



Tsilhqot'in DECLARE STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO OPIOID CRISIS

The Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) has declared a state of local emergency in response to recent deaths in communities last week. This order was issued for all six Tsilhqot'in communities and provides the Nation with the opportunity to access additional government support.

The toxic drug supply combined with the harms of historical and present-day colonialism are contributing to higher rates of death from toxic drugs amongst Indigenous peoples compared to other populations in the province. Treatment facilities lack the capacity to take on new patients. TNG calls on all ministries and agencies to work together to end this loss of lives.

“Drugs are a major problem in our communities. As leaders we feel that our hands are tied. We need to act to not lose anymore lives. The RCMP know who the dealers are and need to deal with this. A State of Emergency is an opportunity to address this crisis.”

—Nits'il?in (Chief) Joe Alphonse, O.B.C., LL.D. (hon.), Tribal Chair, Tsilhqot'in National Government

“Our people are grieving over the recent losses in our communities. We need time and tradition to heal while we search for Tsilhqot'in-led solutions. We call on the local health authorities to work with our communities and expand facilities to support our members who want treatment. Our thoughts and prayers are with those families grieving right now.”

— Nits'il?in (Chief) Otis Guichon, Vice-chair, Tsilhqot'in National Government

-30-

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TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION

2024

April 12, 2024

State of Local Emergency

CHRONOLOGICAL NUMBER

DATE

REFERENCE SUBJECT

TITLE

Declaration of State of Local Emergency

WHEREAS

The Tsilhqot'in National Government Council of Chiefs fully supports the Declaration of State of Local Emergency. There is a *Toxic Drug Crisis* within the jurisdiction of *Tsilhqot'in Nation* including *Tl'etinqox (Anaham)*, *Tsidedel (Redstone)*, *Yunesit'in (Stone)*, *Xeni Gwet'in (Nemiah)*, *?Esdilagh (Alexandria)* and *Tl'esqox (Toosey)*;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Tsilhqot'in National Government has Declare State of Local Emergency Due to the *Toxic Drug Crisis*, *Tsilhqot'in Nation* has experienced significant losses in the communities.

A quorum for the Tsilhqot'in National Government consists of 4 Chiefs

SIGNATURES

JOE ALPHONSE—CHIEF—TRIBAL CHAIR
TL'ETINQOX (ANAHAM)

OTIS GUICHON SR.—CHIEF
TSIDELDEL (REDSTONE)

FRANCIS LACEESE—CHIEF
TL'ESQOX (TOOSEY)

TROY BAPTISTE—CHIEF
?ESDILAGH (ALEXANDRIA)

LENNON SOLOMON—CHIEF
YUNESIT'IN (STONE)

ROGER WILLIAM—CHIEF
XENI (NEMIAH VALLEY)