

By Conference Call

Present	Staff
Mayor Pamela Gross	CAO Marla Limousin
Deputy Mayor Angulalik Pedersen	ACAO Jim MacEachern
Councillor Wilfred Wilcox	Executive Coordinator Genevieve Lafrance
Councillor Candice Pedersen	
Councillor Derek Elias	Members of the Public
Councillor Sandi Gillis	Sgt. Jasber Dhillon
Councillor Susie Kemukton	
Councillor Jenna Kamingoak	
Excused	
Councillor Savanna Moore	

#### 1. Call to Order

Mayor Pamela Gross called the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

# 2. Opening Prayer

Councillor Susie Kemukton said the opening prayer.

# 3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion

To adopt the Agenda of RCM#008 March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 with the addition of item 6c. Business, Women's Shelter.

Moved by: Councillor Jenna Kamingoak Seconded by: Councillor Sandi Gillis

CARRIED#20-01-008

#### 4. Delegation

a. Sergeant Dhillon - RCMP

Sgt. Jasber Dhillon gave the monthly RCMP report of March to Council.

# 5. Declaration of Interest

None.

#### 6. Business

a. RCMP Request for 14 Day Liquor Ban



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# Background.

Cambridge Bay is currently unrestricted for the consumption, possession and transport of liquor in the community. A liquor permit is required for the transport of liquor into Cambridge Bay. The sale and purchase of liquor is prohibited in Cambridge Bay.

#### Permit Issuing and Ordering.

The liquor permits for Cambridge Bay are currently being issued by two agencies, namely, the Hamlet of Kugluktuk and the G.N Department of Finance in Cambridge Bay. There are no limits on the number of permits being issued, nor a limit on the amount of liquor being ordered and imported. As a result, an individual can have multiple permits for unlimited amounts of liquor, within a day or a week.

Upon receipt of payment and the liquor permits, liquor orders are filled by various liquor stores in Y.K and Edmonton on a daily basis

The liquor is then imported by Canadian North into the community. The amount of the imported liquor arriving in the community is dependent on the cargo classification and capacity of Canadian North on any given day.

# Quantity.

With no limitations on liquor or permits, a lot of liquor arrives on a continual basis in Cambridge Bay through air cargo. To date, the average number of liquor orders arriving in the community ranges from 25 to 60 orders per week. The liquor imported is typically Vodka, either a 40 oz & 60 oz.

One liquor permit, on average, has 16 to 35 litres of liquor, which is approx. 6-12 bottles of liquor per order.

The average total volume of liquor arriving in the community per week ranges from 400-2100 litres, which is approximately 96-420 bottles of liquor.

#### Public Safety and Protection in Cambridge Bay

residences. to of the calls for police assistance are The underlying contributing factor in calls assistance/ help has for police been alcohol. This has been a direct negative contributing factor at each call for help. The usual practice, to stop the continuation of offences on these calls for police assistance and maximize public safety, is the arrest and incarceration of the intoxicated individuals causing trouble. These are temporary measures and do not resolve the underlying factors.



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# **Evolving Public Health Emergency**

This week, the Nunavut Government declared a public health emergency. Measures taken to address the current and rapidly evolving COVID-19 concern in Nunavut include reducing the spread of infection by protecting one another through social distancing; staying at home as much as possible and washing hands often.

# Potential Public Safety & Protection concerns by Cambridge Bay RCMP, in light of the COVID-19 Concerns.

Most residences in Cambridge Bay are occupied by numerous occupants. These occupants range from babies to children, youth, adults and seniors. Most residences are generally unlocked and not secure, and if alcohol is stored in a unit it could be a target for theft and thus easily accessible to anyone. With the current Nunavut Emergency Measures in place, with workplaces closing and the growing need for self isolation and social distancing, the daily number of people in each residence at any given time will increase significantly. As stated, 95 % of calls for police assistance or help are to residences, and alcohol is the underlying factor. These residences are occupied by many individuals of various age groups.

#### Recommended Immediate measures.

As the Detachment Commander of Cambridge Bay RCMP, I am aware that in times of normal operations, any escalation of calls for service is a cause for concern, with the current Cambridge Bay unrestricted liquor provision. An unlimited amount of liquor can been ordered, imported and consumed. The effects of the unrestricted alcohol is directly correlated to the calls for police assistance and help. However, this concern will be significantly magnified, in light of the public health measures and the emergency closure order for the courts. The spread of COVID-19 in Cambridge Bay will also significantly affect the safety of my employees and those in our custody.

As such, I am seeking council to consider a Special Prohibition Resolution that can immediately assist towards the progression for public safety.

