contact, connected to the work, and constantly updated.
- Manage relations, communication and contracts with Emergency Management contractors (CCEM).

MEDICAL & HEALTH EXPERTS:

Dr Lee Glazier, Jodi Payne, Shannon Hall

- Advises team, Nations and communities on mitigations and response approaches related to pandemics.
- Assists with the coordination of medical supplies and pharmaceuticals.
- Assists with the coordination of other health care resources as required.
- Works closely with Logistics and Operations to plan quarantine and recovery sites.

COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION:

Gordon Infanti, Maureen Garrity, David Scott

- Ensures Leaders, partners and residents of 3Nations communications are fully informed (A) about COVID-19, and the recommended ways to minimize the risk of infection; and, (B) actions being taken under the 3 Nations COVID-19 Pandemic Plan.
- Develops easy-to-understand graphics such as infographics about COVID-19, and 3Nations emergency response organizational and flow charts.
- Develops public information including statements, updates, etc.
- Coordinates media relations.
- Tracks internal Record of Decision making.

3N REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE

COMMUNITIES ROLE & 3N REGIONAL ROLE

COMMUNITY ROLE	3N REGIONAL ROLE
100% decision making authority	Support communities with pandemic and emergency management expertise, and coordination, to assist with their decision making
Community Leaders advocate for their community and members	All 3N Leaders unify to advocate and coordinate for all Tahltan, Kaska, Tlingit (24% of BC)
Develop their own unique and customized Pandemic Plans and budgets that can be implemented immediately	Develop 3N Regional Pandemic Plan that links and supports all. Can assist communities and staff with planning and budgets.
Create and implement their own community or Nation based Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).	Create and implement a 3N Regional Emergency Operation Centre team that links and supports all. Can assist individual communities or Nations in setting up their EOC.
Identify community emergency mgt needs and navigate govt processes and forms for funding.	Identify 3N regional emergency management needs and coordinate funds through government processes for both the Region and communities. Can assist individual communities or Nations with government forms and submissions.
Identify medical and supplies needed	Work with supply chains to maximize coordination, efficiencies and quantity of supplies brought to communities.
Identify community quarantine spaces and logistics needed to house people	Identify regional spaces to quarantine and advocate for the necessary supplies and medical staff to support communities.

At its heart, 3Nations' response to COVID-19 is collaborative and public health-led, founded on well-established and evidence-based approaches in dealing with outbreaks of infectious disease.

Government has a responsibility to deliver health care services in five of our six communities (Iskut has control over its own health care), and our community leaders must therefore remain in close contact with government. But the 3Nations' collective leadership – both elected and administrative – has a responsibility to ensure that our unique challenges are adequately addressed.

The actions being taken should be driven by four primary goals:

1. Prevent the arrival of the virus and, if required, limit community spread;
2. Protect and minimize health impacts to our community members at greater risk from COVID-19;
3. Strengthen the public health measures needed to respond to and manage COVID-19; and
4. Reduce the COVID-19 social and economic impacts experienced by our communities.

To achieve the above goals foundational pieces are being put in place:

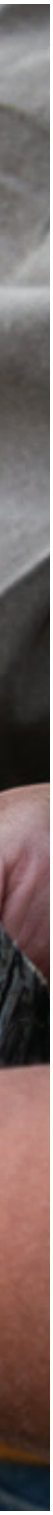
1. Weekly schedule identifying the coordination across various teams, groups and committees
2. Planning and actions across the four areas of:
    a. Prevention (Education and Awareness)
    b. Preparedness (Planning)
    c. Response
    d. Recovery

