



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Residents
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: June 24, 2020
Re: Reports of Local COVID-19 Cases

1. At approximately 8:30 AM on Tuesday, 23 June, this office received a report concerning the possibility of local cases of COVID-19. By approximately 10:30 AM, Castine's Public Health Officer, Ingrid Scott, had filed reports with all appropriate State of Maine agencies. Concurrently, the Town Office made the businesses who were most likely to have been impacted by this information aware of this unconfirmed report, so that they could heighten their vigilance. Verifiable details regarding the veracity of this report have been exceedingly scarce and we will take no action nor make future plans based upon rumor. However, the citizens of Castine can be assured that Castine's Public Health Officer is working with State of Maine agencies to coordinate contact tracing in order to ascertain what impact, if any, this event could have on Castine and other surrounding towns.

2. Though still not verified, it appears likely that the local area recently hosted visitors who are COVID-19 positive and that some Castine residents may have come into contact with them. However, it would be foolhardy to believe that this event was the first time that this virus has been in our community and perhaps even more foolhardy to think that this will be the last time that it will happen. Using this thought as a guide, I ask the community to stay calm and re-commit to safeguarding yourself and taking care of each other.

3. Residents of Castine are asked to use the report of this event as a wakeup call to remain vigilant and continue to do all that you can to locally combat the spread of COVID-19.

1) If you are feeling sick or possibly symptomatic for COVID-19, stay home and limit all contact with others.

2) Practice social distancing and keep 6 feet of space between yourselves and others.

3) Wash your hands and routinely disinfect high use surfaces.

4) Wear a mask when indoors or in a situation where social distancing is not practicable.