



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 18, 2020

### **COVID-19: NON-RESIDENT TRAVEL RESTRICTION FOR HAIDA GWAI**

In collaboration with All Island leaders and health authorities, the Council of the Haida Nation discourages all non-resident travel to our Islands for the time being. In efforts to limit the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), CHN urges against all leisure travellers to Haida Gwaii. This decision was made after careful consideration and discussion with Village Councils and Municipalities and will not impact essential services to Island citizens or those returning home.

Given our culture, remote geography and limited healthcare resources, we have made this critical decision to protect Island citizens, and especially our cherished Elders, language speakers and knowledge holders.

These are extraordinary times around the world and Haida Gwaii is no exception. We have a responsibility as Island citizens to take care of each other and the safety of our communities during this time of uncertainty. The CHN is committed to that responsibility and will take every proactive measure necessary to protect our communities from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prevention and preparedness are fundamental to our communities' health and well-being. If you can, please stay home and continue to support the most vulnerable members of our communities, together we can save lives.