

Message from Leadership

Worldwide countries continue to struggle with trying to control outbreaks and find a path out of the last wave of COVID-19 cases. In Canada, and especially in Quebec, things are improving significantly due to the commitment of Public Health authorities to COVID-19 restrictions and preventative measures and vaccination campaigns. The Government of Quebec has been making important announcements on advancements in deconfinement.

It is worth comparing these announcements to the current situation in Eeyou Istchee:

Eeyou Istchee	Quebec: Green	Quebec: Yellow	Quebec: Orange
Indoor: 50 People*	Indoor: Max 10 people or 3 households	Indoor: Max 2 households	Indoor: Prohibited
Outdoor: 150*	Outdoor: 10 people or 3 households	Outdoor: 8 people or 2 households	Outdoor: 8 people or 2 households

*Note: It is possible to write to Public Health 18tcr.phcovidteam@ssss.gouv.qc.ca or covidrisk@cngov.ca to get the protocols approved which are needed to be able to exceed these limits for indoor and outdoor gatherings.



CREE NATION COVID-19 Bulletin

June 8th, 2021

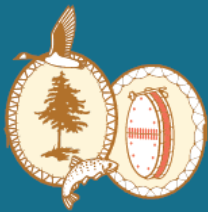
The comparison above demonstrates that despite changes and announcements on colour codes for regions, we enjoy significantly more freedoms in Eeyou Istchee than anywhere else in Quebec. Despite having a health care system that is more fragile and a population with a high instance of underlying conditions making us particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, the Cree Nation has achieved this enviable status for a number of important reasons:

- The coordination between all levels of Cree leadership: Regional, Local, Entities at both the political and administrative levels.
- The incredible efforts of the Cree Health Board and participation of the Cree people in the vaccination campaign: 63.8% 12 and older; 89.9% 18 and over with a first dose and 46.6% of the population with 2 doses.
- The commitment of the residents of our communities to the local isolation requirements. The local laws and their administrations are the single most important distinguishing factors of the Cree Nation from other jurisdictions. This has allowed us to deconfine within our communities much quicker than other jurisdictions.

Although there are no changes in the assessment at this time of other regions, the Public Health Department and the local Public Safety Officers are working on a new formula for assessing when travellers from other regions can be considered for exemptions from local isolation requirements:

- The Cree Nation vaccination rate;
- The vaccination rate in a specific region; and
- The percentage of active cases per 100,000 residents of the concerned region.

If regions throughout Quebec continue to improve at the current rate, important changes can be expected next week. Again, the commitment of the Cree Nation to the vaccination campaign, the vigilance of local Public Safety Officers and the resilience of the residents of our communities to do everything they can to protect the vulnerable communities is what is responsible for the enviable position that the Cree Nation finds itself in regard to COVID-19 today.



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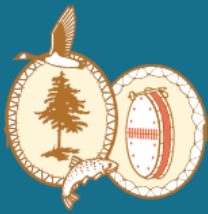
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Recommended Isolation Periods

Vaccinated: Individuals who have received two (2) doses of a Public Health approved vaccine	Seven (7) Days
Non-Vaccinated	Ten (10) Days

The recommendations of the Public Health Department are based on scientific evidence and a thorough risk assessment. Should a community not wish to follow differentiated isolation periods local Governments must follow the most conservative recommendation. For example, ten (10) days for the current situation.

