



## STATEMENT FROM THE MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION ON COVID-19

May 8, 2020

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

There is one confirmed case and two probable cases of COVID-19 in the MCFN Community.

Six Nations Public Health have confirmed 11 positive cases.

- Recovered: 10
- Death: 1

Haldimand Norfolk Public Health have 196 confirmed positive cases.

- Lab-confirmed, positive cases: 196
- Recovered: 58

Brant County Public Health have 99 confirmed cases.

- Confirmed: 99
- Recovered: 80

1. Chief and Council have re-opened access to trails and the track under the following terms and conditions:

- **Practice physical distancing: keep 2 metres apart;**
- **No all terrain vehicles (ATV's) or other recreational vehicles will be allowed on the trails;**
- **Individuals are not allowed to congregate or walk together in groups. Families must stay together;**
- **Limit your time on the trails and track;**
- **Chief and Council have extended the closure of the recreation facilities (playgrounds, basketball court, volleyball nets, and baseball diamond). Please do not use these facilities at this time.**

2. Six Nations Bar Code System. Their system, aimed at restricting access to Six Nations to band members, involves an ID pass with a bar code that can be scanned. MCFN members will be able to access Six Nations of the Grand River territory if they are deemed to meet the requirements set out by Six Nations' Council as providing an essential service, this includes delivery of goods, attending medical appointments and providing essential services to family members (grocery delivery).



### Chief and Council

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3. If you are making deliveries to Six Nations residents or businesses you must show proof of work in the form of an invoice or work order.

MCFN members can call the Six Nations COVID hotline 519-717-6639 to register for a barcode. Members must use their status card to register. If your status card is recently expired, MCFN Lands, Membership, and Research Department (LMR) can provide a letter confirming the individual is a registered member of MCFN. If you require a letter, please contact Lands, Membership and Research at 905-768-0100 or by email at [Margaret.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Margaret.Sault@mncfn.ca)

MCFN and Six Nations will continue discussion on how we can work together to support our communities and members during this pandemic.

4. Province of Ontario Infectious Disease Emergency Leave: In Ontario, employees have the right to take unpaid, job-protected infectious disease emergency leave if they are not performing the duties of their position because of specified reasons related to a designated infectious disease. This leave is available to all employees who are covered by the Employment Standards Act. If you are affected by the ongoing closure of Ekwaamjigenang Children's Centre or Lloyd S. King Elementary School and require documentation to access this leave, please contact Kerri King at [Kerri.King@mncfn.ca](mailto:Kerri.King@mncfn.ca) or call 289-527-0364.
5. The off-reserve gift cards have been mailed. We apologize for the delay, but additional cards were ordered to provide relief for the period of March through June. If you have not registered for the card, please contact either Kailey Thomson via email: [Kailey.Thomson@mncfn.ca](mailto:Kailey.Thomson@mncfn.ca) or Kerri King via email: [Kerri.King@mncfn.ca](mailto:Kerri.King@mncfn.ca). You will need to provide your full name, registry number, your mailing address and identify the number of people in your household. Please note, one card will be provided per household. In the event that multiple people call in to register from the same household, the gift card will be sent out to the first person who registered.
6. Provincial Support for Families: Eligible parents will receive a one-time provincial grant of \$200 for children aged 0 to 12 or \$250 for children or youth aged 0 to 21 with special needs. Please go to [ontario.ca/page/get-support-families](http://ontario.ca/page/get-support-families) for more information. While completing your application, please indicate that your child is not enrolled in either public or private school. Then, select that your child is attending a First Nation operated or federally-operated school.
7. On-reserve food package delivery: On May 21 the MCFN COVID-19 Working Group will be delivering food boxes to all on-reserve households. The box will contain an assortment of fresh produce and personal protective equipment such as reusable masks, gloves, and cleaning supplies. If you do not want a box please call 905-768-1133 and leave a message, please be sure to include your blue tag number.
8. 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.

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9. MCFN Operations: As previously communicated, MCFN 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.
10. Group Gatherings: MCFN Chief and Council prohibit group gatherings of 5 or more people. The Ontario Provincial Police (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.
11. Limiting Access to the Community: In order to ensure the safety of our members and in an effort to discourage outside traffic in the community, MCFN Chief and Council have directed that "Local Traffic Only" signs be placed at all our entry points. These signs have been installed as of April 29, 2020. Please be aware that the MCFN COVID-19 team is doing everything that can be done to ensure our community's safety. This includes allowing emergency services quick and unfettered access to the First Nation. Please ensure you are obeying all speed limits and traffic signs, we all play a role in keeping our community safe.

The MCFN Chief and Council and the MCFN 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 are 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
- Six Nations Assessment Centre- 226-446-9909
- Brant County Public Health – 519-753-4937 press 1

Outside of regular business hours, you can contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. Please note that 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.



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