



June 2, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

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Public Statement

As heartwarming as it is to see photos of Goose Break activities, it remains important to practice physical distancing and wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible.

We continue to monitor the post-Goose Break situation as well as the neighboring regions as they gradually begin their deconfinement.

Thank you to JBCCS for daily sharing of key messages on COVID-19 to community members.

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Eeyou Istchee remains stable at 10 cases from the beginning of the pandemic and more importantly we now have 0 active cases. It has been exactly 1 month since the last confirmed case in Eeyou Istchee.

The evolution of COVID-19 in Quebec look good generally as there is the beginning of a downward trend which must be maintained for 14 days before the trend can be relied upon. Since the last report there has been 1 new case in Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean and 1 new case in Abitibi. These are good signs that these two regions are going down to having only sporadic cases. An in-depth analysis is being carried out at the end of the week where the “Risk” status of these regions will be reviewed.

A “Risk Assessment Committee” is being established to assist local Governments, Entities, Organizations and businesses in determining which activities and how they can safely proceed given the deconfinement plan. If anyone has questions on whether they or their planned activity fits in the current phase of the “Deconfinement Plan” they may contact the “Risk Assessment Committee” at: 18tcr.phcovidteam@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

In regard to the “Deconfinement” Plan there will be a limit on social gatherings. In the first phase small private gatherings will be allowed such as gatherings between two households, this means that households should not receive guests beyond one other designated household and physical distance must still be maintained.

Cree Health Board specialized non-essential services are being examined to determine which can resume. The determination of which specialized services will depend on the ability to safely bring specialists and staff into the community. It is also advised that Band Council’s can consider opening Departments which may have been closed.

Regular testing for COVID-19 in Eeyou Istchee is currently at:

- 447 regular tests have been administered
- 429 returned negative
- 8 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:

- 181 screening tests
- 27 awaiting results
- 154 negative

- Whapmagoostui
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