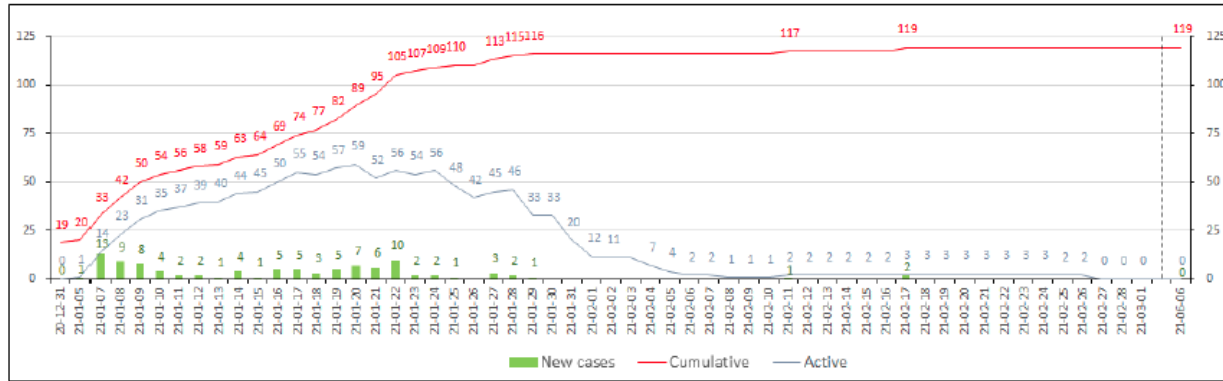
Allowing unvaccinated individuals to isolate only seven (7) days, during this time where variants pose a risk and there is still a risk of an outbreak as we try and initiate the vaccination of children it is not advised and puts community members at an unreasonable risk.



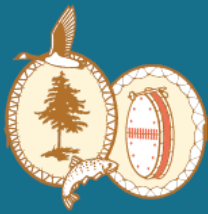
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Evolution of the total number of positive COVID-19 cases Eeyou Istchee, December 31, 2020 to June 6th, 2021



*: No changes since Feb 27th, 2021.

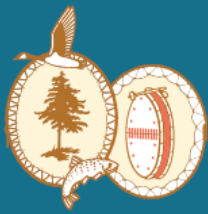


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Travelling

Areas of Risk – Travel not advised, and travellers WILL BE subject to local Mandatory Isolation Laws	Areas of Reduced Risk - Travellers will NOT be subject to local Mandatory Isolation Laws	Special Note
Anywhere outside Quebec		Ontario is restricting entry into the province to travel for essential purposes only.
within Quebec: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 – Lanaudière Region 15 – Laurentians Region 16 – Montérégie 	Within Quebec: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Region 8 - Abitibi Region 10 – Nord du Quebec Region 17 - Nunavik Region 18 – Cree Communities of Eeyou Istchee 	<i>These measures DO NOT apply inside our communities on Category I lands:</i> Quebec has introduced new measures for Northern Quebec (orange) which apply as far South as Abitibi or Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor or outdoor gatherings are limited. Business can open with restrictions on the number of people. Restaurants are open for dining with limits on how many can sit at a table, some jurisdictions still only residents of the region to dine on the premises.



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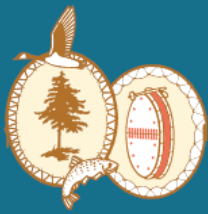
Within Eeyou Istchee:

- 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
- Wallbridge Mining Exploration Site of Fenelon

These four mining companies have testing protocols that allow workers to be exempt from local Mandatory Self-Isolation Laws.

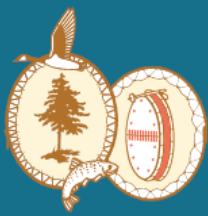
CAUTION: Every community has their own procedure for applying for entry into the community and travellers are always advised to call ahead and verify the entry procedure or travel restrictions that may exist at their point of destination or regions that they are transitioning to as conditions can change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



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Community	Deconfinement Phase	Special Advisories
Chisasibi	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 819-855-2878 ext.459, 328, or 307 and epc@chisasibi.ca
Eastmain	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 819-527-9910 and igilpin@eastmain.ca
Mistissini	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 418-770-9115 and jasonshecapio@mistissini.ca
Nemaska	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 819-527-7445 and directornps@nemaska.ca
Oujé-Bougoumou	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 418-770-7581 and hsharl@ouje.ca
Waskaganish	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 819-895-4053 and Reuben.blackned@waskaganish.ca
Waswanipi	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 819-527-9757 and johnnyawashish@cfnw.ca
Wemindji	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: 819-978-7724 and publicsafety@wemindji.ca
Whapmagoostui	Phase 4	Local restrictions and procedures for entry must be respected: publicsafety@whapmagoostuifn.ca



