



**NORTHWEST  
PORTLAND  
AREA  
INDIAN  
HEALTH  
BOARD**

Burns-Paiute Tribe  
Chehalis Tribe  
Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
Colville Tribe  
Coos, Siuslaw, &  
Lower Umpqua Tribe  
Coquille Tribe  
Cow Creek Tribe  
Cowlitz Tribe  
Grand Ronde Tribe  
Hoh Tribe  
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Kalispell Tribe  
Klamath Tribe  
Kootenai Tribe  
Lower Elwha Tribe  
Lummi Tribe  
Makah Tribe  
Muckleshoot Tribe  
Nez Perce Tribe  
Nisqually Tribe  
Nooksack Tribe  
NW Band of Shoshoni Tribe  
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe  
Puyallup Tribe  
Quileute Tribe  
Quinault Tribe  
Samish Indian Nation  
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe  
Shoalwater Bay Tribe  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribe  
Siletz Tribe  
Skokomish Tribe  
Snoqualmie Tribe  
Spokane Tribe  
Squaxin Island Tribe  
Stillaguamish Tribe  
Suquamish Tribe  
Swinomish Tribe  
Tulalip Tribe  
Umatilla Tribe  
Upper Skagit Tribe  
Warm Springs Tribe  
Yakama Nation

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**RESOLUTION # 20-02-06**

**DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATED TO  
COVID-19 AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO SHUT DOWN NON-  
ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND TO SHELTER IN PLACE**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (hereinafter "NPAIHB" or the "Board") was established in 1972 to assist Tribal governments to improve the health status and quality of life of Indian people; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is a "tribal organization" as defined by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638 seq. et al) that represents forty-three federally recognized tribes in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the definitions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act at 25 USCS § 450b, a tribal organization is recognized as a governing body of any Indian tribe and includes any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center is a Public Health Authority, as defined in the Affordable Care Act, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Authorization of 2010, 25 USCS § 1621m(e)(1); **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the primary goal of the NPAIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member tribes and American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN); **AND**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in November 2019, the novel (new) coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 ("COVID-19") began to spread from China to other countries and has spread worldwide, including the United States; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, a novel (new) coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 ("COVID-19") was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; **AND**

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**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President declared a National emergency due to the coronavirus, and Idaho, Oregon and Washington have declared states of emergency due to the coronavirus; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, many of our member tribes have declared states of emergency; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of thousands of individuals have tested positive for COVID-19 and it is rapidly growing around the world, the United States, and in the Northwest; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, numbers of diagnoses will continue to increase as testing becomes more available; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, without intentional community-level preparation and response many more AI/AN will be diagnosed with COVID-19; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, sheltering in place (means finding a safe location indoors and staying there, unless performing essential activities) has been shown to slow the spread of diseases and protect vulnerable people and communities; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB has a responsibility to protect our communities and is deeply concerned for the health and wellbeing of our member tribes, tribes nationwide, AI/AN people, and all people.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the NPAIHB will prepare for the possibility of a COVID-19 pandemic that could last up to 18 months and include multiple waves of illness; **AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NPAIHB is declaring a public health emergency; **AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NPAIHB strongly recommends that our member tribes, and tribes nationwide, mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic by taking necessary steps to stop the spread of COVID-19 by closing non-essential services within their tribal communities; **AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NPAIHB supports each tribe define essential services and that essential services be limited to those necessary for public health and safety; **AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NPAIHB recommends tribes immediately enact shelter in place for their communities and people and cancel all social gatherings to stop the spread of COVID-19 and that all AI/AN people and those in their homes and communities shelter in place; **AND**

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**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that NPAIHB recommends that all tribes, AI/AN people, and all people practice social distancing when out of the home accessing or providing essential services/needs.

**CERTIFICATION**

**NO: 20-02-06**

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established;  5  for,  0  against,  0  abstain on March 20, 2020.



**Chairman**



**Secretary**

**March 20, 2020**  
**Date**

Ratified on June 5, 2020 at NPAIHB Virtual Quarterly Board meeting