

Cree School Board  
Commission scolaire crie

## Public Statement

### Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

The Government of Quebec has released projections for how COVID-19 will affect the province. The projections have been adapted for application in Eeyou Istchee and the projections are:

- 17 to 400 cases;
- 9-50 hospitalizations
- 2-12 deaths

It is very important to understand that these are only projections and the most important message is that if we continue to apply the social distancing and precautionary measures the Cree Health Board and the Quebec health care system will be able to handle the case load required and there is no need to experience the health care disasters we see in other jurisdictions.

The Quebec government is expecting a peak on April 18th, 2020 and the peak in Eeyou Istchee can be expected to arrive 2 weeks after. If people continue to apply social distancing the peak in Eeyou Istchee is expected to be much lower as travel restrictions and precautionary measures were implemented much earlier than in the South.

The Cree Board of Health confirms that there remain six (6) Cree individuals who have tested positive:

- One (1) identified in Montreal
- Three (3) identified in Chisasibi: two remain in mandatory isolation and one has been transferred to Montreal for more acute care
- Two (2) in Nemaska: both remain in mandatory isolation

Tracing and testing continue to be carried out and completed by the Health Board and the individuals who do get tested are under mandatory self-isolation.

- 137 tests have been carried out
- 113 tests have returned negative
- 19 awaiting for results, these individuals are required to self-isolate while they await results. Turnaround on tests remains efficient at 36 hours.

Cree leadership confirmed that the travel advisory has been changed and that when people come from the South or from outside Eeyou Istchee it is strongly recommended that they self-isolated for 14 days when they arrive in Eeyou Istchee or prior to arriving in Eeyou Istchee. It needs to be understood that at this time this recommendation is an important measure that could save lives. This measure along with the social distancing measures that need to be respected by everyone will help ensure that the impact on the Cree Nation remains minimal.

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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

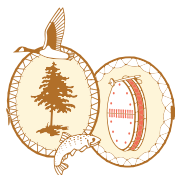
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Washaw Sibi

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MoCreebec

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April 8, 2020

# Public Update on COVID-19

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## Cree School Board

The Goose Break for all communities will be from May 4 to 15.

All Post-Secondary students returning to Eeyou Istchee from the south have been asked to give notice to their respective communities and follow all travel advisories. The students also have the opportunity to continue their studies online through the spring and summer terms with their institutions.

The Cree School Board Online Learning Platforms are now available for elementary and high school students. Additionally, there are a large number of teachers and professionals volunteering to mentor the students, giving them the extra support that they may need. Their response and the role that they are playing during this time has been very positive.

All secondary IV and V students' files have been individually reviewed and measures for their promotion or graduation have been put into place. The Cree School Board is now in the process of assessing the promotion of students through grade 1 to secondary 3.

The Breakfast Club continues to be offered in certain communities with food distributed to families in need.

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/](http://www.cngov.ca/covid-19/)
- [www.creehealth.org](http://www.creehealth.org)
- <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.html>



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