Eeyou Istchee Deconfinement Plan

PHASE 4

- Outdoor gatherings 150 maximum
- **Indoor gatherings 50 maximum – There are protocols available for larger organized indoor gatherings from the Public Health Department**
- Offices and places of business are open with precautionary measures carefully maintained

PHASE 3

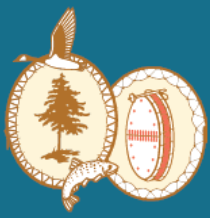
- Outdoor gatherings 75 or 10 households
- Indoor gathering 25 or 3 households (This limitation applies to indoor private gatherings and indoor public events, such as sporting events)
- There is no need to close offices in Eeyou Istchee so long as the proper precautionary measures are maintained.

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.



Vaccination Program in Eeyou Istchee

Total results of COVID-19 vaccination as of June 6th, 2021

Vaccination	Chisasibi	Eastmain	Mistissini	Nemaska	Ouje-Bougoumou	Waskaganish	Waswanipi	Wemindji	Whapmagostui	Total
First dose	3,146	615	2,455	528	566	1,435	1,180	1,159	765	11,849
Second dose	2,439	460	1,683	393	374	976	807	957	558	8,647
Total	5,585	1,075	4,138	921	940	2,411	1,987	2,116	1,323	20,496

Source: INSPQ Infocentre, 2021-06-07 extraction.

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.qc.ca

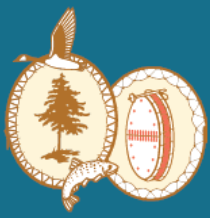
To Obtain Proof of Vaccination:

Download and fill the consent form available here:

<https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/en/document-001089/>

Along with the completed form, attach a copy of your ID and send to the following email: 18TCR.CovidVaccinationForms@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

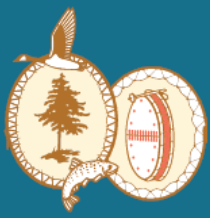
The consent form is needed for confidentiality purposes. A valid ID is to ensure the Proof of Vaccination is sent to the right person. A valid email or postal address is required in order to receive your proof, it is not possible to obtain the proof of vaccination from your local CMC.



EDUCATION

- Following consultation with public health, Cree School Board schools moved into Scenario A on Monday, June 7. Cloth face coverings are now permitted for students, and students may remove their coverings while in class with stable groups. Procedural masks are still required for school employees (teachers may remove their masks when teaching from a 2 metre distance with their stable groups).
- Adult education facilities are also in Scenario A. Students may now remove their procedural masks when they are in class at a 2 metre distance.
- Vaccination clinics for youth aged 12-17 at our schools are ongoing. We would like to acknowledge our school employees for their help in supporting these clinics. We would also like to thank the hardworking team at public health for making these vaccinations available to Cree School Board students.

For more information on this vaccination campaign, please refer to Public Health.



