



In-Community testing available today for those experiencing Covid-19 symptoms

For Immediate Release- September 15, 2020
Tla'amin Territory, Powell River, BC

Tla'amin Nation is reporting 28 lab-confirmed cases of Covid 19 and offering its second in-community drive-thru testing clinic this week. An aggressive testing strategy, contact tracing, and a Shelter in Place Order have been enacted to protect Tla'amin residents and the larger community.

In-community drive-thru testing is available today at Tla'amin Health from 12:30PM-2:30PM.

Only individuals exhibiting symptoms will be tested. Symptoms include fever, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, muscle pain, lack of appetite, and abdominal distress.

“Bringing testing services right into the village has been a vital part of our response” said Clint Williams, Hegus, Tla'amin Nation “The nurses and support staff know our people, and this makes a huge difference in what is a very stressful situation. I commend the nurses and our whole health team for organizing this quickly, and I encourage those members feeling symptoms to get tested today.”

The testing event will end at 2:30 PM sharp so that test samples may be flown to Vancouver for analysis. The first in-community testing event held last Thursday served over 50 residents, and results came back between 24 and 48 hours.

Yesterday Tla'amin Executive Council extended the Shelter in Place order until Thursday September 17 at 5PM pending the testing results from today's clinic. Children and education support staff will remain home from school until the Order is lifted. A team of essential workers is in place under the command of the Tla'amin Emergency Operations Centre.

Food and medication delivery continues, allowing residents to comfortably Shelter in Place. Tla'amin members with questions or requiring help with milk, bread, eggs, diapers, formula toiletries and other essentials can call: 604-578-0447. Those requiring harm reduction services and supplies can call 604-223-4430 for confidential help.

Tla'amin Hegus and Legislators thank you for your cooperation as we work together to contain the spread of Covid-19. We share encouragement and gratitude to all of the frontline workers who are keeping the community safe during this difficult time.

Please share this important message with your relatives. We will get through this together. Stay home, stay safe, and stay kind.

Media Contact Steve Gallagher | 604-578-8483