



Cowichan Tribes  
**LULUMEXUN – Lands & Governance**  
5760 Allenby Road  
Duncan, BC V9L 5J1  
Phone: 236.800.4023



# MEMORANDUM

*From Larry George, Lulumexun Director*

**To: All Businesses Operating in the Cowichan Valley and on Reserve Lands**

**Re: Cowichan Tribes Protective Measures Order - Shelter in Place & Restrictions on Access to Reserve - FAQ for Businesses**

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On January 6, 2021, Cowichan Tribes' Chief and Council issued **Protective Measures Order – Shelter in Place and Restrictions on Access to Reserve** (the “Order”) to protect the health and safety of Cowichan Tribes Members and the public.

The Order can be found on the Cowichan Tribes [Website](#) and Cowichan Tribes [Facebook](#) page.

Lulumexun- Lands & Governance, has prepared these FAQs for businesses located on Cowichan Tribes Reserve lands and surroundings lands to assist them in understanding the requirements set out in the Order.

## **1. What areas are “Restricted Areas” under the Order?**

All occupied residential buildings within Cowichan Tribes' Reserve are “Restricted Areas” for the duration of the Closure Period.

## **2. How long is the Closure Period?**

The Closure Period began at 5 pm January 6, 2021, and has been extended to 5 pm on February 5th, 2021. Cowichan Tribes' Chief and Council may extend the Closure Period if needed to protect the health and safety of Cowichan Tribes Members.

## **3. How does the Order affect my business operations on Cowichan Tribes Reserve?**

During the Closure Period, even if there are check-points, your business can enter Restricted Areas (reserve lands) for the following reasons:

- Conducting urgent appliance or home repairs, new utility installation, i.e. hydro, Shaw, Fortis, exterior work, i.e. roof repair/replacement, gutter cleaning/repair, siding repair, chimney cleaning, landscaping and brush removal;



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- Delivering essential goods to a home or a Member-owned business on the Restricted Area
- Caring for an Authorized Occupant;
- Providing emergency services (e.g. firefighting, child and family services, medical, RCMP and Search and Rescue services);
- Doing work to maintain or repair utilities or public infrastructure (e.g. hydro, phone, internet, snowplowing, garbage removal); or
- Providing essential services or other work for Cowichan Tribes at Cowichan Tribes' request.

If your business needs to enter a Restricted Area for another reason, you may request permission to enter from Cowichan Tribes Lulumexun - Land and Governance Department by sending a written request, with a copy of your COVID-19 Pandemic Safety Plan, to: [lands@cowichantribes.com](mailto:lands@cowichantribes.com).

#### ***4. Do I have to close my business?***

No, the Order does not require any business closure. However, you must still conduct your business activities in accordance with the Order and all orders of the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada and Provincial Health Officer of British Columbia.

#### ***5. Can clients/customers access my business during the Closure Period?***

YES. The Order does not require business closures or restrictions.

#### ***6. Can my employees come to work?***

YES. The Order does not restrict access to businesses on Cowichan Tribes Reserve. If your employees are Cowichan Tribes members, or are ordinarily resident on Cowichan Tribes Reserve, the Order does not restrict their ability to leave home to go to work.

#### ***7. Can I refuse service or access to my establishment to a Cowichan Tribes member or resident from on reserve lands during the Shelter in Place Order?***

NO. Under the B.C. Human Rights Code it is illegal discriminate based on race, colour, ancestry, or place of origin. Refusing services based on these factors may subject your business to litigation. Under the Shelter in Place Order, Cowichan Tribes members may leave their homes for essential reasons including work, school, medical appointments, shopping, caring for loved ones, to get fresh air, or for other essential reasons.



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Businesses should apply the same COVID-19 safety screening questions as they would for any other citizen and resident in the Valley. Cowichan Tribes members who have COVID-19 are required to isolate and are in regular contact with public health officials.

**8. *Can Cowichan Valley businesses enter the reserve during the Shelter in Place Order?***

YES. Deliveries of food or medicines, taxis, home repairs, medical visits, support services and other essential visits are permitted on reserve. Check-points are in place to provide information about the Order. Service providers CAN still deliver to homes following their usual safety protocols and in accordance with the order (e.g. no social gatherings).

**9. *Do I need to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan?***

The requirement to develop a Covid-19 Safety Plan is mandated by the Province. For more information, please see [www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com).

***Mukw' tst 'o' shilhukw, 'u tu COVID-19 lhxeen (We're all in this together)***