



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | UPDATE: ONE ADDITIONAL CASE

Date: March 24, 2020; 8:00 p.m. Update
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-6605

For Immediate Release

Tonight we received information from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) that an additional individual has tested positive for COVID-19 in Ketchikan. This is in addition to the two positive cases reported earlier today. This brings the total of positive cases in Ketchikan to nine (9).

This individual, upon experiencing symptoms of illness, self-quarantined and sought testing through a local provider. The testing was processed by the State of Alaska laboratory.

Ketchikan Public Health officials have contacted this individual and will continue to monitor their condition to ensure continued self-isolation. Public Health officials will initiate the contact investigation tonight and reach out to any person who may have come into close contact with this individual. Public Health will notify and isolate additional persons as appropriate. Through the contact investigation, Public Health will direct testing of persons that meet criteria based on contact with any confirmed case of COVID-19. Individuals who meet the criteria are being tested in accordance with CDC and State of Alaska priorities.

In keeping with the emergency mayoral proclamation issued on March 21st by the mayors of the City of Ketchikan, City of Saxman, and Ketchikan Gateway Borough, citizens are strongly urged to **hunker down, shelter in place, and stay home, in order to contain the spread of COVID-19.**

To help stop the spread, follow all health mandates issued by Governor Dunleavy, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, **call your healthcare provider for medical advice.**

#ketchikanstayhealthy #staystrongketchikan #stepsforahealthycommunity

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