#### 1. Special Prohibition resolution.

Under Section 51.01 of the Liquor Act, the municipality can declare a special prohibition related to a special occasion, with a maximum length of 14 days per prohibition. These can be done up to three times a year. It requires a resolution of the hamlet council; once the resolution has been passed, both the minister responsible and the public need to be notified.



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#### Special prohibition resolution.

Section 51.01. (1)Where

- (a)a special occasion is to occur in a settlement or municipality, and
- (b) the council of the settlement or municipality wishes to have the consumption, possession, purchase, sale or transport of liquor prohibited in the settlement or municipality during the special occasion, the council of the settlement or municipality may, by resolution,
- (c) declare the settlement or municipality a prohibited area during the special occasion for a period of not more than 14 days, and
- (d) prohibit the consumption, possession, purchase, sale or transport of liquor in the prohibited area during the period referred to in paragraph (c).

#### Maximum resolutions.

(2) A council may make not more than three resolutions under subsection (1) in a year.

#### Notice of resolution.

- (3) On making a resolution under subsection (1), the council shall give notice of the resolution:
- (a) to the Minister in writing; and
- (b) to the public in a way that is appropriate in the circumstances.

# Offence and punishment.

(4) Every person who contravenes a resolution made under subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than \$500 and not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 30 days or to both.

Councillor Derek Elias: "We should be putting a stop to the bootleggers in town. My main concern is the COVID-19 pandemic happening. Right now is an opportune time to slow the spread and send a message saying that we are going to do a temporary liquor ban and to promote social distancing. We need to do this for the kids and the elders, to make sure that we are protecting and being proactive in our community and for our residents. That is the number one priority."

Councillor Candice Pedersen: "I completely understand where Jas is coming from for the safety of our community and the people practicing social distancing, but one thing that I was concerned about is the increase of alcohol coming in at the end of the twoweek ban."



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Sgt. Jasber Dhillon: "All the permits are going to be issued until the day the Nunavut Liquor Council puts as this day on the orders in effect. All of the liquor orders would be put on hold for 14 days until after the ban. We have to be sure that the airlines are not bringing in that liquor coming in from the previous orders. Does that answer your question?"

Councillor Candice Pedersen: "A little bit, I am just worried about the binge drinking that would happen after the 14-day liquor ban."

**Sgt. Jasber Dhillon:** "The binge drinking is happening now; it is no different. There would just be a pause on it and then after they can still order it."

Councillor Wilfred Wilcox: "I feel for all of the officers. I don't want the nurses and officers to deal with messes, especially with this thing going on. But I also have this thing on the back of my mind that there was a plebiscite and the plebiscite said no to this kind of stuff. I would like to do the two weeks and just the two weeks."

Councillor Jenna Kamingoak: "My only biggest fear is regarding the people who are going to be looking for bootleggers. The bootleggers are going to find ways and overcharge people that want to drink. What are the kids going to eat? They just got their child-tax and social assistance."

**Deputy Mayor Angulalik Pedersen:** "It's a hard decision, it is only 14 days. Everyone is bringing in valid points. There is so much positive coming from this but then there is the negative such as the bootlegging."

Councillor Susie Kemukton: "I agree with Derek. The RCMP should point out to those who know that bootleg in the community."

Councillor Sandi Gillis: "I am not for prohibition whatsoever; I am not one for people taking my rights away. However, this is unusual circumstances and hopefully a once in a lifetime thing. I do think that we need to protect the kids and the elders. But on the other hand, I do agree with Jenna about the bootlegging issue. I don't know if there is a win-win solution here but like Wilf, I don't want it to go past two weeks and hopefully it will tone things down a bit. I would like to see more discussions after this is over to try and come up with solutions. I know that we said years ago that why isn't the liquor licensing like your drivers license where we take the liquor licensing privileges away



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from those that do cause problems and treat it like a drivers license where you get it at the age of 19 and get it taken away if you don't respect it than it gets taken away. There's got to be solutions to what we are going through. Because this is such unusual circumstance right now, I think that we do need the two weeks just so that everyone is thinking clearly."

Mayor Pamela Gross: "Thanks everyone for those words everyone. This is a unique time that we are going through. After seeing updates and watching the news of COVID-19 is very terrifying because our community is not as equipped as the southern hospitals. We don't have a daily sched flight. I understand where this alcohol ban for fourteen days is coming from. I hope that we make a sound decision. I really hope that we do not get COVID-19 up here. I believe that with the way that things are unfolding that we may be able to control it if it ever does come up here with the new volunteer committee."

