



Puyallup Tribe of Indians



PUYALLUP TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 180320

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribe has existed since creation as the aboriginal people who are the owners and guardians of their lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribe is an independent sovereign nation, having historically negotiated with several foreign nations, including the United States in the Medicine Creek Treaty; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribal Council is the governing body of the Puyallup Tribe in accordance with the authority of its sovereign rights as the aboriginal owners and guardians of their lands and waters, reaffirmed in the *Medicine Creek Treaty*, and their *Constitution and ByLaws*, as amended and approved by the Tribe and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Puyallup Tribal Council to promote the peace, safety, morals, and general welfare of the Puyallup Tribal Community; and

A Resolution issuing a Public Health Emergency Declaration due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This Resolution also declares an immediate two-week closure of all non-essential Tribal Government services, along with designated Tribal business and entities, to become effective March 16, 2020, at Midnight 12:00AM.

WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) are historically and disproportionately impacted by communicable disease outbreaks; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and poses a higher risk to our elders and our community members who have underlying health conditions; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “high” and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, both the United States Department of Health and Human Services and Governor Jay Inslee of Washington State have declared a public health emergency for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health, as of 3:44 p.m. on March 16, 2020, indicated there are 904 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 48 deaths in Washington State resulting from COVID-19 and the CDC has confirmed community spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, which significantly increases the risk of exposure and infection to the Puyallup Tribal community and creates an extreme public health risk that may spread quickly; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribal Council, having tracked, discussed and taken steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 since FEMA issued its “Incident Period” for the State of Washington on January 20, 2020, now finds it necessary to close designated Tribal businesses and entities, and restrict public access to Tribal Governmental buildings for two weeks except for essential and emergent governmental functions while allowing for Tribal Government, and its business and entity operations, to work remotely or be limited to essential staff with scheduled appointments or protocols for clients and/or customers as a prudent course of action to minimize the potential exposure and spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribal Council, by this Resolution, hereby issues this Public Health Emergency Declaration due to the COVID-19 outbreak in our state and surrounding communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians that, having tracked, discussed and taken steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 since FEMA issued its “Incident Period” for the State of Washington on January 20, 2020, a Public Health Emergency Declaration for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians due to the COVID-19 pandemic is now necessary and is hereby approved and issued.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to minimize the potential exposure and spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Puyallup Tribal Council hereby restricts public access to Tribal Governmental buildings and offices except for essential and emergency governmental functions, with public access limited to scheduled appointments for two weeks, and closes Council designated Tribal Businesses and entities, except for essential closure and security related functions, for such two week period, all effective as of March 16, 2020, at midnight 12:00 a.m. Any Tribal businesses or entities remaining open shall implement such protocols, restrictions, and best practices as are necessary to minimize the potential exposure and spread of COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Puyallup Tribal Council requires Tribal Government, business and entity operations to work remotely to the extent possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Puyallup Tribal Council orders that the applicable guidelines contained in the attached memorandum to employees from Friday, March 13, 2020, titled “Guidelines for Employees During COVID-19 Situation” are still in effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Puyallup Tribal Council that in order to protect our Elders, Tribal members and community, the Puyallup Tribal Council encourages independent responsibility and action of all Tribal members and employees in practicing recommended preemptive measures to minimize, prevent and reduce exposure to and from COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Puyallup Tribal Council that all Tribal Government procurement requirements and regulations are hereby suspended for the purchase of goods and services that are necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any purchase of such goods and services necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic shall be procured as delegated or directed by the Tribal Chairman or Vice-Chairman during the period of this Public Health Emergency Declaration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Puyallup Tribal Council that upon reassessment of the need for continuing the restrictions and requirements as set forth in this Resolution and issued pursuant to the Declaration, the Tribal Council may extend the timeline(s) for such restrictions and requirements, or portions thereof, by CDR as deemed necessary.


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it authorizes the Tribal Council Chairman (David Z. Bean), and in his absence, the Vice-Chairman (Bill Sterud), to execute this Resolution and other such required implementing documents as are required on behalf of the Tribe.

CERTIFICATION

I, Rosalee McCloud, Secretary of the Puyallup Tribal Council of the Puyallup Reservation do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Puyallup Tribal Council held on the Puyallup Indian Reservation on the 18 day of March 2020, a quorum being present with a vote of 4 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 1 NOT VOTING its adoption.

Rosalee McCloud
Secretary, Puyallup Tribal Council

ATTEST:



David Z. Bean, Chairman or
Vice-Chairman, Bill Sterud
Puyallup Tribal Council