

June 18, 2020 **Public Update on COVID-19** ۲۰۹۰ κ.Δ^۰ Δ^۰ Δ^۰ Δ^۰ Δ^۰





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Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Locally the CMC and local Hospitals are working to provide the maximum amount of service during these times. Most services are being managed through calls, I.e. telehealth and appointments. Just because people do not see a large amount of traffic to and from the clinic they should be reassured that considerable services are still being delivered.

Quebec is still seeing a steady decline in cases with 58 of the 99 cases being identified from Montreal.

Region 02 (Saguenay-Lac St-Jean) has seen one case a day for the last two days.

Region 08 (Abitibi) has become problematic with 2 cases which were announced yesterday, however there is clearly community transmission and the Health authorities are working to contain and identify the source and direction of the cases, which they have not been able to do at this time.

Therefore, there is currently uncertainty where and how COVID-19 is spreading in Abitibi (Region 08) obligating the Cree leadership to declare this area as an Area of Risk. If we could say that the cases were contained, even if it was a greater number of cases, we would not necessarily be concerned. But, it is the fact that there are unidentifiable transmissions which is the cause of concern. This is why the region has been declared an Area of Risk.

The Cree Health Board would like to inform those that have been to Abitibi since last Monday, June 15th, 2020 that they may contact the Cree Health Board to be part of asymptomatic testing, and the Cree Health Board will do their best to have a screening test administered. Please contact the Cree Health Board's COVID Help-line for information on how to begin the screening process in your community: 1-866-855-2811

With 10 cases recovered, regular testing for COVID-19 in Eeyou Istchee is currently at:

- 509 regular tests have been administered
- 490 returned negative
- 9 waiting for results

The Cree Health Board is doing more screening tests focusing on Health Workers, patients returning home and other high-risk groups such as elder's home workers. The current Screening results are:

- 381 screening tests
- 35 awaiting results
- 346 returned negative

With regards to travel, the Cree Health Board would like to remind people that it is considered safe to travel for non-essential reasons within Eeyou Istchee, between communities and within Region 10. Self-Isolation is not required with travelling within Eeyou Istchee Region, with the exception of specific work sites.



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Therefore, for now, the Areas Representing a Risk are:

- Anywhere outside Eeyou Istchee, Nunavik and Region 10
- Any mine site
- Any forestry camp



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Any Hydro-Quebec site

Travelling to these areas will require self-isolation.

It is extremely important to practice physical distancing and precautionary measures. Everyone must do what they can to protect fellow community members. Please also note that your community may have a more narrowly defined area where it is considered safe to travel and it is very important to remain informed of your local self-isolation requirements.

If you feel like you may need someone to talk to during these challenging times, please contact the Cree Health Board's Psychosocial Health Line: 1-833-632-4357

Cree School Board

The Cree School Board has extended allowances for post-secondary students for the month of July. Meantime, all applications for the fall have been reviewed.

Secondary 4 and 5 students can expect to receive their official results by early July. The Cree School Board is currently evaluating its Online Learning Platform in preparation for improvement as part of future services.

As well, the Cree School Board, with support from the Cree Nation Government, has completed budgetary negotiations. Increased funding will provide muchneeded resources to assist in improving and adapting services to students in these uncertain times.

Eeyou Eenou Police Force

Intervention plan to fit the deconfinement process on Monday. The officers are being briefed on the plan. The Corps is at full force, one civilian is being tested as a precautionary measure. Officers are taking leave and resting following a strict protocol.

INSPQ are being enforced to ensure procedures and facilities are maintained to prevent COVID-19. It is part of regular internal discussions.

The EEPF has carried out 43 non-COVID related interventions, 13 of which for Highway Safety Code infractions. Although in a pandemic, the EEPF continues to serve and protect the communities with emergencies and assistance required by members.