



## ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

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### PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

#### STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

Island County, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020:

Island County Public Health was notified of a positive test result for novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in an Island County resident. The individual is a man in his fifties. He is currently in care at a location outside of Island County. Island County Public Health is working with local response partners to identify and contact all those who may have come in close contact with this case. These individuals will be guided to monitor themselves for fever and respiratory symptoms for 14 days following their last exposure.

This is the first known case of novel coronavirus in Island County.

Health care providers, medical examiners/coroners, local health departments or others may publicly announce cases before they are included in the statewide count.

Island County will continue tracing close contacts of new cases as part of their case investigation process.

At this time Public Health encourages practicing social distancing as a means to reduce the risk of exposure. Stay at least 6 feet away from each other, especially if someone may be sick. Coughs and sneezes can travel this distance, and their droplets may contain a virus. This may include rescheduling events or limiting the number or participants.

More details on the latest coronavirus cases in Washington State can be found at [www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus](http://www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus)

For more information about the coronavirus response in Island County can be found [www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx)