



Municipality of Skagway

GATEWAY TO THE KLONDIKE

P.O. BOX 415 SKAGWAY, ALASKA 99840

(PHONE) 907-983-2297 – Fax 907-983-2151

WWW.SKAGWAY.ORG

March 14, 2020

The Municipality of Skagway (MOS) will be limiting access to municipal facilities from Monday, March 16 through March 30th. Public access to the following facilities will be closed to the public until further notice:

- Skagway Museum
- Library
- Recreation Center
- Senior Center
- Visitor Information Center

In addition, the reception window at City Hall will remain closed. Staff will be on site and available via phone and email. The MOS has also implemented a travel ban for government officials and MOS staff traveling out of state for municipal business.

This action is being taken under the direction of the White House, the State of Alaska, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The MOS attended two White House briefings last week, directing state governments and local municipalities to take these actions in an effort to prevent the rapid spread of COVID-19.

The State of Alaska is taking similar measures. On March 13, Governor Dunleavy closed all K-12 schools in Alaska. In a press release sent out to the MOS the same day, Senator Gary Stevens stated, “To protect Alaskans and ensure the people’s business continues in a timely and transparent manner, the Legislature has acted to limit the spread of the virus. After several lengthy discussions, and in accordance with CDC guidelines, we will reduce interpersonal contact in the Capitol to limit exposure to the new coronavirus.”

Please note that similar actions are being taken simultaneously across the country. While we realize that this is an inconvenience for everyone in Skagway at a difficult time, taking decisive action now protects the health of everyone in our community and puts us in a better position to be ready for what will likely be a shorter cruise ship season.

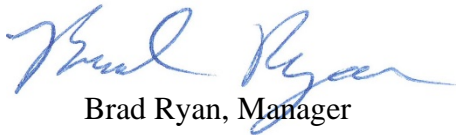
White House officials and the CDC also directed us to “empower local residents” with information that will help prevent the spread of COVID-19. These recommendations include:

- Avoid large gatherings of people
- Practice social distancing (6 feet)
- Wash hands frequently

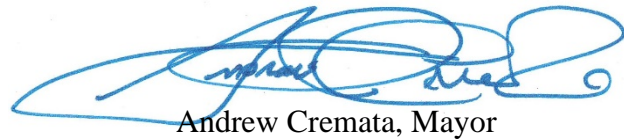
Persons over 60 and those with underlying health conditions should be especially conscious of these health protocols, as they are most at risk. If you are traveling back to Skagway and recently traveled through China, Italy, South Korea, Iran, Japan or other areas of known coronavirus outbreak it is highly recommended you self-isolate for 14 days. If you cannot self-isolate, rooms are available through the MOS for this purpose. Call (907) 983-2255 or after hours at (907) 983-2025 for more information.

We also understand that these actions will impact local year-round small businesses. The MOS is currently exploring multiple options to assist year-round businesses, including a comprehensive stimulus plan.

Let's all join together with our fellow Skagwegians, Alaskans, and Americans in an effort to prevent the spread of this disease and re-establish normalcy sooner than later. Swift action now will not only protect our health, but it may also save our season.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad Ryan".

Brad Ryan, Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Cremata".

Andrew Cremata, Mayor