

#### **Message from Leadership**

In the last week, 221 more residents of Eeyou Istchee have received their second dose of an approved vaccine providing them with the best protection available against COVID-19 and the variants of COVID-19 which continue to be a threat to communities and urban centres around the world.

As suspected, vaccination is proving to be the turning point for jurisdictions around the world with countries having the highest vaccination rates seeing the greatest drops in COVID-19 cases. Worldwide more and more jurisdictions are beginning to reduce restrictions beginning with those that are fully vaccinated as they represent the lowest risk to the community.

It is important to keep in mind that until we are able to vaccinate children efforts will be needed to continue to protect them from the threat of COVID-19 and its variants. This means continuing to be cautious of areas of risk for those that are not fully vaccinated, which continue to be assessed regularly. It is hoped that as things continue to improve in Quebec and Ontario the status of the urban centers surrounding Montreal, Gatineau, Sudbury andd North Bay will be able to be changed soon.

The Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay is also implementing gargle testing for COVID-19 which is already available in Oujé-Bougoumou and Waswanipi which will allow for a less invasive way of monitoring the presence of COVID-19 in our communities. The test will be available in all communities and people are asked that when called upon to agree to the test so that we can lower restrictions further, especially for those that are not vaccinated. The more information we assist the Public Health Department in collecting, the better their advice can be on how to safely deconfine in Eeyou Istchee.



## C

CREE NATION COVID-19 Bulletin

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

#### **Fully Vaccinated Rates**

#### Percentage of Fully vaccinated 18 +

Wemindji	Whapmagoostui	OJ	Eastmain	Waswanipi	Chisasibi	Nemaska	Mistissini	Waskaganish
90	83	78	77	73	71	71	70	69

Effective June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, fully vaccinated (defined as upon reception of 2<sup>nd</sup> dose) individuals are exempt from any isolation requirements including when returning from travel from anywhere outside the communities of Eeyou Istchee.

#### **Continued Efforts to Vaccination**

Percentage of First dose 12-17 years old

Waskaganish	Whapmagoostui	Nemaska	Wemindji	Eastmain	Mistissini	OJ	Chisasibi	Waswanipi
97	93	88	84	72	67	62	61	56

Percentage of Fully Vaccinated entire population (0+ Years)

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Wemindji	Whapmagoostui	OJ	Eastmain	Mistissini	Nemaska	Chisasibi	Waswanipi	Waskaganish
63	54	51	49	48	48	47	46	45





## C

### CREE NATION COVID-19 Bulletin

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

#### Deconfinement in Eeyou Istchee v. Quebec in General

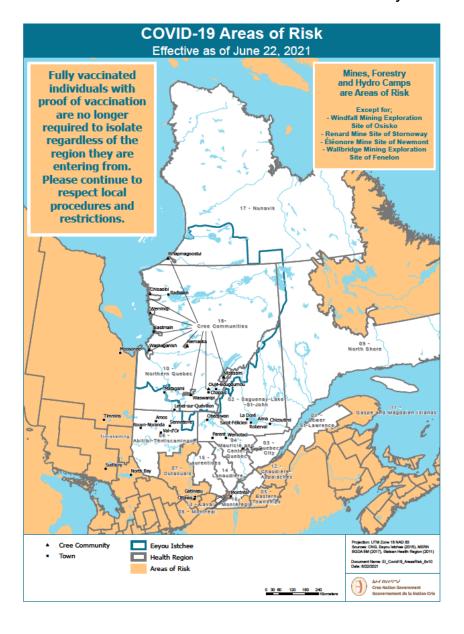
Until a more significant portion of the population is vaccinated there will still need to be restrictions on gathering inside Eeyou Istchee, however because the Cree Nation has demonstrated incredible discipline and may great sacrifices we can enjoy the most relaxed confinement measures in Quebec at this time:

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

\*Note: It is possible to write to Public Health, which in collaboration with local Councils will assist in developing protocols for indoor and outdoor gatherings by public organizations beyond the recommended limit: 18tcr.phcovidteam@ssss.gouv.qc.ca or covidrisk@cngov.ca

#### **Areas of Risk**

Unvaccinated travelers still represent a very real risk to the vulnerable members of our community when they arrive from an area of risk. The distinguishing factor that has kept the Cree Nation safer than any other jurisdictions has been the Mandatory Self-Isolation Laws of Eeyou Istchee where travelers who represented a risk isolated (presently 10 days) upon return to protect the vulnerable members of the community.



# CREE NATION COVID-19 Bulletin June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

Every community has specific procedures for entering and travellers are strongly recommended to contact communities prior to arrival. It is also recommended to call the local CMC with questions in relation to vaccination:

Community	Contact
Chisasibi	Phone: 819-855-5797 E-mail: matthewchiskamish@chisasibi.ca
	CMC: (819) 855-9011
Eastmain	Phone: 819-354-0493 E-mail: igilpin@eastmain.ca
	CMC: (819) 977-5194
Mistissini	Phone: 418-770-4721 E-mail: jasonshecapio@mistissini.ca
	CMC: (418) 923-3376
Nemaska	Phone: 819-527-7445 E-mail: directornps@nemaska.ca
	CMC: (819) 673-2511
Oujé-Bougoumou	Phone: 418-770-9305 E-mail: hsharl@ouje.ca
	CMC: (418) 745-3901
Waskaganish	Phone: 819-895-4053 E-mail: Reuben.blackned@waskaganish.ca
	CMC: (819) 895-8833
Waswanipi	Phone: 819-527-7483 E-mail: johnnyawashish@cfnw.ca
	CMC: (819) 753-2511
Wemindji	Phone: 819-978-7724 and E-mail: publicsafety@wemindji.ca
	CMC: (819) 978-0225
Whapmagoostui	E-mail: publicsafety@whapmagoostuifn.ca
	CMC: (819) 929-3307

#### **EDUCATION**

- The last day of school for our youth and adult sectors was June 16, 2021. During the summer months, we will not have our CSB Bi-Weekly Public Updates, but we will continue to share updates as needed. We wish all employees and students a wonderful summer!
- All Cree School Board facilities (schools, adult learning centres, and offices) will remain closed to the public during the summer months.
- Following consultation with public health, we plan to resume school under our Scenario A measures in August. As always, our measures may differ from the rest of the province due to Eeyou Istchee's unique circumstances. We encourage CSB students, parents, and employees to continue to monitor the Cree Nation Government Bulletins and official communications from Cree Public Health and the Cree School Board for the most up-to-date information.

#### **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: <a href="https://www.creehealth.org/covid/prevention">https://www.creehealth.org/covid/prevention</a>

#### 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: <a href="mailto:18TCR.CovidVaccinationForms@ssss.gouv.qc.ca">18TCR.CovidVaccinationForms@ssss.gouv.qc.ca</a>