



## Media Release

For Immediate Release

July 27, 2020

### COVID-19 and the Health and Safety of the Residents of Lake Cowichan

As the Province relaxes isolation protocols and expands the activities now permitted throughout the Province, we in Lake Cowichan are also seeing an influx of visitors seeking to take advantage of recreational activities and opportunities available in our area. With the reported increase of newly confirmed COVID 19 cases, our Community is rightly raising questions and concerns regarding our ability to handle the increased number of visitors during this period that is fraught with the high risk of infection of COVID-19.

We realize that people will visit us, but we are adamant that if you are sick – Stay Home and Do not put others at risk of infection - period. If you are coming to enjoy the recreation activities provided by our waterways, remember we are not The Wild West. All Provincial applicable Laws and Regulations related to COVID-19 are also enforceable in Lake Cowichan.

If you intend on abusing our waterfront residents and those of the surrounding areas, you are not welcome here. The Town is working with the local RCMP to get a handle on the inappropriate activities of a few unruly visitors who are ruining the enjoyment of many visitors and residents. We value the Tourism opportunities as we transition from a resource-based Economy but are not willing to sacrifice the liveability of our small Community in the process. If you are looking to come here and rowdily let off steam, so to speak, "Don't bother".

Avoid the urge to gather in large groups possibly putting yourself and others in harm's way. Stay safe, stay healthy and stay put and let us get through this difficult time together.

Please respect our citizens, businesses, and our environment and be mindful of how you interact with them. Their lives should not be put to risk simply because of your desire to have fun with little regard for following required COVID-19 protocols.

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