



# Cowichan Tribes

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Calvin Swustus Sr.

Debra Toporowski

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## Re: Province Wide Restrictions: No Social Gathering and Events

November 20, 2020

To our respected Quw'utsun Big House and Spiritual Leaders,

Due to a recent increase in COVID-19 cases, the Public Health Officer has issued a new order **suspending social gatherings and events from November 19, 2020 until December 7, 2020.**

Activities that involve gathering in groups can significantly increase the COVID-19 transmission especially for Elders and those with chronic health conditions.

**Together we commit to upholding COVID-19 safety protocols and measures for cultural and spiritual gatherings on Quw'utsun Tumuhw including:**

- No social gatherings or events of any size with anyone other than your household or core bubble are permissible
- All in person religious and cultural gatherings are suspended under the order
- No gatherings outdoors or in backyards
- Masks are mandatory in all public spaces

Funerals (including burnings), weddings and baptisms may proceed with a limited number of people and a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. You can have a maximum of 10 people attend, including the officiant. Receptions associated with funeral, wedding or baptisms are not allowed at any location which includes inside or outside homes or any public or community-based venues.

**All members are strongly encouraged to stay close to home, follow guidelines and postpone any gatherings until the order has been lifted.** This is a difficult time for everyone and our continued efforts to work together and follow guidelines are the best way to protect the most vulnerable and valued members of our community. The efforts of everyone are required to make this possible.

Please continue to check for notices and updates by following the link below:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/>

Sincerely,

Chief Williams Seymour