

**Native Village of Port Heiden**  
**PO Box 49007**  
**Port Heiden, Alaska 99549**  
**907-837-2296 907-837-2297 (fax)**

**RESOLUTION 20-55**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF THE NOVEL CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) TO PORT HEIDEN**

- WHEREAS: The Native Village of Port Heiden is a federally recognized Tribe listed in the Secretary of the Interior's annual list of federally recognized Tribes issued in accordance with the Federally Recognized Indian Tribes List Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-454, and,
- WHEREAS: The Native Village of Port Heiden is the federally recognized Tribe for the community of Port Heiden, Alaska; and,
- WHEREAS: On March 11, 2020 a Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration signed by Alaska's Governor Mike Dunleavy on March 11, 2020; and,
- WHEREAS: On March 13, 2020 President Donald Trump declared a National Emergency; and,
- WHEREAS: State of Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy closed all schools in Alaska until May 1, 2020; and,
- WHEREAS: History has shown what a pandemic can do our people and culture in our region. Native Village of Alaska suffered terribly from the great flu pandemic of 1918-1919, a few villages successfully avoided infection by imposing rigid quarantines and preventing outsiders from entering their villages; and,
- WHEREAS: COVID-19 is a respiratory virus that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-COV-2 virus, a new strain of corona virus that has not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmitted person to person; and,
- WHEREAS: Action taken by individual communities to slow the progression of the virus will reduce the negative impact on the health care system; and,
- WHEREAS: Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19 within the Alaska, the Native Village of Port Heiden is increasingly concerned for the health and wellbeing of our tribal and non-tribal members in the community of Port Heiden and the Bristol Bay region; and,
- WHEREAS: The Native Village of Port Heiden recommends only essential services and emergency medical services will be allowed effective at 12:01am on March 27, 2020 and all non-essential travel into and out of the community of Port Heiden will cease by 12:01am on March 27, 2020; This applies to travel from other villages as well as from regional centers and Anchorage, and to all forms of transportation including air travel, snow machine, and other ground and water transportation.

Essential services: Persons engaged in essential services are:

- Health professionals and other emergency responders dispatched by the state or federal governments, and patients seeking medical treatment.
- Law enforcement personnel from the state or federal government.
- Pilots and other air carrier personnel delivering freight and mail, or transporting passengers engaged in essential services.

Exceptions: The emergency disaster declaration on travel does not apply to:

- Residents of the Village or surrounding villages who temporarily left the Village prior to the enactment of this declaration provided they return home within five (5) days of enactment of this declaration. All residents upon returning are required to self-quarantine for 14 days including all family members who are residing with in their household. and,

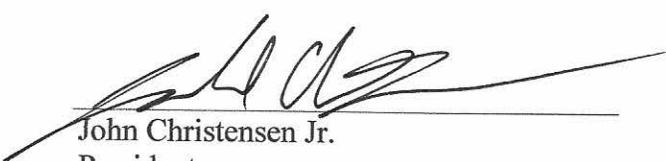
WHEREAS: With the COVID-19 virus being very infectious, for the safety of our people the transportation of alcohol and drugs are strictly prohibited into the village; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Native Village of Port Heiden is declaring a disaster emergency in the Village of Port Heiden based on the high risk of the infectious COVID-19 pandemic and substantial economic impacts to the Village of Port Heiden.

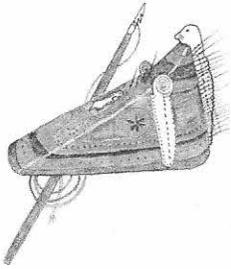
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Native Village of Port Heiden ceasing non-essential travel into and out of Port Heiden effective 12:01 am March 27, 2020 through May 1, 2020. The tribe reserve the right to extent this plan until the tribe sees the COVID-19 is no longer a threat to the community of Port Heiden. and requiring anyone traveling into the community within this timeframe to self-quarantine for a period no less than 14 days, including all family members who are residing with in their household.

#### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was passed by the Native Village of Port Heiden, Tribal Council on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020 and that a quorum was present by a vote of \_\_\_ in FAVOR and \_\_\_ OPPOSED.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Christensen Jr.  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member



**Native Village of Port Heiden**  
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March 24, 2020

To whom it may concern:

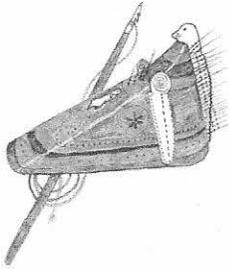
Due to the COVID-19 Worldwide Pandemic, we ask that individuals that would like to travel to Port Heiden, Alaska be limited to residents, health personnel and essential workers effective March 26, 2020.

We also ask that the transportation of alcohol, for the time being, also not be permitted. Because alcohol activities tend to make people gather and at times require outside assistance from outside the community and local residents.

We appreciate your assistance.

All in our prayers, stay safe, and we look forward to this pandemic to pass and bring life back to normal as we know it.

Sincerely,



**Native Village of Port Heiden  
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**We, the Native Village of Port Heiden on March 27, 2020 is declaring a local emergency disaster due to the Novel Corona Virus Pandemic that has arrived in USA and Alaska shores,**

History has shown us what Pandemic can do to a community like ours. We were reduced to a very small population losing generations of people and our culture. Our history has been passed down through voice not paper, historical losses that we deal with today.

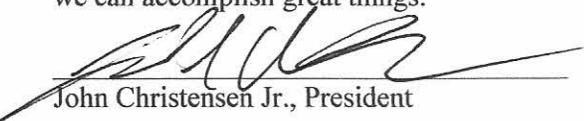
As a proactive measure, the Port Heiden Tribal Council, decided during these times of uncertainty and to help prevent the spread of the virus in Port Heiden and the Bristol Bay Region. We are asking our community to comply with the following restrictions:

- We are asking all residents to comply with the Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, washing hands regularly, coughing into your elbow, avoiding touching your face, and participating in social distancing
- To protect our community members, we are asking that travel is limited to medical reasons only. Once returned home from travel, self-quarantine for a **MINIMUM of 14 DAYS**. This includes everyone that lives in the household. This is not only to ensure your safety but the safety of the community as well.
- We are asking that all residents to be back from their travels within five (5) days, which is April 1 at 12:01 am. We are also asking that adhere to the self-quarantine of 14 days again this includes everyone in the household until this pandemic has passed.
- If you are not feeling well, we ask that you stay at home to minimize the transfer of any cold symptoms to anyone else.
- Essential workers need to check in with our tribal office before coming to Port Heiden so we can see if we can arrange and determine if their activities can be done in a safe manner.
- We have also asked the airlines that there be no transportation of alcohol into our community, because of the high probably that people will gather, and their activities would require outside and local help.

As we all know, many regional events have been cancelled, non-emergency Medicaid has been cancelled. School has been cancelled until May 1<sup>st</sup>.

As elected leaders of our Community, we know we cannot stop living because of COVID-19 but we can move silently and preconsciously in our efforts to serve the people of our community.

We, the people of Port Heiden, are strong people whose ancestors taught us that when we work together, we can accomplish great things.

  
John Christensen Jr., President

Date

27 MAR 20