

## **Memo: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and Flu Prevention**

Date: March 11, 2020

The world health community continues to monitor closely the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the disease it causes, named “coronavirus disease 2019” (COVID-19). At this time, no one knows how severe this outbreak will be in this area or the United States. Given this uncertainty, examples of how this illness has spread globally, the fact that the seasonal influenza (flu) virus is also widespread, and that two cases have been confirmed in Kitsap County as of this writing, we are taking proactive steps to address a number of concerns. First and foremost, we want to maintain a safe workplace and encourage and/or adopt practices protecting the health of employees, customers, visitors, and community members. We also want to ensure the continuity of tribal operations in the event of a pandemic.

Tribal Council has approved the following restrictions in an effort to be proactive in protecting the community:

- 90 day Restriction on all Community events and gatherings larger than 10 people.
- 90 day Restriction on the use of tribal facilities for private events.
- 90 day Travel restrictions, including hosted events at PGST.

We ask all employees to cooperate in taking steps to reduce the transmission of communicable diseases in the workplace. Employees are reminded of the following:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your mouth with tissues whenever you sneeze, and discard used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid people who are sick, especially with respiratory symptoms.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Do not give handshakes or hugs.
- Practice social distancing, which includes maintaining a distance of six feet from all others and staying in your own office as much as possible.
- Do not provide/consume communal food. If meals are provided, please have each individually packaged or served by food preparer wearing proper food handler gloves. Food should not be served family or buffet style

It is critical that employees do not report to work while they are experiencing respiratory symptoms such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, or fatigue. Currently, the PGST Medical Director recommends that employees remain at home for at least 72 hours after they are free of fever (100.5 degrees F or 37.8 degrees C) or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications. Employees who report to work ill will be sent home in accordance with these health guidelines.