

Message from Leadership

- In Ontario COVID-19 cases continue to climb at an alarming rate. Quebec has
 also seen an increase in cases in COVID-19 and although neighboring
 regions such as Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean and Abitibi are not seeming alarming
 increases in cases, daily cases and more importantly the lack of containment
 are of concern for travelers from Eeyou Istchee.
- The communities of Eeyou Istchee, are enjoying exceptional freedoms to gather and other privileges which are not available in the rest of the province, sadly some regions are even seeing the reintroduction of COVID-19 restrictions. The people of Eeyou Istchee made incredible sacrifices so that we can see children enjoying the sunny weather on our playgrounds.
- Vaccination will begin an important new phase today throughout Eeyou Istchee, the administration of the second dose. Those who have not received their first dose are still able and encouraged to do so. It is strongly recommended that people seek their second, or first dose, prior to going on Goose Break to ensure that Eeyou Istchee is the strongest and healthiest jurisdiction upon the return from Goose Break.
- The hard work of the Cree Health Board, the development and implementation of management tools by our Public Security Teams, the collaboration of partners like Osisko, Newmont and Stornoway and most importantly the commitment of the residents of Eeyou Istchee to physical distancing, precautionary measures and doing their part by getting vaccinated will allow the Cree leadership to begin planning on methods for allowing greater travel after Goose Break.
- The health benefit from being out on the land during Goose Break outweighs
 the risk associated with being at our traditional camps especially if we do what
 we can to protect ourselves by following the Bush Camp Protocol developed
 by the Public Health Department.
 - Public Security Officers across Eeyou Istchee are also asking be people to be particularly cautious when it comes to traveling on ice. Ice conditions across Eeyou Istchee are worrisome these days.

CREE NATION COVID-19 Bulletin

April 6th, 2021

Evolution of the total number of positive COVID-19 cases Eeyou Istchee, December 31, 2020 to April 6th, 2021



^{*:} No changes since Feb 27th, 2021.



Cree School Board

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Travelling

Neighbouring regions are seeing a slight increase in recent days of cases and travellers are advised to be extra cautious. Inter-Community travel is permitted for essential purposes or the purpose of visiting family.

Anywhere outside Quebec, including Northern Ontario as of January 12 th , 2021 within Quebec: Region 1 – Lower St- Lawrence Region 2 – Saguenay- Lac-St-Jean Region 3 – Quebec Capital Region 4 – Mauricie and Centre du Québec Region 6 – Montreal Region 7 – Outaouais (Gatineau) Region 8 – Abitibi Region 9 – North Shore Region 11 – Gaspé and Magdalen Islands Region 12 – Chaudière-Appalaches Region 13 – Laval Region 14 – Region 14 – Region 15 – Region 16 – Region 17 – Chaudière-Appalaches Region 18 – Cases are coming down, but still too high to consider changing status for travel purposes. These measures DO NOT apply inside our communities on Category I lands: Quebec has introduced new measures for Northern Quebec (orange) which apply as far South as Abitibi or Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean: • The Curfew for Region 10 is lifted. • Indoor or outdoor gatherings are limited to members of two designated households (Households are not inter-changeable) • Business can open with restrictions on the number of people (1 person per household) • Restaurants are open for dining for a maximum of 2 adults per group and a registry of clients must be maintained (only residents of the region are allowed to enter a restaurant of that region)	Areas of Risk – Travel not advised, and travellers WILL BE subject to local Mandatory 14-Day Isolation Laws	Areas of Reduced Risk - Travellers will NOT be subject to local Mandatory 14- Day Isolation Laws	Special Note
 Region 1 – Lower St-Lawrence Region 2 – Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean Region 3 – Quebec Capital Region 4 – Mauricie and Centre du Québec Region 5 – Estrie Region 6 – Montreal Region 7 – Outaouais (Gatineau) Region 9 – North Shore Region 11 – Gaspé and Magdalen Islands Region 12 – Chaudière-Appalaches Region 13 – Laval 	Quebec, including Northern Ontario as of		consider changing status for travel
Lanaudière Gatineau, Laurentians, Montreal or the	 Region 1 – Lower St-Lawrence Region 2 – Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean Region 3 – Quebec Capital Region 4 – Mauricie and Centre du Québec Region 5 – Estrie Region 6 – Montreal Region 7 – Outaouais (Gatineau) Region 9 – North Shore Region 11 – Gaspé and Magdalen Islands Region 12 – Chaudière-Appalaches Region 13 – Laval Region 14 – 	 Region 10 – Nord du Quebec Region 17 - Nunavik Region 18 – Cree Communities of 	 our communities on Category I lands: Quebec has introduced new measures for Northern Quebec (orange) which apply as far South as Abitibi or Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean:





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 Region 15 – Laurentians Region 16 – Montérégie 		Quebec City regions remain with the severe restrictions we saw throughout Quebec in January, for example: • Curfew 8pm to 5am • Bars and Restaurants are closed • Prohibition on all gatherings
	Inter Community Travel: Essential Inter Community Travel or travel for visiting family.	
 Within Eeyou Istchee: any Hydro-Quebec site; any mine site any forestry camp 	 Windfall Mining Exploration Site of Osisko Mining Inc; Renard Mine Site of Stornoway; Éléonore Mine Site of Newmont 	These three mining companies have testing protocols that allow workers to be exempt from local Mandatory Self-Isolation Laws.

