



April 17, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

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Public Statement

Cree leadership will be monitoring how southern jurisdictions manage the resumption of economic activities and development of measures and restrictions that are appropriate for Eeyou Istchee.

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Eeyou Istchee continues to have only have 5 confirmed cases with 1 of them being declared recovered (first case from Nemaska), and 1 in Montreal whom has also been declared recovered. All remaining cases are well on their way to recovery.

Eeyou Istchee continues to have the least cases in all of Quebec which is a testament to the good contact tracing teams, cooperation of community members and health care system. The assistance of leadership in promoting physical distancing and self-isolation has been key to keeping the numbers in Eeyou Istchee low.

- 195 tests have been administered.
- 165 tests returned negative.
- 25 awaiting results.

The waiting period for tests remains between 48-36 hours which is very good.

Eeyou Istchee remains vulnerable to COVID-19 and it is important that the precautionary measures and physical distancing be maintained.

The Health Board continues to be prepared to manage COVID-19 cases in Eeyou Istchee and has put measures in place should there be an emergency medical need during the coming goose break.

Cree School Board

All staff have been discouraged from traveling outside of Eeyou Istchee during Goose Break. For those who choose to engage in non-essential travel in the south, there is no guarantee that they will be able to re-enter Eeyou Istchee. If they are permitted to return, they will be subject to the mandatory 14 days of self-isolation.

All students are encouraged to access the Online Learning Platform on the CSB website to assist them in continuing education activities. They can reach out to their principals and teachers for any support.

With the assistance of the CNG and CBHSSJB, post-secondary students who wish to travel home will be supplied with an official letter allowing them to pass through the Sûreté du Québec COVID-19 Access Points. Additionally, students are also required to self-isolate for 14 days upon their arrival. Should they need a place to self-isolate, they are asked to contact their local Cree Health Board medical center for assistance. Further information regarding travel will be sent to all post-secondary students.

Eeyou Eenou Police Force

The EEPF continues to coordinate communications with the SQ. They also continue to work with local authorities to manage access points and the enforcement of COVID-19 precautionary measures.

The EEPF is also implementing health and hygiene standards for police installations and equipment to ensure that the officers and community members are safe when using police equipment or entering EEPF facilities.

Reliable Sources

People are advised to continue exercising caution on where they get their information in relation to COVID-19 and to keep in mind that the reliable sources of information remain:

- <https://eeyouistcheecovid19.org/>
- www.cngov.ca/covid-19/
- www.creehealth.org
- www.eeyoueducation.ca
- <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/>
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.htm>

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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