3NATIONS

A 3N APPROACH TO COVID-19

3NATIONS

COVID RESPONSE TEAM SCHEDULE



	Management	Primary Care	Comms
MON	3N COVID TEAM	ALL REGIONAL PRIMARY CARE Daily	3N NEWS UPDATE MWF
TUE	ALL 3N TEAMS MTG	ALL REGIONAL PRIMARY CARE Daily	COMMS TEAM TU & TH
WED	3N COVID TEAM	ALL REGIONAL PRIMARY CARE Daily	3N NEWS UPDATE MWF
THUR	ALL 3N TEAMS MTG	ALL REGIONAL PRIMARY CARE Daily	COMMS TEAM TU & TH
FRI	3N COVID TEAM	ALL REGIONAL PRIMARY CARE Daily	3N NEWS UPDATE MWF

ADDITIONAL REGULAR MTGS

3N Leaders • Kaska Ldrs • Tahltan Ldrs • TRTFN Ldrs
Community • Community EM • Committees
Supply Distribution • Govt partners • Finance Teams • Social Teams

COVID-19

A FOUR PHASE 3NATIONS APPROACH

1. PREVENTION

1. 3N Leaders decision to unite efforts and jointly protect their Nations and communities.
2. Communication strategies to support the sharing of accurate and factual information
   a) Regular 3N updates from Tahltan, Kaska, Tlingit Nations, and
   b) Daily 3N updates on region specific COVID-19 stats, prevention approaches and response advice
3. Community led awareness efforts to inform members of the seriousness of the situation and how to prevent and slow the spread of the COVID-19.
4. Providing education opportunities and promoting awareness through various communication channels including social media, emails, handouts, and door to door conversations.
5. Contracting Physician and Emergency Management experts to provide medical, practical and strategic advice through all phases.

2. PREPAREDNESS

1. Collaborating and reinforcing partnerships with all operational and funding agencies.
2. Agreement and coordination with Red Chris Mine for new measures that can include, but are not limited to, operation procedures to address COVID-19 risks and initiatives to reinforce and supplement supplies and services to the community, such as groceries.
3. Establishing an Emergency Management Committee in each community; these Committees will coordinate with the 3N Regional EOC for consistent coordination as Nations.
4. Securing communities, roads and access points to promote isolation and delay the entry of COVID-19 into our communities.
5. Delivering specialized food/cleaning hampers across communities to support the implementation of self-isolation and limiting the need to leave the community.
6. Developing arrangements with distribution chains for limiting interruptions to food and supplies.
7. Coordinating initiatives to enhance preparedness, such as securing access of medical supplies.
8. Establishment of team in Dease Lake to integrate and coordinate efforts and actions between Tahltan and the Regional District.
9. Identifying funding for communities and 3Nations to address immediate actions.
10. Finding quarantine locations for each community and generating an inventory of sites across region.
11. Initiating and confirming the coordination across all primary care, medical and health teams across territories (physicians, nurses, health stations, health leads, FNHA, Northern Health Authority (NHA), medical advisors).

3. RESPONSE

1. Supporting the primary care network to be is in constant communication; establish response guidelines/ procedures so 3N is ready to respond to a positive COVID-19 test.
2. Confirming COVID Viral Illness Management System - BC's Rural Outreach Support Group (ROSe) is accessible to physicians – ROSe is the new telehealth systems in place for immediate advisory services for physicians from COVID-19 pandemic specialists – immediate support for non-urgent, urgent, resuscitation, chronic or acute needs.
3. Establishment and readiness of quarantine locations with wrap around services, in place if needed.
4. Fortifying plans for emergency transport of patients needing hospital care (incl ground and air).
5. Reinforcing supply chain of groceries, medical supplies, personal protective equipment to mitigate and/or limit interruptions.
6. Implement communication strategies, so members understand what happens if positive COVID-19 diagnosis, share new strategies to calm social anxiousness in light of a positive test.

4. RECOVERY

1. Develop and implement a recovery plan for 3Nations that considers the social and economic impacts.
2. Prepare a lessons learned report that reviews and assesses the approach taken to mitigate, prepare and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, from perspective of the communities, Nations, 3Nations, Governments and agencies. Report will highlight successes and make recommendations on what can be put in place to enhance the future readiness and safety of the region and communities.