

THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF POINT HOPE
P.O. BOX 109
POINT HOPE, ALASKA 99766
(907) 368 - 2330
FAX: (907) 368 - 2332



City of Point Hope
P.O. Box 169
Point Hope, Alaska 99766
368-2537



Phone: (907) 368-2235 Fax: (907) 368-2668
P.O. Box 9 Point Hope, AK 99766

Point Hope Trilateral Committee Notice Funeral Guidance for Point Hope Tuesday January 28, 2020

Grieving the loss of a loved one during the dear and anxiety about COVID-19 pandemic can be overwhelming. It may be difficult for people to make decisions about how to safely grieve and honor their loved one. This guidance is for individuals and families as they work with funeral directors, community and religious leaders, and others to plan and hold funeral services and visitations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Point Hope Trilateral committee has decided to create this guidance for any funerals that may take place in the community of Point Hope, Alaska during this COVID-19 pandemic. All individuals that are authorized into the community of Point Hope for any funeral that may take place in the community must adhere to these strict guidelines enacted for the community of Point Hope, Alaska. **The Point Hope Trilateral Committee has the right to rescind or modify this order at any given moment to protect the community members and high risk individuals in the community of Point Hope, Alaska.**

Guidelines for travel for funerals during this pandemic

1. Each authorized traveler must contact City Office of Point Hope and speak to the COVID-19 Coordinator. Additional information is required which includes telephone number to conduct contact tracing, origin of travel, date of travel and return date of travel. Negative Active COVID-19 test and negative Rapid COVID-19 test must be submitted in order to receive signature validated travel authorization for entry into Point Hope.
2. Upon entry into Point Hope you must minimize your exposure to the community/self-isolate and wear a cloth face covering or PPE equipment at all times. Self- isolation will be at your own expense so please come with all necessities that may be needed for your stay here in Point Hope. If not please designate one person outside of the household to help you with essential goods that may be needed for your stay. If you cannot find someone to help you obtain essential goods please contact Native Village of Point Hope or City Office of Point Hope and we will designate one person to run around for essential goods for your stay.
3. During funeral procession you may be permitted to attend the services, each authorized funeral traveler will be required to wear a cloth face covering, or PPE equipment at all times. If there is a potlach after the services you may be permitted to attend but you will be required to wear a cloth face covering or PPE equipment at all times until the potlach meal is served, please practice social distancing while eating. These requirements will be adhered to at all times to protect the community members and high risk individuals of the community of Point Hope, Alaska.

4. The Point Hope Native Store, Whaler's Inn Restaurant, Alisah Jewel's store has their own guidelines enacted for their business. please call each entity for guidelines that have been enacted for their business. Point Hope Native Store telephone numbers 907-368-2025, 907-368-2026, Whaler's Inn Restaurant 907-368-3688 and Alisah Jewel's 907-368-2100.
5. After arrival if you are experiencing the following symptoms a new cough, new shortness of breath, new sore throat, new muscle aches or pains, temperature at or above 100.4° or have had close contact without the use of an appropriate PPE, with someone who is currently sick with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 please call the Point Hope Clinic 907-368-2234 and or Maniilaq Health Center hotline: 1-833-442-7015 and notify them that you are experiencing the following symptoms and find out the time you can go to the Point Hope Clinic to be administered the Active COVID test. Upon entry into the Point Hope Clinic you will be asked to fill out the screening log, wear a cloth face mask or PPE equipment at all times and maintain six foot social distancing until you have been brought to the back to get tested.

Guiding Principles as per Center of Disease Control

- The more people interact, the closer in distance the interaction is (less than 6 feet), and the longer the interaction lasts, the higher the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- The higher the level of community transmission in an area, the higher the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Masks reduce the chances of getting and spreading COVID-19, particularly if social distancing cannot be maintained.
- During an in-person gathering, convene in outdoors or in well-ventilated areas, if possible, rather than poorly ventilated, indoor areas to help lower risk of spreading COVID-19. Outdoor gatherings are safer than indoor gatherings.
- Avoid sharing commonly used objects such as religious aids (e.g., religious books, collection plates, programs, etc.,) to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Reducing the number of people who are engaged in activities like singing or chanting as these behaviors can increase the amount of respiratory virus in the air.
- Practice increased hand hygiene, and cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and objects to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Practice social distancing by maintaining at least 6 feet between attendees; facility or lay staff; and clergy or officiants, especially when small, in-person services are held.
- Take extra precautions for those at increased risk for COVID-19, particularly those who are older or have pre-existing conditions, to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.

