April 3, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

ᓴᑊᓴ·ᐋᔅᐱᓄ·ᐃᓐ ᐁ ᐋᓇ ᒥᔅᑐᓈᓂ·ᐃᒡ

Cree School Board
Commission scolaire crie

Whapmagoostui
ᐋᐱᒪᑯᐤᑐᐃ

Chisasibi
ᒥᓴᓯᐃ

Wemindji
ᐃᒥᓐᒋ

Eastmain
ᐃᔅᒣᓐ

Waskaganish
ᐋᔅᑲᑊᐃᑲᓂᐤ

Nemaska
ᓄᒥᔅᑲᐧ

Waswanipi
ᐋᔅᐋᓂᐧᐃ

Ouje-Bougoumou
ᐅᒣᐳᑯᒧ

Mistissini
ᒥᔅᑎᓯᓂ

Washaw Sibi
ᐋᓱᐅ ᓱᐃ

MoCreebec
ᒧᑲᓇᐯᐧ

Public Statement

There is a serious issue of the youth not taking the social distancing measures seriously enough because they represent the age group that is contracting and spreading the virus the most at this time. It is imperative that parents do not leave youth in the community unsupervised during goose break.

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

The Cree Board of Health confirms that the situation in Eeyou Istchee remains unchanged and stable with only 3 individuals confirmed positive who remain in strict self-isolation.

- 90 tests have been carried out
- 63 tests have returned negative
- 24 awaiting for results, these individuals are required to self-isolate while the await results.

Turnaround is greatly improved with results being delivered in less than 48 hours. Also, the governments have been prioritizing isolated communities and First Nations communities in getting tests processed. Public health teams continue working hard on local guidelines on managing confirmed cases and managing tracing and investigations.

One of the challenges has been managing complaints of people ot respecting isolation orders. The issue is being managed with local emergency committees, Eeyou Eenou Police Officers and Public Safety Officers. An escalating approach on enforcement is being adopted.

Cree School Board

The Cree School Board has been working hard to ensure that the necessary support is there for all students on a case by case basis, especially in regard to graduation and promotion.

The Board have developed online trilingual platforms giving access to supplementary learning activities curated and created specifically for students in Eeyou Istchee, including for graduating level students to meet their educational needs while they are unable to go to school.

Management of Access Territory

The Government of Quebec check points are in place and will remain in place while the Eenou Eeyou Police Force formalizes communications with the SQ to make sure that communications are properly managed. The EEPF are also working very closely with the Health Board on procedures, public messaging and the appropriate interventions for enforcement. Greater coordination is being implemented between head quarter and lieutenants, and local emergency committees to ensure quick local responses.

Even though COVID-19 is a major issue and challenge the public should be aware the EEPF continue to enforce the law, recently making a major drug seizure and related arrests in Eeyou Istchee.

It should be noted that media reports about the deployment of military forces to northern communities does not apply in Eeyou Istchee.

Finally, community members are asked to follow the appropriate guidelines and precautions when preparing and leaving for goose break.