



## OKANAGAN NATION ALLIANCE

#101 – 3535 Old Okanagan Hwy, Westbank, BC V4T 3L7  
Phone: (250) 707-0095 Fax (250) 707-0166 [www.syilx.org](http://www.syilx.org)

January 29, 2026

ATTN: Syilx Okanagan Nation members

### **RE: US TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR SYILX OKANAGAN NATION MEMBERS**

With great concern, we, the Syilx Okanagan Chiefs, are observing the political situation in the United States growing increasingly uncertain and unsafe. Members of our communities are expressing their concerns related to US travel, including to Washington State.

We strongly condemn the violence of the US Administration, and its enforcement of immigration policies which are affecting our communities and relations throughout Turtle Island. The exercise of our inherent rights should not come at the expense of our safety and wellbeing. When the safety of Indigenous peoples is compromised, Indigenous sovereignty is compromised.

We strongly advise the following to our Members travelling to the United States:

1. Exercise extreme caution
2. Carry proper identification including Status Card and a valid Passport.
3. Check all relevant government travel advisories and information, which may change from time to time.

Although the Jay Treaty reaffirms our right to travel freely to and from the United States, we expect that not every federal law enforcement officer and ICE agent will be familiar with our rights to cross the border freely. The US administration's unpredictable arrest and detention practices may impact how quickly and effectively you may receive assistance.

Please exercise extreme caution if travelling to the United States.

#### **Contact information for emergency Canadian Consulate services in the US:**

SOS@international.gc.ca

1-888-949-9993

<https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-assistance/emergency-contact-form>

