Resolution 2020-11

TRIBAL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

COVID-19 is a foreign virus that can cause fatal and severe pneumonia and organ failure in elders and people with common existing health conditions including diabetes, asthma, heart disease and lung disease.

COVID-19 is spread through the air and can be breathed in or picked up from surfaces where the germs have landed.

The only method known to stop the spread of COVID-19 is to not have any contact with an infected person. There is no cure.

People infected with COVID-19 may not become sick for up to 14 days, but can still pass the dangerous virus silently to others.

WHEREAS: The Kipnuk Traditional Council is the Tribal Governing Body for the Native Village of Kipnuk, and;

WHEREAS: The foreign disease novel coronavirus COVID-19 has spread throughout the world and has now been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

Whereas: COVID-19 can be deadly for elders and people with common existing health complications; and

WHEREAS: COVID-19 is spread through the air from person to person through breathing, coughing or sneezing and from contact by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it; and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States has issued guidance intended to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Native Village of Kipnuk declares a Public Health Emergency to protect our community from the new threat COVID-19. We will follow the guidance of the Center for Disease Control and health professionals in implementing urgent health strategies. To protect our people, our community, and our traditional way of life from this sickness, the following policies and strategies will be formally adopted, effective immediately:

- All non-essential travel is prohibited until further notice. With exception of Medical appointment or emergency.
• Tribal members who are returning to the community will have a mandatory minimum of 14-day isolation in which they are to have no contact with other people for the protection of our people. If the quarantined person does become sick, quarantine shall be extended.

• The Tribal Police Officers are appointed by the Kipnuk Traditional Council to enforce the Tribal Declaration of Public Health Emergency Policy.

• Non-member, out of State citizens are prohibited to enter Kipnuk Tribal Community until further notice. With exception; may enter are: Medical Personnel, Emergency Response Team/Personnel, and Law Enforcement

• Tribal Members returning from known positive cases of COVID-19, shall isolate themselves from the community for min of 14 days. If any possible symptoms, shall isolate longer.

• Inter-village travel is allowed on case by case bases.

  -- Contact Kipnuk Police Department first before traveling to Kipnuk

• Businesses (Stores, Hardware, Church, Offices, Post Office, and Etc.)
  
  - Are advised/urged to clean/disinfect high traffic areas.
  
  - Clean/Disinfect areas that are touched constantly.
  
  - Use caution in receiving US mail, packages. Clean and disinfect

• There will be no social gatherings anywhere in Kipnuk of more than 10 people.
  
  - Social distancing in public of at least 6 feet in highly encouraged to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
  
  - Everyone is urged to stay home and not visit other households even if you are not sick, or the other household members are not sick. This includes children.
  
  - Everyone is also urged not to visit any businesses in the community unless it is essential for daily living, medical or other essential needs. Call ahead.

• THERE IS NO REASON TO PANIC

CERTIFICATION

This Declaration was passed by the Kipnuk Traditional Council, of which a quorum was present, with a vote of 5 yes; and 0 no; and 0 abstaining, on this 23rd day of March, 2020.

Signed: ____________________________  Attested By: ____________________________
President: ____________________________  Secretary: ____________________________