

Marius Miklea

From: Philip Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:57 PM
To: corporate
Subject: covid survivor (updated with phone number)

Dear Mayor and Council ,

I, Philip Johnson Resident at 8220 Rainbow Drive Whistler BC , V8E 0G1 ,phone number [REDACTED] am writing the council due to the inaction from our municipality to take the appropriate steps to protect the working class people of this town who are the lifeblood and make the wheels turn . My recent Covid sickness has left me not only traumatized but worried about the lack of protection it is giving it's hard working citizens . In this letter I am going to present the words the government has not acted on , my experience with COVID-19 , the actions I have taken to be safe and a solution backed by science that needs to be pushed for in our town as its tool that even the world health organization has declared as a necessary along with the vaccine.

My recent experience with COVID-19 started along with everyone else in whistler but I am different as I've indulged in epidemiology to know what to expect from the pandemic to keep myself safe . I took the precautions I could . I stayed home , I kept my bubble tight to my household and my girlfriend . I made sacrifices not to travel as non-essential travel in BC is prohibited . Unfortunately I still got covid and the symptoms were bad . It's clear to me that even after all the sacrifices I made other people aren't willing to make them as well . Our Prime minister says we are all in this together but it's clear that's not the case . This also reflects on the BC government , local businesses , Tourism whistler and the municipality because if we were all in this together then they would be willing to make the sacrifices like I have . People who own these businesses and Government workers can afford to isolate in their homes. This leaves Whistler residents piled on top of each other to infect each other in close quarters so there is no reason for them to concern for us cause it only affects their bank account but at least they will keep their long term health . Fortunately you can always make more money in those position , but for whistler residents they are already low on money and now you are taking their health which is irreplaceable .

My symptoms included , loss of taste and smell , loss of hunger response (my body doesn't tell me to eat) , massive migraine non-stop for four days , no sleep for four days and the anxiety of the long term affects of future symptoms I could experience . Not only was I infected but so was my girlfriend and my roommate. Our whole household was affected as I live in a house with 5 others one of them who just had a new born child and was in contact with me prior to symptoms . People had to miss weeks of work and co workers had to miss work as well that I came in contact with . Some of them didn't get COVID-19 so it is possible they go back out into the workforce after quarantine and get infected and do it all over again . This is unacceptable considering we have solutions to prevent this all from happening and we can keep our community open to stimulate the economy.

I have taken actions beyond just being a good citizen who stayed home not to infect others so we can get through this together . I have messaged every MP and MLA in BC to push for a solution that could keep the people of whistler safe and community running . A solution even our own Prime minister back in April 2020 said he would implement which is mass rapid testing . I participate in a petition with Sandy White . Sandy was a political advisor to the Harper administration and contacted me for my letters that I sent to the MP and MLAs for his petition. His petition is to bring Mass rapid testing to the forefront of this pandemic . Sandy was trying to bring a Pilot Program to whistler to help protect us against exactly what is happening here now . He interacted with Jack Crompton but The government denied the pilot program and much like the 95% of the MP and MLAs I messaged I heard nothing come from it .

The Benefits of rapid testing and utilization is pretty simple to understand .This is scientifically proven and can easily be deployed with todays technology to keep us ahead of this pandemic. **Michael Mina**, MD, PhD, is an assistant professor of **epidemiology** at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and with many other doctors have made a strong case for mass rapid antigen testing . These test are cheap (7-10\$) and they have machines that can produce 1 lateral flow strip per second . We can easily have access to hundreds of million of these test . These test can range in accuracy but 85% is an accuracy from a company here in Canada. These aren't diagnostics tools they are screening tools . Asymptomatic spread plays a big role in the spread of covid-19 and we need to stop the virus as soon as someone gets infected . The PCR test takes too long and as in my case it didn't catch my positive infection until days after I knew to isolate. People could go to pop up tents where a layperson would administer the test and you would have results in 15 minutes . You would take a test every 2 to three days. The test can have a QR code on them which is connected to an app and this technology already exist . The app would confirm if you are positive or negative and alert those you came in contact with if you test positive. Those people that get alerts could visit the pop up site and get a test and know in 15 minutes . Those who continually test negative will have confirmation of this in their app. They could use this as their immunity passport . This is a great way to keep the economy open while it reduces hospitalizations .The PCR test is flawed in one way that it detects dead virus meaning even after you've recovered from COVID and aren't infectious you can still test positive . This causes people to be pulled out of work to quarantine even when they aren't infectious and spreading the virus. This is hurting the economy .

At this point I am scared to return to work , I am scared to see my girlfriend , I am scared to see my friends , I am scared to move around my house and also scared to be a normally functioning person in society . As someone who was fully healthy before I got covid and now fear getting it again .My symptoms were so bad that I don't know what will happen to me next time I get covid . We don't know the long term impacts of Covid -19 and we will only find out as time passes .

Letting people from Ontario and Quebec into whistler while the New UK variant just landed there could cause bigger problems for us since there has been research to show that it might be 70% more contagious and 30% more deadlier . The federal government and provincial government did nothing to stop this and could be the reason why I got sick . The hotels and property management owners know there is a non-essential travel ban and are turning a blind eye to visitor not only from out of town but out of province . How is this acceptable ? Once again we are not all in this together.