

April 20, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

4"4.ἀ\Λο·Δ° ∇ ἀις ΓλΟὰσ·Δι



Public Statement

It is imperative that as community we continue to respect directives from Public Health. The leadership would like to thank the many frontline workers who have been keeping our communities safe and providing essential services.



Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

The Goose Break protocol will be amended further with the assistance of the Cree Health Board to make sure that the appropriate physical distancing and other precautionary measures are taken into consideration. Special care will have to be given to how certain cultural practices are observed considering the gatherings that might be considered for Walking Out Ceremonies or Ceremonies for recognizing the First Kill.

Eeyou Istchee remains stable with only 5 confirmed cases with the first case from Nemaska being declared recovered and the second case from Nemaska awaiting testing results to confirm being negative for COVID-19. The first Cree patient in Montreal has also been declared recovered. All remaining cases are well on their way to recovery.

There is a new Cree patient in Montreal who has tested positive for COVID-19 however the person has never left the hospital so it is very unlikely that there will be any other Cree cases in the South for example at Hotel Espresso.

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

- 203 tests returned negative.
- 19 awaiting results.

to keeping the numbers in Eeyou Istchee low.

- 227 tests have been administered.

The Cree Health Board continues to get ready and prepare for potential outbreaks as people begin to travel more for goose break should people fail to respect physical distancing at camp.

Cree School Board

The Cree School Board continues to assist post-secondary students returning home and has implemented additional measures, such as providing the May allowance for all students who were registered during the Winter 2020 term, regardless of whether they have returned to Eeyou Istchee or have chosen to remain in their place of study.

The Board will ensure that all community authorities are supplied with up-to-date information about student travel from the south, safeguarding everyone involved, the community members and students.

Eevou Eenou Police Force

The communities and EEPF continue to collaborate to ensure respect of preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Summer Student Employment

With the end of the academic year around the corner, students and employers looking to fill summer jobs will have various programs to select from. Opportunities for secondary and post-secondary students will be available through Apatisiiwin Skills Development department. Contact your local officer for more information: www.apatisiiwin.ca

Whapmagoostui ḋΛLd∽⊃Δ

Chisasibi C

Wemindji

Eastmain ∆57°

Waskaganish

Nemaska ۰۵۲۶b°

·Ϥʹ··ϤσΑ

Duje-Bougoum ⊳J>47

Á'n dùÞ

MoCreebec ⅃եւՆV^ь



April 20, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

4"4.ἀ\Λο.Δ° ∇ ἀιὸ ΓλΟὰσ.Δι



Community Update



_

Whapmagoostui ·ḋΛLd∽⊃Δ

Chisasibi Cらさん

Wemindji ·∆Γ° Γ̀

Eastmain ∆¹7°

Waskaganish ·ຝົ່ຽຫ່∆bσ∽

Nemaska τοΓ\b°

Waswanipi ·ຝ່∿:ḋσ-Å

Ouje-Bougoumou ▷기>d⅃

Mistissini

Washaw Sik

MoCreebec ⅃եւՆV^ь

∖¦∖ ⊲⇔

The community is getting ready for goose break. There was concern with the ability of land users to access the territory due to restrictions on modes of transportation however the community has been able to ensure that the Spring Air lift will be available with the appropriate security measures to ensure that travelers are protected from COVID-19 to the greatest extent possible.

The community administration and businesses have a considerable amount of work to do to ensure that the appropriate measures are in place so that the expected construction for the 2020 season proceeds. The community considers the activity important to the economic recovery of the community and the continued health development of the community:

- · Construction of new private houses, social houses and home renovations
- Development of 143 residential lots
- Paving will continue
- · Water filtration plant
- Extension of the runway
- · Enlargement of the industrial park
- · New high school and elementary schools

Nemaska

In dealing with two community members who contracted COVID-19 while traveling, the community has been active holding a number of special Council meetings.

To protect community members, Nemaska has allowed visitors limited access, with an escort, to and from the gas station. The community has also developed and expanded on several programs to assist community members during these difficult times:

- · Rent relief program
- · Food basket distribution
- Taskforce for assisting people to access Federal Programs
- Coordination with the Local CTA and the Niskamoon Corporation for administration of goose break subsidies

Finally, the Band garage has been providing business service for minor car maintenance for those that are not able to get south for the regular maintenance on their vehicles.



April 20, 2020

Public Update on COVID-19

4"4.ἀ\Λο.Δ° ∇ ἀιὸ Γ̀}Ͻἀσ.Δι





Goose break has already begun for Waskaganish with reports of a number of camps reporting successful goose hunts on Saturday. As people focus on traditional activity the anxiety level is clearly going down in the community.



Whapmagoostui

Chisasibi Cらさん

Wemindji

Eastmain ∆¹7°

Waskaganish

Nemaska τοΓ\b°

ᠳᢆᡐᡆᢐᢥ

Ouje-Bougoumou ▷↑>d⅃

Mistissini

Washaw Sib ·식⇔▷ 宀̇̀∧

MoCreebec ⅃եւՆV^ь Waskaganish implemented a COVID-19 Emergency Measures Committee which is led by Ryan Erless, Director of Community Services. The community leadership, with the assistance of a nurse from the local medical centre, meets with people coming home where information is provided on the importance of self-isolation and assistance that can be provided. The local leadership was pleased to report that this type of intervention has resulted in very high compliance with the self-isolation recommendation.

The Local CTA of Waskaganish has also been very active in assisting people get out on the land to practice traditional activity. The Administrative Office of Waskaganish continues to function with staggered hours and other pre-cautionary measures to ensure that service continues to be provided to the community and the Management and staff continue preparing for a construction season which will be very important for the economic recovery of the community. The community has had to keep certain facilities closed however such as the Gathering Centre and sports 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