



COVID-19 PROTOCOL FOR FUNERAL AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Funeral Support Mission Statement

The Funeral Support Program will preserve, promote, and protect the Schelangen by providing culturally sensitive coordination of support services to bereaving families in accordance with approved policies and procedures.

Lummi Funeral Support Staff (360) 312-2184 or (360) 746-4061

The Funeral Support Specialist will conduct funeral service arrangements via telephone, email or zoom conferencing with immediate family. A Purchase Order for clothing (for the deceased) and a Purchase Order for flowers will be delivered to family. The funeral costs to the funeral home (up to \$4,400) will be covered by the Lummi Funeral Support Program.

Need for Ongoing COVID Precautions

With variants of COVID-19 constantly changing, it is imperative that mask wearing, quarantining, and social distancing guidelines are followed to control the spread of COVID-19, decrease the burdens of hospitals and equipment supplies, and lessen the number of infections and deaths caused by this disease.

Family Speaker

The immediate family is to notify the Funeral Support Office when they identify the family speaker and to provide their name and phone number. The family speaker is responsible for conveying to family the importance of adhering to the COVID Protocol Funeral provisions including mandatory mask wearing, social distancing and COVID vaccination, and to work with the Funeral Safety Officer (below) to implement these guidelines.

Funeral Safety Officer

The immediate family is to notify Funeral Services once they have identified someone from the community who will serve as a Funeral Safety Officer for throughout the period of funeral preparation, services, and burial. Funeral Services is encouraged to coordinate with the LIBC Safety Department to ensure that the designated Safety Officer is prepared to assist with implementation of the guidelines outlined in this document. If the family is unable to designate a Funeral Safety Officer, LIBC Safety Office will work with TERO to identify an LIBC representative who can provide these services.

Encourage Services to be Held at LIBC Buildings

There is no limit to outdoor gathering size in the Lummi COVID 19 contingency plan. Indoor gatherings at any LIBC building must comply with the LIBC Event Policy guidelines included below, including requiring vaccination for attendees. For any gatherings in family homes or place other than LIBC buildings, the number of attendees is limited depending on room capacity and transmission rates (low, medium, high) or current shelter in place order. Families are encouraged to limit gatherings to immediate family and COVID vaccination is required for attendees of events in LIBC buildings who are 5 years of age and older. Masks and social distancing are still required when gathering. Families are strongly encouraged to gather outdoors and to limit indoor gathering.

Dressing

It is required that the Moles Funeral Home staff will conduct the dressing for all bodies.

Services

Graveside services will occur with following recommendations: Masks are required and all individuals maintain social distancing of at least six (6) feet from any person who is not a member of their immediate family.

Attendance Guidelines

- Any individual (regardless of vaccination status) experiencing COVID-like illness (cough, fever, shortness of breath, loss of taste/smell, etc.) is prohibited from attending services/gatherings unless a negative COVID-19 PCR result is obtained beforehand.

- Any individual who is in quarantine due to recent exposure to COVID is prohibited from attending services or gatherings. Lummi Nation quarantine guidelines are available for review here: <https://www.lummi-nsn.gov/Website.php?PageID=854>
- Anyone who is within a 10-day isolation/quarantine period due to recent COVID diagnosis is prohibited from attending services or gatherings as per the LIBC Living with COVID Policy
- For events held at LIBC buildings, COVID vaccination is required to attend
- Unvaccinated individuals who meet the following criteria are prohibited from attending services or gatherings at non-LIBC buildings:
 - recent contact with a known or suspected case in the last 14 days
 - travel by plane or through an airport hub in the last 10 days
- Travel is limited according to level of COVID transmission, as outlined in the LIBC Living with COVID Policy

Attendance Tracking

The designated Funeral Safety Officer will be responsible for logging the names of all attendees for the funeral and the burning ceremony. This attendance log will be provided to the Lummi Public Health Department at the Lummi Health Center and will be kept confidentially. This log will be used in the event that a funeral/burning attendee tests positive for COVID-19 in the two weeks following the funeral/burning and all attendees need to be notified that they may have been exposed.

Protect Elders

Any elders or individuals with underlying health conditions are discouraged from attending high risk events, which include events where food is served, or events where vaccines are not required. Mask wearing, and social distancing are required around any elders or attendees with underlying conditions. Underlying conditions can include, but are not limited to, COPD, asthma, diabetes, kidney disease and heart disease (see full list for those at high risk for severe COVID In the Living with COVID document).

An elder who is conducting a traditional burning and their workers (helpers and cooks) must abide by the social distancing guidelines and safety provisions.

Limit Person-To-Person Contact

Even though someone is not feeling sick, they still could have COVID and pass it to others. Limiting contact with others is the best way to ensure the virus does not spread. This includes:

- ◆ All attendees are required to wear masks at all times, and wash hands frequently. If there are no hand washing stations, hand sanitizer should be used frequently and after handling any items that are handled by multiple people
- ◆ Use disinfecting wipes on all hard surfaces and prioritize multiple cleanings to surfaces that will be touched frequently such as door handles
- ◆ Standing 6 feet away from others who are not a member of your immediate household
- ◆ No handshakes and hugs
- ◆ See LIBC COVID Event Policy regarding food service
- ◆ The traditional burning ceremony will be left to the discretion of the immediate family. It is recommended by Tribal elders and leaders to have their family burning ceremony at their residence and/or family homes. The following special safety precautions must be made for the burning ceremony such as: 1) All individuals maintain social distancing of at least six (6) feet from any person not considered a part of the same household, and 2) An attendance list (tracker) of names and phone numbers of all attending the burning and list turned into the Lummi Public Health Department at the Lummi Health Center

LIVING WITH COVID POLICY ADDENDUM FOR EVENTS HELD IN LIBC BUILDINGS

Passed Dec 21, 2021

Masks	COVID Vaccination	Food/drink service	Size limit	Contact tracing list	Attendee notes
<p>Required for ages 5+ except when eating/drinking. Children ages 2-4 should wear masks while supervised by adults.</p>	<p>Required for all people ages 5+</p>	<p>Plated service or boxed foods only. Seating with social distancing, with household members seated together.</p>	<p>25% of room capacity to allow for social distancing. Wexliem max capacity 100 people</p>	<p>Required</p>	<p>It is not recommended to serve food at events attended by high-risk individuals or close contacts of high-risk individuals.</p>

FUNERAL ATTENDANCE LIST

Deceased Name & Date: _____

PRINT NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER

RETURN THIS LIST TO THE LUMMI HEALTH CENTER

Original Document Prepared by
Vernell Lane, Funeral Support
Specialist – Last Revised
February 1, 2022

TRADITIONAL BURNING CEREMONY – ATTENDANCE LIST

Deceased Name and Date: _____

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Vernell Lane, Funeral Support
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