



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

April 7, 2020

Dear Citizens,

We are a resilient nation. At times like this you can really see the strength we have when we work together as Team Huu-ay-aht.

These are unprecedented times, and we must face them together. It may not seem like much, but by staying home, practicing social distancing, and washing your hands you are helping us as a Nation to stay strong and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to know your efforts are making a difference, and we appreciate that you are taking this seriously and doing your part.

It is also important to acknowledge that this weekend is going to be difficult for many people. Easter is traditionally a time when families and communities come together. This year will be different. This year we ask that you celebrate at home, as hard as that may be.

With the long weekend approaching and sunshine in the forecast, you may be tempted to get out to explore. We are asking visitors to stay home this weekend and visit us later when the threat related to COVID-19 has passed. Our citizens should do the same and avoid travelling to other places. We live in a beautiful part of the country, if you want to explore, do it close to home while practicing social and physical distancing.

Since the pandemic was declared in our province, we have seen a gradual increase in cases of COVID-19. Experts tell us we are currently in the middle of this pandemic, and the next two weeks are crucial in minimizing the spread. This makes it essential that we continue to make these sacrifices to protect our elders, our friends and neighbours, our health care workers, and other essential service workers. If we do our part, it will see a difference.

We have heard many announcements of aid packages available in Canada, and we encourage citizens to apply if you qualify for these programs. Help is there for you, so please make sure to access that assistance. We were extremely relieved to be in a position as a Nation to offer aid to our citizens now, when they need it most. We are supporting elders and citizens by supplying them with some of their basic and essential needs, as well as continuing to offer personal support through our health team and the Child and Family Wellness team.

Our Covid-19 Financial Aid payments have now been processed, ensuring every citizen receives \$500 to help them out financially during this difficult period. Payments are being made in accordance with the policy guidelines for the provision of emergency financial aid during the Covid-19 crisis.

Our team at Huu-ay-aht has been working hard to ensure you receive these funds in a timely fashion. Since the announcement was made, the finance team processed 314 direct deposits payments that will benefit of 427 citizens. They also printed 271 cheques that will benefit 319 citizens. These should be arriving at your homes in the coming week.



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Unfortunately, there are about 100 citizens with insufficient information to process the payments. Our team is working hard to gather this information, but if you can help us reach these citizens, your support is appreciated. In addition, if you are aware of any citizens having issues with their payments, please have them contact [finance@huuayaht.org](mailto:finance@huuayaht.org).

We are all in this together, and we are Huu-ay-aht strong.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. J. Dennis Sr.', with a long, sweeping underline.

Robert J. Dennis Sr.