CAUTION: Every community has their own procedure for applying for entry into the community and travellers are always advised to call ahead and verify the entry procedure or travel restrictions that may exist at their point of destination or regions that they are transitioning to as conditions can change quickly.

Eeyou Istchee Deconfinement Plan

PHASE 4

- Outdoor gatherings 150 maximum
- Indoor gatherings 50 maximum
- Offices and places of business are open with precautionary measures carefully
- maintained

PHASE 3

- Outdoor gatherings 75 or 10 households
- Indoor gathering 25 or 3 households (This limitation applies to indoor private gatherings and indoor public events, such as sporting events)
- There is no need to close offices in Eeyou Istchee so long as the proper precautionary measures are maintained.

PHASE 2

- Outdoor gatherings 2 households maximum.
- Indoor gathering same 2 households at all times.
- There is no need to close offices in Eeyou Istchee so long as the proper precautionary measures are maintained.

PHASE 1

- Prohibition on visits or gatherings indoor and outdoor. If someone is not a resident of a home, they should not be in that home. "Visits" includes, cook outs, car rides, etc.
- Public buildings are upon appointment only.
- Access to and from the community is restricted to essential services only.





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Community	Deconfinement Phase	Special Advisories				
Chisasibi	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Eastmain	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Mistissini	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Nemaska	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Oujé-Bougoumou	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Waskaganish	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Waswanipi	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Wemindji	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				
Whapmagoostui	Phase 4	Essential or family-related inter-community travel may resume with extreme caution and respect of local procedures and regulations.				

Vaccination Program

The Cree Nation has achieved 77% of those eligible to be vaccinated and continued efforts are required to get as many people vaccinated as possible to assist in allowing the Cree Nation to return to a more normal life sooner.

Vaccination Outside Region 18

Service agreements have been secured with the regions of Outaouais, Estrie, Abitibi and Montreal for Cree beneficiaries and students outside of Region 18 to receive their vaccine as part of the Re-Entry Program.

For beneficiaries from other regions in Québec, please email the Cree Health Board for registering an appointment: 18TCR.ReentryVaccine@ssss.gouv.gc.ca

Total results of COVID-19 vaccination as of April 5th, 2021

Vaccination	Chisasibi	Eastmain	Mistissini	Nemaska	Ouje- Bougou- mou	Waska- ganish	Waswa- nipi	Wemindji	Whapma- goostui	Total
First dose	2,816	517	2,118	432	446	1,227	965	976	661	10,158

Education

- All Elementary & Secondary schools remain in Scenario B.
 Procedural masks continue to be required in Waswanipi, Mistissini, and Oujé-Bougoumou.
- For Sabtuan Adult Education Services, Vocational training and general education classes are ongoing, following all health and safety protocols.
- The Cree School Board did not receive nor distribute the grey and blue SNN200642 masks that the Quebec government recalled.
- The Goose Break plans for the Youth Sector and Sabtuan Adult Education Services are as follows: Waskaganish and Eastmain from April 26 to May 7 and all other communities from May 3 to 14. Some distance learning may be required the week following Goose Break, in accordance with self-isolation protocols. Please contact your local school for detailed information.
- Nearly all the 1,900 loaner laptops have been distributed to our CSB Secondary students. Laptops for Secondary 1-3 students will all be delivered by the end of April.





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RELIABLE SOURCES

People are advised to continue exercising caution on where they get their information in relation to COVID-19 and the vaccine. The reliable sources of information remain:

- https://eeyouistcheecovid19.org/
- www.cngov.ca/covid-19/
- www.creehealth.org

- www.eeyoueducation.ca
- www.quebec.ca/coronavirus
- www.canada.ca/coronavirus

PSYCHOSOCIAL HEALTH LINE

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** where specialists with a traditional approach to healing are also accessible.

COVID-19 VACCINE AND GENERAL INFO LINE

Questions about the vaccine? The Cree Health Board has an info line with professionals to answer your **questions or concerns about vaccination:** 1-866-855-2811.

COVID-19 PREVENTION AND VARIANT INFO

To learn more about how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and for information on variants of COVID-19, please visit: https://www.creehealth.org/covid/prevention