

Statement from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation On COVID-19

May 14, 2020

The MCFN Chief and Council and the COVID-19 Working Group are actively taking precautions and actions to address the potential impacts of COVID-19 within our Nation.

Currently, the MCFN Community has 1 active case of COVID-19, 1 probable and 1 resolved.

- Six Nations has 10 resolved cases and unfortunately, has suffered 1 death.
- Brant County has 102 cases, with 90 resolved.
- Haldimand Norfolk has 204 cases, with 77 resolved.
- 1. MCFN Operations As previously communicated, we are operating with a much smaller staff load and are only offering essential services at this time. Chief and Council would like to acknowledge our essential workers and our COVID-19 Working Group for helping to maintain some sort of normalcy during these uncertain times. As well, we'd like to show our appreciation for the staff who are working from home and doing their part to help flatten the curve. We've seen some tremendous shows of unity in our community, including classroom Zoom meetings for the children and staff of Ekwammjigenang Children's Centre, a parade led by LSK Elementary Staff, regular engagement by our EarlyON team and positive outreach by our Mental Health Workers. For all of this, we say chi-miigwech.
- 2. This week, the Chief and Council approved the end of the remaining in-class sessions for the Lloyd S. King Elementary School. The staff will continue to provide distance education packages to students and an update will be forthcoming on obtaining student belongings from the facility. Information will follow on end of year report cards and on the graduation for our students headed to high school.
- 3. Council has approved the cancellation of our regular summer day camp programming, including that of the Little Learners camp. Additionally, the annual Community Picnic has been cancelled for the 2020 season. We know these events and programs are important to families, but we need to ensure the wellbeing of our community.
- 4. One of our first "stay at home initiatives" will be distributed shortly. Information will be made available on pick-up and delivery arrangements for the Garden Boxes. Please keep an eye out for other fun family projects.
- 5. Caring Together Week will be a little different this year. Recognizing that large group gatherings are not recommended, the organization will be thinking of new and creative ways to celebrate this important week.



- 6. The next on reserve food delivery is scheduled for May 21st. Again, this will be a fresh produce box and will contain some cleaning supplies. Our goal was to provide masks and gloves to all households, but this may not be feasible for this month's delivery. If you do not wish for a care package, please call 905-768-1133 and leave a message, ensuring you include your blue tag number.
- 7. At this time, the Band Administration main line is voice mail only. If you need immediate assistance, please contact Kailey at 905-979-2957 or Kerri at 289-527-0364 and they will be able to refer you to the relevant departmental contact.
- 8. Although the Province are relaxing their precautions, the MCFN Chief and Council are strongly encouraging our members maintain the current social distancing requirements. The Council maintains the prohibition of group gatherings of 5 or more people and OPP have agreed to enforce this expectation. If there is a gathering within the MCFN community of 5 or more people, please call the OPP to report: (905) 772-3322.

The MCFN Chief and Council and the COVID-19 Working Group would like to remind everyone to take personal precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community. These include:

- Regular hand washing with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand cleanser.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Maintain social distancing and ensure you practice good respiratory hygiene. Cover your cough or sneeze with your bent elbow or tissue, then dispose of the tissue immediately.
- Be cognizant of travel advisories and limit your exposure to large gatherings.
- If you feel ill, stay home. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and follow their instructions.

If you experiencing symptoms, contact the following Public Health Offices and follow their instructions:

- Haldimand Norfolk Public Health 519-426-6170, ext. 9999
- Six Nations Public Health 519-445-2672
- Brant County Public Health 519-753-4937
- Outside of regular business hours, you can contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.

Please note, the MCFN Community Health Office is not a Public Health Unit, although it does assist with contact tracing and wellness checks.

The MCFN Chief and Council are responsible for making decisions that impact the Membership. If you have any concerns, please contact any member of the table.



