

**For Immediate Release
Wednesday, April 15, 2020**

COVID-19 Open Burning Restrictions

Ucluelet, BC – Effective 1200 pm Wednesday, April 15, 2020, the current open burning restrictions within the District of Ucluelet will exclude campfires. Campfires will be permitted provided they are compliant with [Bylaw 978, 2008](#), “*A Bylaw to Regulate Outdoor Burning*”.

Prior to enjoying a campfire, residents are strongly encouraged to refer to the BC Air Quality [Ventilation Index](#) and to restrict all burning when the Ventilation Index is “Poor”.

A reminder that the burning of garden refuse, land clearing debris, and noxious materials is not permitted anytime. The District will not be issuing burning permits until further notice.

As cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in BC continue to increase, the BC Centre for Disease Control recommends implementing measures that help to reduce excess air pollution in populated airsheds across the province. There is strong evidence that exposure to air pollution increases susceptibility to respiratory viral infections by decreasing immune function.

These open burning restrictions will remain in place until further notice.

For further information, please contact Fire Chief Rick Geddes,
at the District of Ucluelet Office, 250-726-7744 ext.233 or rgeddes@ucluelet.ca