



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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Colville Tribes Prohibits Public Gatherings on the Colville Reservation

NESPELEM, WA – The Colville Tribes has passed emergency Resolutions to restrict public gatherings within the exterior boundaries of the Colville Reservation. Gatherings of ten or more people in public places are prohibited immediately until further notice. Public congregation is prohibited for purposes of entertainment, recreation, food or beverage service, or similar non-essential activities. Camping is also specifically prohibited, whether in a designated camping area or in an informal location.

Rodney Cawston, Chairman of the Colville Tribes, said, “The Colville Tribes joins with governments around the country and the world that are taking similar actions to stop the spread of COVID-19. While there is still no confirmed case of COVID-19 reported on the Colville Reservation, medical evidence shows that symptoms may not be visible until two weeks after a person is infected and can infect others. Action now is essential, to stop the spread of the virus while there is still time.”

Chairman Cawston further stated, “The Colville Tribes deeply values freedom and we fully recognize the need for a strong economy. But in a clear medical emergency, the immediate priority must be to protect the health and safety of all citizens, including our most vulnerable. I urge all people to take all medically recommended steps to care for themselves and others during this time of outbreak. These steps include the practice of social distancing as enforced by today’s Resolutions and also personal hygiene such as regular and thorough hand washing.”

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,533 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated

Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlámxəx^w (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; sǰ^wyʔilp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šntiyátk^wəx^w (grass in the water) or Entiat; snʔáyckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mətx^wu (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx^w (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nspelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənp^wilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq^wáwsəx^w (people in between) or Wenatchi.