March 30, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

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CBHSSJB · CCSSSBJ

Cree School Board
Commission scolaire crie

Whapmagoostui
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Chisasibi
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Wemindji
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Eastmain
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Waskaganish
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Nemaska
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Waswanipi
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Ouje-Bougoumou
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Mistissini
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Washaw Sibi
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MoCreebec
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Communications

There are now two cases in Eeyou Istchee and two Cree patients in Montreal.

The new case in Eeyou Istchee was a traveling companion of the case from Nemaska that tested positive last week. Both individuals had respected the protocols of self-isolation when they returned from their trip abroad and tested positive while in self-isolation. Both continue to be isolated and monitored.

The 19 people that had previously been under investigation have tested negative. A total of 53 tests have been administered. Therefore, 32 people are awaiting test results. The Cree Health Board is being proactive in who is tested and when someone is tested they are under strict home self-isolation to further protect the rest of the community.

Finally, there is a second case in Montreal linked with the case that had been identified from the Espresso Hotel.

The Cree Health Board is setting up the local task groups, communication procedures and screening for essential staff coming to the North to ensure that communities are not put at unnecessary risk.

Cree School Board

The Cree School Board will maintain goose break for all schools. They are also in the process of putting in place special support for graduating classes.

Eeyou Eenou Police Force

Police are managing checkpoints where all vehicles are being stopped, the only traffic being allowed is:

- essential services,
- food and fuel distribution,
- humanitarian reasons (wanting to be with family),
- registered volunteers,
- traveling for medical purposes.

The officers are allowed to use their discretion in the management and application of these restrictions. Accommodations have been made to allow people to access their hunting camps.

Every detachment has made extra efforts to proactively inform community members of the prohibition on House parties. Now that the communication has been done, Police will be moving to strict enforcement and there will be serious consequences in the coming weeks for those that do not respect the prohibition on parties.

Guidelines for Goose Break

Special Guidelines for Goose Break are being finalized to make sure community members take appropriate precautions during these difficult times. Goose break is a healthy activity greatly needed in these times, but we will need to be especially careful how we prepare, travel and manage access to our camps.

The Niskamoon Corporation like other regional entities will be working to facilitate land user access to the territory to help people get to their camps for goose break.