



INTERIOR REGION
First Nations Health Authority

March 26, 2020

Splatsin
5775 Old Vernon Road
PO Box 460
Enderby, BC V0E 1V0

To Whom it May Concern,

Due to the present circumstances surrounding COVID-19, FNHA is recommending additional precautions to help protect the health and safety of community members and Splatsin staff, while ensuring that drinking water is clean, safe, and reliable. Please note that research from the World Health Organization has indicated that drinking water is *not* a concern for COVID-19.

To ensure the safety of Splatsin staff and community members during the routine collection of drinking water samples, FNHA is recommending some additional precautions:

- Temporarily suspend routine sampling of private homes. Social distancing is one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak. Sampling may still be taken from outside hose bibs with disinfecting the spigot and flushing until water is cold.
- Respect any access restrictions for public buildings, outside hose bibs, e.g. if closed or restricting visitors
- Sampling will be completed at the water treatment plant if no public buildings are accessible.

The provision of safe water, sanitation, and hygienic conditions are essential to protecting human health at all times, especially during an infectious disease outbreak. FNHA commends the Splatsin Health and OM staff in their role in consistent monitoring of drinking water supply to help keep community members safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Casey Neathway'.

Casey Neathway, CPHI(C)
Regional Manager
Environmental Public Health Services