

QUINAULT BUSINESS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 20-_____-98

A RESOLUTION CLOSING DOWN NON-ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND DIRECTING THE QUINAULT COMMUNITY TO STAY AT HOME

WHEREAS, the Quinault Business Committee is the recognized governing body of the Quinault Indian Nation under the authority of the Quinault Indian Nation's Constitution adopted by the Quinault General Council on March 22nd, 1975; and

WHEREAS, the Quinault Indian Nation has inherent sovereign governmental powers to protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of the Quinault Nation; and

WHEREAS, under Article I, Section 2 of the Quinault Constitution, the Business Committee is empowered to provide for the general safety and welfare of all persons acting by the right of membership in the Quinault Nation or acting or residing within the jurisdiction of the Quinault Nation ("Quinault Community"); and

WHEREAS, beginning in November 2019, the novel (new) coronavirus, known as SARS-CoV-2 ("COVID-19"), began to spread from China to other countries and has spread worldwide, including to the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President declared a National emergency due to the coronavirus, and Idaho, Oregon and Washington have each declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, pursuant to Resolution No. 20-55-98, the Quinault Business Committee declared a public emergency for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee issued a statewide stay-at-home order to help stem the spread of COVID-19 that has killed at least 110 people in Washington; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of individuals have tested positive for COVID-19 and it is rapidly spreading around the world, the United States, and in the Northwest; and

WHEREAS, numbers of diagnoses will continue to increase as testing becomes more available; and

WHEREAS, without intentional community-level preparation and response, many more indigenous people will be diagnosed with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, sheltering in place (means finding a safe location indoors and staying there, unless performing essential activities) or “staying home” has been shown to slow the spread of diseases and protect vulnerable people and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Quinault Business Committee has a responsibility to protect the Quinault Community and is deeply concerned for the health and wellbeing of our members and all people in the greater community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Quinault Indian Nation will prepare for the possibility of a COVID-19 pandemic that could last up to 18 months and include multiple waves of illness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Quinault Indian Nation will mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic by taking necessary steps to stop the spread of COVID-19 by closing non-essential services within our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Quinault Indian Nation designates the services listed in Attachment A as essential services, which are limited to those necessary for public health and safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Committee directs that all social gatherings be cancelled until further notice to stop the spread of COVID-19 and that all persons in the Quinault Community shelter in place or “stay home.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Committee directs that all persons in the Quinault Community practice social distancing when out of the home accessing or providing essential services/needs.

Fawn R. Sharp, President
Quinault Indian Nation

CERTIFICATION

As Secretary of the Quinault Business Committee, I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly enacted by the Quinault Business Committee on March _____, 2020 by a vote of _____ for, _____ against, _____ abstaining.

Latosha Underwood, Secretary
Quinault Business Committee