# SITUATION IN QUEBEC (OUTSIDE EEYOU ISTCHEE)

The Premier of Quebec addressed the province yesterday at 6pm to express the Government's concern with the significant rise in cases and the emergence of the Omicron variant which is 15x more contagious for non-vaccinated people.

The Government is reintroducing restrictions throughout the province to try and bring down the daily number of cases:

- Maximum of 10 people for private gatherings
- Churches, businesses, bars and theatres are allowed 50% capacity
- Vaccine passport requirement introduced for visitors and caregivers at hospitals and attendance at churches
- Tournaments are banned
- Office parties, dancing and karaoke are prohibited

These measures <u>do not apply in the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee</u>. Please see the sections below to see the measures that apply in Eeyou Istchee.

# **STATUS OF CASES**

There are 7 cases associated with travel outside Eeyou Istchee which have been contained with 4 people isolating in Montreal and 3 people isolating in Mistissini. The good news is that although there was transmission in the household there was no transmission in the workplace.

The significant increase in the number of cases in Northern Ontario, Region 2 – Saguenay Lac-St-Jean and Region 7 – Outaouais requires that these areas are declared areas of risk effective 11:59 pm December 19 (Sunday), 2021.

It is recommended that people be proactive when feeling symptoms of any kind that could be associated with COVID-19, early detection through a test is the best way to protect your family and your community.



**December 17, 2021** 



Vaccinated people may still catch COVID-19 but they suffered significantly milder symptoms than unvaccinated people. Vaccination for children 5-11 and the administration of booster (3<sup>rd</sup> dose) shots has begun throughout Eeyou Istchee. Vaccination continues to be a very important tool for protecting our communities from COVID-19.

Evidence has shown that full vaccination (2 doses) results in 33% effectiveness against Omicron. Effectiveness against Omicron goes higher to 70% after the third shot (booster). This is another reason demonstrating the importance of getting fully vaccinated. Booster (3<sup>rd</sup>) doses are now available at your local clinic. Please call to schedule an appointment.

#### **EDUCATION**

Cree School Board schools and Sabtuan Adult Education Services centres (SAES) will be online for the first two weeks after the holidays from January 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> as precautionary measure recommended by Public Health. SAES provided laptops to general education students. Vocational training programs will resume as of January 4, 2022. All schools are communicating their school and community specific post-holiday pedagogical plans. Schedules and information on work packages are being shared on Social Media, by memo, and on the radio.

Please go to <a href="https://eeyoueducation.ca/youth/students/olp">https://eeyoueducation.ca/youth/students/olp</a> to explore our language, math, mindfulness, physical education, and other learning activities in complement to school specific plans. We also have additional resources online to support parents and students in accessing TEAMS for learning at <a href="https://eeyoueducation.ca/youth/students/office-365">https://eeyoueducation.ca/youth/students/office-365</a>

# Deconfinement in Eeyou Istchee v. Quebec in General

Eeyou Istchee	Quebec: Green
Indoor Gathering:	Indoor:
25 People	Max 10 people or 3 households
Gym or Arena Gathering: <mark>150 People</mark>	
Outdoor Sheltered Gathering:	Outdoor:
150 People	10 people or 3 households

<sup>\*</sup>These limits are subject to the capacity of the venue and regulated by local public safety

# TRAVEL TO EEYOU ISTCHEE FROM AN AREA OF RISK

Partially vaccinated or unvaccinated

10 Days Isolation

**AND** 

Test Between Day 5 -7\*

**Fully vaccinated** 

2-Meter Distancing

AND

Mask (indoor and outdoor)

**AND** 

Test Day 5\*

\*The Tests on Day 5 or Between Day 5-7 are very important and are not optional and are critical in protecting our communities during these uncertain times.

Please contact your local CMC to schedule a COVID-19 test.

# ATTENDING A PUBLIC EVENT OR PLACE BEFORE RECEIVING A NEGATIVE TEST IS PROHIBITED

**Note**: The change in travel restrictions is subject to approval by local Councils. It is important to verify the status of restrictions in your community of destination before travelling.

#### Examples\*:

- Fully vaccinated post-secondary student, anyone returning home or a contractor from an Area of Risk such as Gatineau **WILL NOT** need to isolate.
- Non-fully vaccinated post-secondary student, anyone returning home or a contractor from an Area of Risk such as Montreal (Montreal is currently an Area of Risk) WILL need to isolate for 10 days.
- Fully vaccinated parents returning home from an Area of Risk such as Quebec City
  (Quebec City is currently an Area of Risk) with children or family members that are not
  fully vaccinated: The parents WILL <u>NOT</u> need to self-isolate but the non-fully vaccinated
  children or family members WILL need to self-isolate for 10 days.
- Fully vaccinated parents returning home from Toronto (Toronto is currently an Area of Risk) with non-fully vaccinated children at home who didn't travel with their parents: The parents who travelled and the children who did not travel WILL <u>NOT</u> need to self-isolate and may continue to attend school or daycare.

<sup>\*</sup> The above are examples using current Areas of Risk. Please consult the map to verify Areas of Risk before travelling.

<sup>\*\*</sup>All fully vaccinated individuals returning from an Area of Risk must adhere to protocols as mentioned above.

#### TRAVEL OUTSIDE EEYOU ISTCHEE

### PROOF OF VACCINATION (Vaccine Passport/Vaxicode):

Proof of vaccination/vaccine passport (Vaxicode) is required to access certain non-essential public areas (restaurants, movie theaters, etc.) in Quebec.

#### **AIR AND RAIL TRANSPORT**

Proof of full vaccination is required for air and rail travel.

To obtain your proof of vaccination please consult the site and info below:

Electronic Proof of Vaccination <a href="https://covid19.quebec.ca/PreuveVaccinale">https://covid19.quebec.ca/PreuveVaccinale</a>

For additional information on the topic <a href="https://creehealth.org/news/covid-19-proof-vaccination-eeyou-istchee-updated">https://creehealth.org/news/covid-19-proof-vaccination-eeyou-istchee-updated</a>

# COVID-19 Areas of Risk For Non-Fully Vaccinated Individuals

Effective as of Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11:59PM

