



BLACKFEET NATION

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Timothy Davis, Chairman
Ilf "Scott" Kipp, Vice-Chairman
Lauren Monroe, Jr., Secretary
Tinsuwella Bird Rattler, Treasurer

BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL
Timothy Davis
Rodney Gervais, Jr.
Mark Pollock
Vera Weaselhead
Virgil Last Star
Stacey Keller
Lauren Monroe, Jr.
Ilf "Scott" Kipp, Sr.
Marvin Weatherwax, Jr.

RESOLUTION

Extending Closure of Blackfeet Tribe in Response to COVID-19 Outbreak on the Blackfeet Reservation to August 14, 2020

Resolution No. 299-2020

- WHEREAS**, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is the duly constituted governing body within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Nation pursuant to Section 16 of Act of June 18, 1934 and Amendments thereof, and
- WHEREAS**, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has been organized to represent, develop, protect and advance the views, interests, and resources education and resources of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and
- WHEREAS**, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is empowered, pursuant to Article VI- Powers of the Council, Section 1(e) to manage all economic affairs and enterprises of the Blackfeet Reservation; and, Section 1(g) to manage tribal affairs in an acceptable and businesslike manner and in accordance with the administrative plan called the Plan of Operations; and, Section 1(k) to promulgate ordinances for the purposes of safeguarding the peace and safety of residents of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and
- WHEREAS**, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council enacted *Ordinance 121*, entitled "*Blackfeet Tribe COVID-19 Ordinance 121*" to limit the risk of infection from the global pandemic outbreak of COVID-19 to members and residents of the Blackfeet Reservation, and such risk has increased with community outbreak beginning June 26, 2020; to which, infection rates continue to rise since the prior Stay at Home Order was issued, *Resolution No. 281-2020*, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council met on July 30, 2020 to extend the July 31, 2020 closure of the Blackfeet Tribal Offices to August 14, 2020 based upon the following factors:

- a. Surveillance testing has been suspended by order of the State of Montana;
- b. The Blackfeet Tribe is awaiting a proposed agreement with the Indian Health Service for the purpose of sharing information in order to establish testing and contact tracing protocols and uniform reporting system to the public; and,
- c. Pursuant to *Resolution No. 292-2020, "Adopting the Blackfeet Tribal Program Infection/Exposure Response Plan"*, working Tribal Programs are required to establish a back-up plan in the event the program is subjected to Coronavirus infection/exposure and to ensure each program has necessary protocols and PPE in order to operate safely.

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council hereby desires to extend Blackfeet Tribal Office closure to August 14, 2020; and to clarify "*Stay at Home*" recommendation and "*Prohibition on Large Social Gatherings*", to which the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council will then revisit the current COVID-19 risk factors, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **RECOMMENDED STAY AT HOME FOR RESIDENTS OF THE BLACKFEET RESERVATION TO AUGUST 14, 2020.** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council recommends all residents on the Blackfeet Reservation to **Stay at Home** unless engaged in essential activities as follows: to obtain medical services and food; and, to engage in spiritual, mental, physical and emotional well-being activities until August 14, 2020. Residents of the Blackfeet Reservation are permitted to engage in outdoor activities with members from within the same household or established cohorts as recommended by Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Residents are encouraged to engage in walks, hiking, fishing, etc. Such activity should not amount to large groups or extended family groups where risk of infection increases. For purposes of this section, "cohort" is defined as: smaller groups formed out of a larger organization of persons for the purpose of engaging in activity for the same period of time, with the goal of reducing risk of infection from the Coronavirus; and, in the event one cohort is exposed to the virus, remainder cohort groups can continue to participate in the activity.

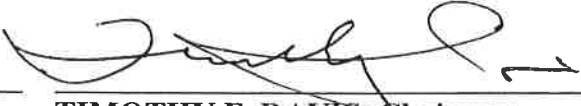
2. **PROHIBITION OF LARGE SOCIAL GATHERINGS.** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council hereby prohibits large social gatherings with groups larger than twenty-five (25) persons or non-conforming cohorts, in violation of CDC guidelines.
3. **CDC GUIDELINES.** CDC Guidelines recommend the practice of: social distancing, avoiding crowds, use of masks while in public, regular and proper handwashing, regular sanitization of commonly used items, use of registry of persons, proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, gloves, gowns, face shields, etc., proper handling of food and trash, etc.
4. **MASKS REQUIRED IN ALL AREAS OF THE BLACKFEET RESERVATION.** All persons on the Blackfeet Reservation are required to wear masks at all times while in public, with the exception for children under two (2) years of age.
5. **Public Advertisement.** Notice of this Resolution shall be made effective immediately to the local media.
6. The Chairman or the Vice-Chairman in the Chairman's absence and the Secretary of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council are hereby authorized to sign this Resolution and any other documents to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

ATTEST:

**THE BLACKFEET TRIBE OF THE
BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION**



**LAUREN J. MONROE JR., Secretary
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council**



**TIMOTHY F. DAVIS, Chairman
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council**

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council in a duly called, noticed and convened Special Session, assembled for business the 30th day of July, 2020, with Eight (8) Members present to constitute a quorum, and with a vote of Eight (8) FOR and Zero (0) OPPOSED and Zero (0) ABSTAINING.



**LAUREN J. MONROE JR., Secretary
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council**