



Information Release

May 1, 2020

## **Seton Lake beaches and boat launch closed to general public**

---

The Emergency Operations Centres of both T'it'q'et and the District of Lillooet want to remind people that access to the beaches and the boat launch at Seton Lake is now closed to the general public as part of the measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

T'it'q'et Chief and Council have mandated closure of the boat launch and the beaches as part of the larger effort to protect the vulnerable population of their community. They are concerned having the beaches and boat launch open to recreational users will bring crowds of people to these popular locations and, with them, a much higher threat from the COVID-19 virus.

Most of the land at the eastern end of Seton Lake is T'it'q'et Reserve land and, as such, the T'it'q'et administration manages legal access to the boat launch and the beaches.

The public wharf at Seton Lake is jointly licenced by T'it'q'et and the District of Lillooet. The closure of the dock and the boat launch is part of a joint effort to address COVID-19 safety concerns. As the situation improves, T'it'q'et and the District of Lillooet will coordinate opening the wharf to recreational use and will jointly notify the public at that time. There is no estimated date of when this will occur, as the situation remains dynamic. The health and safety of community members remains paramount in all decisions.

T'it'q'et Emergency Operations Centre Director Shawn Scotchman said their administration has implemented a permitting system to allow access to the road system and the boat launch for those who require access to provide essential services.

Personnel who travel to Seton Portage and Tsal'alh by boat to deliver medical services have permits to access the boat launch. As well, contractors for BC Hydro who use the lake to access their work site have been issued permits.

Access to the boat launch and the beaches to anyone other than permit holders is prohibited at this time.

T'it'q'et has Watchmen who are patrolling the area and people violating these restrictions will be asked to leave. Vehicles that are found in the area without permits may get towed at owners' expense.

The Seton Lake look-out, another popular spot for recreationists, is gated and will remain closed until further notice.

**Issued by the T'it'q'et and Lillooet Emergency Operations Centres**

**COVIDinfo@lillooet.ca**