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Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Organized Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 476
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COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH NOTICE

March 10, 2021 – Swinomish Public Health has confirmed eight (8) new cases of COVID-19 in the community in the last eight (8) days. There are tests still pending results.

Many of you are asking if it is time to take off our masks, gather, and quit testing after reading the most recent CDC COVID-19 guidance which specifies that someone who is fully vaccinated can:

- Gather indoors with fully vaccinated people in private residences without wearing a mask and
- Gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household in private residences (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

The important answer to understand is “we are not there yet.” The policies set by our Senate for the Swinomish Reservation are still in effect. Further, the gathering the CDC is referring to is all within PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS and small groups. If gathering, masks should be worn if anyone in the group, **or the group’s circle**, has an increased risk of severe COVID-19 infection.

What guidance is telling us is COVID-19 is definitely still here and there is significant risk of getting it. Yes, if you are vaccinated, your chances of getting a severe infection are decreased. However, you can still spread it! Perhaps less easily, but that is still just a guess.

In regard to exposure and quarantine, Swinomish Public Health is looking at this on a case-by-case basis. Most of the time there is risk and the exposed person needs to take all precautions.

We have done so well, we do not want to let our guard down too soon. Please continue to mask, avoid gathering, and get tested!

Daily Data Dashboard

	Positive	Hospitalizations	Deaths	First Dose Vaccines	Second Dose Vaccines
Swinomish	91	7	3	1,531	1,174
Skagit	4,562	273	61		
Whatcom	7,017	318	83		
Snohomish	30,712	1,972	540		
WA State	346,403	19,692	5,077		

Take care, stay safe,
 Swinomish Public Health Team