#### Motion

The Municipal Council of Cambridge Bay declares a temporary 14-day alcohol importation ban effective midnight March 31<sup>st</sup>

Moved by: Councillor Derek Elias

Seconded by: Councillor Susie Kemukton

Voting for the 14-day liquor ban Candice Pedersen: Approve Wilfred Wilcox: Approve Jenna Kamingoak: No

Angulalik Pedersen: Approve

Sandi Gillis: Approve
Derek Elias: Approve
Susie Kemukton: Approve

#### b. COVID-19 - Working Group Update

Mayor Pamela Gross presented the COVID-19 awareness group meeting update that was held on March 23, 2020 at 12:00pm. The group discussed the travel ban into Nunavut, the mandatory quarantining that travellers will need to do prior to returning home, the Taxi issues that are arising and emphasized the importance on social distancing.



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#### c. Women's Shelter

Mayor Pamela Gross discussed the issue with funding with the Women's Shelter and the ongoing conversations with the funding department. Mayor Gross suggested having the Government of Nunavut operate the Women's Shelter for the year.

After a Council discussion on this issue, it was recommended that we go back to the Department one more time to request adequate funding to operate the facility.

#### Motion

To ask the Government of Nunavut for funding to increase the amount from \$340,000 to \$420,000 for the fiscal year.

Moved by: Councillor Wilfred Wilcox Seconded by: Councillor Jenna Kamingoak

CARRIED#20-008-03

#### 7. Around the Table

Councillor Candice Pedersen: "I noticed that there were a bunch of vehicles at the Helen Maksagak Building and at the Community Hall. From my understanding, wasn't the GN closed to non-essential services?"

Councillor Jenna Kamingoak: "Almost ¾ of the GN staff are considered essential services so most of us are still at work."

Mayor Pamela Gross: "It was cleaning day at the Community Hall today."

**Councillor Wilfred Wilcox:** "Stay safe everybody. Hopefully this thing comes to a better conclusion."

Councillor Derek Elias: "Stay safe. Practice vigilance and common sense."



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**Deputy Mayor Angulalik Pedersen:** "Thanks to Marla, Pam, Gen and Jim for being accommodating through all of this and setting up this phone line. Good conversations today and we will continue chatting."

Councillor Susie Kemukton: "Be safe, I will be keeping prayers. This is a scary situation but keep your distance and thank you for such a good meeting."

Councillor Sandi Gillis: "Marla, I am just wondering what was happening with the vehicle that is parked on the side of the road on Nattiq Street. Have they approached them, is he not listening, has there not been a solution for that? The other thing that I am wondering is, I wonder if it is possible to recommend to the stores to have age groups to shop through out the day or to set up a schedule?"

CAO Marla Limousin: "I don't know what the issue is with the vehicle on Nattiq street, I keep getting our guys to tell him so the solution might be to issue a fine now. I know that our Bylaw Officer has been after it. I will find out in the morning and respond.

With the respect to the stores, Jim and I went to the Co-op and the Northern stores today to ask what their protocols are and to ask how they are making decisions on their protocols. In terms of the restrictions, the coop is going to implement the first hour of operations restricted to elders only and are considering implementing having 20 maximum shoppers at a time. They are going to be taping the floor marking to indicate the distance between the customer and check out. What they have done so far is they have signs and posters to keep distance. Before the store opens, they have all of the baskets, shopping carts, handles and stations are cleaned and disinfected, they remind their staff to wash their hands at least once per hour, no customers access to public washrooms. With the Northern, they continue to up it each day. They have a meeting with their head office every morning and they inform their staff. I asked them if they were going to be looking at the hours of the elders to shop and they are not sure yet. We asked what their protocols are and they are looking at potentially doing what the Post Office is doing which is cutting back on the hours that they are actually open which is reducing it by two hours per day. Again, they are sanitizing their stations at



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check out and informing their staff on cleanliness. We can talk to them again about restricting 20 customers at a time but Doug said that it would be difficult as it is right now because they are understaffed. He doesn't have enough staff at the moment to get all of the shelves stocked up, so he doesn't know how he would administer how many people are coming in or how to divide the age groups up."

ACAO Jim MacEachern: "Stay safe."

Mayor Pamela Gross: "Thank you to everyone that is here and listening and being active in our community, to our essential services, to the store workers that are working to keep the community going. It's really nice that we can all band together and that we have a group of volunteers in the community which is really nice. Stay safe and healthy and call the Health Centre if you are not feeling well. Take care, I will talk to you all soon."

8. Adjournment

Motion

To Adjourn at 7:27pm

Moved by: Councillor Susie Kemukton

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Angulalik Pedersen

CARRIED#20-008-04

CAO Marla Limousin

CAO Marla Limousin

Date: April 27, 2020

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