PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 2
March 25, 2020

WHEREAS, the Yakama Nation Tribal Council Executive Committee issued a Declaration of Emergency on March 13, 2020 pursuant to their authority in T-10-61 and T-064-20; and

WHEREAS, the Yakama Nation Tribal Council Executive Committee issued Public Safety Order No. 1 on March 23, 2020 ordering all residents of the Yakama Reservation and off-Reservation trust allotments to “Stay Home, Stay Healthy,” subject to certain limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, the Yakama Nation Tribal Council Executive Committee provides this further guidance regarding Public Safety Announcement No. 2’s applicability to longhouse and church ceremonies.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Yakama Nation Tribal Council Executive Committee, acting in accordance with T-10-61 and T-064-20, that until further notice all longhouses and churches within the Yakama Reservation and off-Reservation trust allotments are encouraged to delay all spiritual ceremonial gatherings except for funerals as detailed in the attached Notice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Yakama Members may still exercise Treaty-reserved hunting, fishing, and gathering rights for subsistence purposes, and for ceremonial use at places of residence with immediate family members subject to all existing Yakama Nation hunting and fishing seasons and regulations.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Yakama Nation does not waive, alter, or otherwise diminish our Sovereign Immunity, whether expressed or implied, by virtue of this declaration of emergency for any and all administrative or legal action which may arise directly or indirectly from the same, nor does the Yakama Nation waive, alter, or otherwise diminish our rights, privileges, remedies or services guaranteed by the Treaty of 1855.
DONE AND DATED this 25th day of March, 2020 by the Yakama Nation Tribal Council Executive Committee.

Delano Saluskin, Chairman
Executive Committee
Yakama Nation Tribal Council

Virgil Lewis, Sr., Vice-Chairman
Executive Committee
Yakama Nation Tribal Council

Athena Sanchez-Yallup, Secretary
Executive Committee
Yakama Nation Tribal Council

Post Office Box 151, 401 Fort Road, Toppenish, WA 98948 (509) 865-5121
**NOTICE**

Companion to Public Safety Announcement No. 2
Yakama Nation Tribal Council Executive Committee
March 25, 2020

In an effort to stop the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19 in our community, all longhouses and churches within the Yakama Reservation and off-Reservation trust allotments are strongly encouraged to delay ceremonial gatherings and other services until further notice. Funerals are exempt from this temporary delay of services, and it is recommended that longhouse and church leaders implement the following safety measures:

1. Longhouse and church leaders may conduct funeral services.

2. Longhouse and church leaders are encouraged to consider public health and safety protocols when the various funeral ceremonies are conducted.

3. We recommend funeral participation be limited to immediate family.

4. Longhouse and church leaders should remind all funeral participants to practice social distancing of at least six feet, sneeze or cough into a tissue and immediately throw it away, wash hands regularly with soap and water, and use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.

5. **If a deceased member tests positive for COVID-19, the sealed body bags should not be opened under any circumstance, in order to protect the safety of all involved.**

6. The Yakama Nation will provide cleaning supplies to longhouses and churches as needed, and as supplies are available.

7. During this health crisis, we encourage families to feast at home for your own protection.

We support our Yakama People continuing our ceremonies and traditions from the safety of your homes. Stay home. Stay healthy.