



Nuxalk Nation EOC

Bella Coola Valley Tourism

Bella Coola Valley Tourism

www.bellacoola.ca

Experience the Adventure!

safely.....



A message to visitors during COVID-19 from the Nuxalk EOC & BCVT

July 20, 2020

Welcome to the Bella Coola Valley. As you are aware, **COVID-19 remains a threat** to our community. Non-residents of B.C. are not permitted to enter. While you are in Nuxalk territory you **MUST** adhere to the following guidelines:

Please DO:

- have a personal safety plan before coming
- book ahead and bring supplies for your stay including hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes
- carry a face mask while out and wear it if around others
- please keep your distance (physical distancing) especially from the elders in our community
- pre-order and pick up food and supplies or have someone else shop for you (ask your host)
- look for updates online here: (nuxalkemergencyandcleanenergy.squarespace.com) and in physical locations
- self-monitor for flu like symptoms and contact 8-1-1 if you feel ill as well as informing your host
- practice excellent hand hygiene and etiquette
- greet community members with a wave not a hand shake

Please DO NOT:

- DO NOT travel or visit when sick
- DO NOT travel here if you do not live in B.C.
- DO NOT visit the Nuxalk Reserve in 4Mile or downtown
- **DO NOT visit the petroglyphs** - our community uses the site for healing and outdoor meetings
- stay at the wharf - the wharf does not have the capacity to implement COVID-19 safety measures
- show up to the valley with no plan or reservation
- expect that all businesses and venues have safety plans in place - for example, most places downtown cannot provide a washroom and restaurants are serving take-out only. Some businesses and services have limited hours or remain closed.

If a case of COVID-19 is discovered tourism will immediately close. Many neighboring communities are not welcoming visitors at this time and we support them in that decision. Any non-essential travellers (tourism based) hoping to come through the valley to visit a remote community that is not accepting guests will be told they are not welcome at this time and out of respect and safety for all of us, we ask them to find another place to visit.

LOCAL RESOURCES/INFORMATION:

Nuxalk Nation EOC: 250-799-5959 - eocinfo.nuxalk@gmail.com

Bella Coola Valley Tourism: info@bellacoola.ca

Bella Coola General Hospital: Clinic: 250-799-5342 - After hours: 250-799-5311

Bella Coola RCMP: 250-799-5363

B.C. Healthline: 8-1-1

Stutwiniitscw/Thank you for your cooperation. Way!



TM

Nuxalk Nation

PO BOX 65, Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0

Phone: (250)799-5613/5959 Fax: (250)799-5959

Email: eocinfo.nuxalk@gmail.com

July 20, 2020

Nuxalk Nation requests cooperation from tourists and visitors during COVID-19 pandemic

Bella Coola, BC

The Nuxalk Nation Staltmc (hereditary leadership) and elected Chief and Council are requesting that tourists and visitors to Nuxalk Nation territory (Bella Coola) abide by the following protocols when visiting during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 1) **Physical distancing** – please observe a distance of 6 ft between yourselves and others
- 2) **Contact Tracing** – please provide your contact information to your accommodation provider and follow up with them if you develop any symptoms
- 3) **Avoidance of public spaces** – please limit your interaction within our grocery stores; if possible ask your host to shop for you
- 4) **Wear a mask** – masks have been shown to reduce transmission of COVID-19.- please use one when you are in contact with others
- 5) **Be respectful** - please consider our limited health care resources (call ahead to our hospital if you are feeling ill) and respect our frontline workers and checkpoint staff

There are only three fluent Nuxalk speakers left in our Nation. They are elders and protecting them is one of our top priorities.

We only have one hospital to serve our community and limited resources to deal with COVID-19. An outbreak in our on-reserve households would be devastating as there is overcrowding and many people with compromised immune systems. As First Nations people it is proven that we are more susceptible to COVID-19; we need to take every precaution to protect our people.

The following numbers are available to you if you need help or have questions:

Nuxalk Nation EOC – 250 799 5959

Bella Coola General Hospital – 250 799 5342

Bella Coola RCMP – 250 799 5363

Stutwiniitscw/Thank you,

Staltmc Nuximlayc: Noel Pootlass

Nuxalk Nation Chief Councilor: Wally Webber