The risk of COVID-19 spreading at gatherings and services is ranked as follows, from lowest to highest:

Lowest risk: Virtual-only services and gatherings.

Lower risk: Smaller outdoor, in-person services and gatherings in which individuals from different households remain spaced at least 6 feet apart, wear masks, do not share objects, and come from the same local area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).

Higher risk: Medium-sized in-person services and gatherings, either indoors or outdoors, adapted to allow individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart, with some individuals wearing face masks and with some attendees coming from outside the local area. Sharing of items or objects is limited.

Highest risk: Large in-person services and gatherings held indoors and where it is difficult for individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart; many attendees travel from outside the local area. Few individuals wear masks and objects are shared.

In some situations, many people have become sick with COVID-19 after attending a funeral service. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in communities, changes need to be made to the way funerals, visitations, and memorials to the deceased are held. This guidance provides strategies to protect yourself and others when you are grieving the loss of a loved one, supporting each other, making funeral arrangements, and participating in funeral services and visitations. Some examples include:

- Using technology to connect virtually with family and friends during the grieving process.
- Considering modified funeral arrangements, such as limiting attendance at funerals held during shortly after the time of death to a small number of immediate family members and friends; and then holding additional memorial services when social distancing guidelines are less restrictive.
- Practicing social distancing by maintaining at least 6 feet between attendees, facility staff, and clergy or officiants when small, in-person services are held.
- Considering modifications to funeral rites and rituals (for example, avoid touching the deceased person's body or personal belongings or other ceremonial objects) to make sure of everyone's safety.
- Wearing masks while around others and outside of your home.

The more people interact, the closer in distance the interaction is (less than 6 feet), and the longer the interaction lasts, the higher the risk of spreading COVID-19.

- The higher the level of community transmission in an area, the higher the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Masks reduce the chances of getting and spreading COVID-19, particularly if social distancing cannot be maintained.
- During an in-person gathering, convene in outdoors or in well-ventilated areas, if possible, rather than poorly ventilated, indoor areas to help lower risk of spreading COVID-19. Outdoor gatherings are safer than indoor gatherings.
- Avoid sharing commonly used objects such as religious aids (e.g., religious books, collection plates, programs, etc.) to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Reducing the number of people who are engaged in activities like singing or chanting as these behaviors can increase the amount of respiratory virus in the air.
- Practice increased hand hygiene, and cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and objects to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Practice social distancing by maintaining at least 6 feet between attendees; facility or lay staff; and clergy or officiants, especially when small, in-person services are held.
- Take extra precautions for those at increased risk for COVID-19, particularly those who are older or have pre-existing conditions, to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.

In some situations, many people have become sick with COVID-19 after attending a funeral service. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in communities, changes need to be made to the way funerals, visitations, and memorials to the deceased are held. This guidance provides strategies to protect yourself and others when you are grieving the loss of a loved one, supporting each other, making funeral arrangements, and participating in funeral services and visitations. Some examples include:

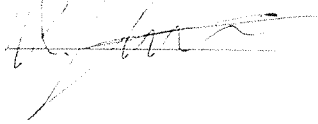
- Using technology to connect virtually with family and friends during the grieving process.
- Considering modified funeral arrangements, such as limiting attendance at funerals held during shortly after the time of death to a small number of immediate family members and friends; and then holding additional memorial services when social distancing guidelines are less restrictive.
- Practicing social distancing by maintaining at least 6 feet between attendees, facility staff, and clergy or officiants when small, in-person services are held.
- Considering modifications to funeral rites and rituals (for example, avoid touching the deceased person's body or personal belongings or other ceremonial objects) to make sure of everyone's safety.
- Wearing masks while around others and outside of your home.

For additional information for the CDC Funeral guidance for Individuals and families you can find it here at the following link: [Funeral Guidance for Individuals and Families, CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/funeral-guidance.html#:~:text=Limit%20the%20attendees%20to%20a%20small%20number%20of,with%20significant%20spread%20of%20COVID-19.%20More%20items...) or direct link: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/funeral-guidance.html#:~:text=Limit%20the%20attendees%20to%20a%20small%20number%20of,with%20significant%20spread%20of%20COVID-19.%20More%20items...

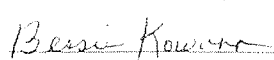
**Effective date Tuesday January 26, 2021
Until rescinded or modified by the Point Hope Trilateral Committee**

Signed on Thursday January 28, 2021

Alfred Oomittuk
President
Native Village of Point Hope



Bessie Kowunna
Acting Mayor
City Office of Point Hope



Ryan Rock
President
Tikigaq Corporation

