



## ▶ Response to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**Anchorage, Alaska, March 16, 2020** - In response to the spread of **novel coronavirus (COVID-19)** Pacific Alaska Wholesale has undertaken a series of key actions to ensure the health and safety of our employees, customers and communities and to ensure continuity of the essential services we provide on a daily basis.

As part of this action, we are monitoring the spread of the coronavirus and consulting with governmental authorities and health organizations on a frequent basis to ensure that our response is coordinated with local directives and priorities.

### Our Store Environment

Pacific Alaska Wholesale is committed to being a safe and reliable source of essential products and services throughout this period. Store cleanliness and sanitation standards are being elevated and include an increased frequency of sanitizing all check-outs and shopping carts. Other surfaces are being cleaned several times during the day with extensive wipe downs during closed hours. All stores are following recommendations from health authorities to help provide a safe working and shopping experience to the best of our ability.

### Product Supply

Over the past several weeks Pacific Alaska Wholesale has increased orders of essential food and other grocery products to ensure we have adequate supply for our customers. Going forward, we expect to continue to be able to meet the everyday shopping needs of our customers by working closely with our suppliers, transportation partners and government officials to prepare for possible disruptions. To assure customers further, prices will be frozen for 30 days unless they relate to increases beyond our control.

### Travel and Other Workplaces

We have stopped all non-essential travel to and from the communities we serve and any approved travel is subject to health prescreening. Where our employees have traveled to high risk areas, we are following the recommended health practices. Our offices are set up to accommodate our staff in compliance with CDC and WHO practices while other accommodations are made for employees that require special circumstances. We have urged employees, vendors and business partners to utilize safe hygiene to reduce risk during this time and to meet via video and teleconference rather than traveling for face-to-face meetings or attending large events to avoid potential exposure to the virus.

### Contingency Planning

All business teams have been developing plans for alternative operations, should they become necessary, as part of the company's business continuity plans.

For further information please contact:

Dan McConnell  
President, International Retail  
[dmccConnell@northwest.ca](mailto:dmccConnell@northwest.ca)  
561-226-1364

*Protecting your Safety, Serving our Communities*