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>

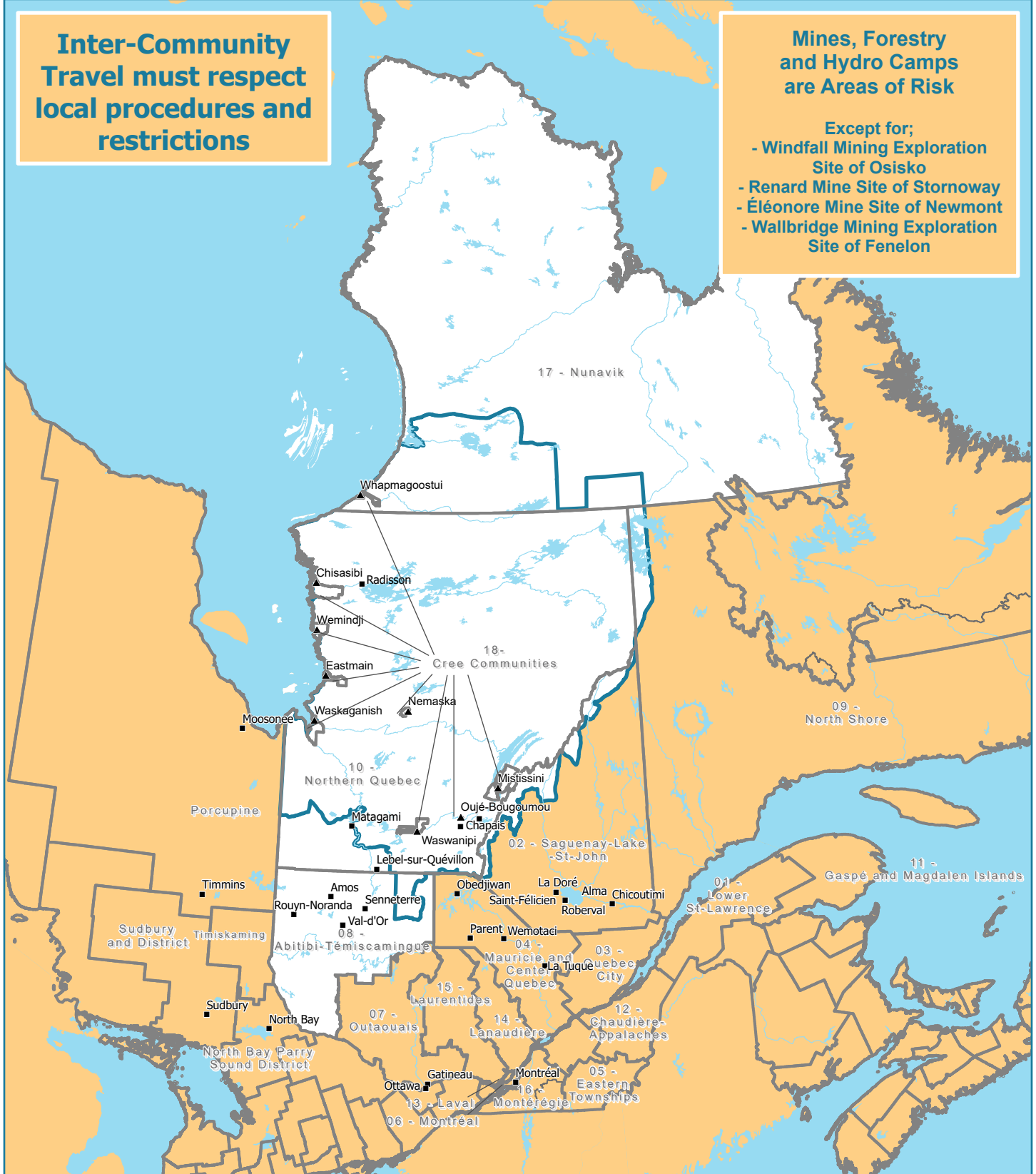
COVID-19 Areas of Risk

Effective as of May 11, 2021

**Inter-Community
Travel must respect
local procedures and
restrictions**

**Mines, Forestry
and Hydro Camps
are Areas of Risk**

Except for;
- Windfall Mining Exploration
Site of Osisko
- Renard Mine Site of Stornoway
- Éléonore Mine Site of Newmont
- Wallbridge Mining Exploration
Site of Fenelon



- ▲ Cree Community
- Town

- Eeyou Istchee
- Health Region
- Areas of Risk

0 30 60 120 180 240
Kilometers

Projection: UTM Zone 18 NAD 83
Sources: CNG, Eeyou Istchee (2015), MERN
BGDA 5M (2017), Statcan Health Region (2011)

Document Name: EI_Covid19_AreasRisk_8x10
Date: 5/11/2021



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Cree Nation Government
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