

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

November 20, 2020

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

At this time, we continue to have no active cases of COVID-19 in the community. We must say chimilgwech to everyone for being diligent and taking the necessary precautions to ensure COVID-19 exposure is reduced.

MCFN Organizational Operations

Please note, we have resumed day to day operations as of November 9, 2020, with COVID precautions in place. We are limiting the number of people in all MCFN operated buildings. Please remember that an appointment is needed prior to attending any office in person. Further, please be aware that prior to entry, all visitors will be subject to a two-staged screening process, which includes a temperature check and a visitor log.

Community Wellness – Second Distribution

In recognition of the difficulties families may have experienced since the onset of the pandemic, the MCFN Council have approved a second allocation for the 2020-2021 Community Wellness year. The amount of this distribution will be \$1000.00.

Applications will be available starting November 16, 2020. They are available via the mncfn.ca website or you can call the LMR office and they will send you an application. Please note, the new application form must be used for this allocation. You can also obtain an application by contacting the office via email, at <u>cw@mncfn.ca</u>. Payments will begin after December 1, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact the office, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The number is 905-768-0100.

Organizational Holidays

The Council approved Christmas shut down will begin at noon on December 18, 2020. Designated essential services will continue during this period. These include emergency Public Works services, emergency Ontario Works assistance, emergency mental health and emergency family support services. Home care will continue for those who require such over the course of the holidays, as will emergency Community Health issues, such as COVID-19 support.

Offices will reopen at their regular times on January 4, 2021.

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Preparing for The Holidays

We all know that COVID-19 spreads easily. We also know we all have a part to play in keeping our community safe. In preparation for the holidays, the Chief and Council are encouraging everyone to limit your personal bubble to immediate family that you have daily and consistent contact with. Know the details your contacts names and your circle of family and close friends and where have they come from.

We are also recommending that people reduce their travel to only grocery runs, to work, pharmacy or medical appointments and to reschedule travel to red zones that have been identified by the province and nonessential travel for another time.

Brant Community Healthcare System

As an FYI, the Brant Community Healthcare System continues to provide care for people who have contracted COVID-19. Out of an abundance of caution, the Regional COVID-19 Model of Care has been developed to accommodate the second-wave of COVID-19, specifically to ensure that the BCHS can continue to care for COVID patients without impacting their regular services and programs. This means that BCHS will not send patients to COVID-designated hospitals unless the local health system was beyond their COVID care capacity and it required them to do so.

Precautions

The MCFN Chief and Council would like to remind everyone how important it is to take these additional personal precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community. These include:

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- 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. If you travel outside of Canada, it is important to self-isolate upon re-entry to the country.
- If you feel ill, stay home. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and follow their instructions.

Public Health Information

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, please 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 519-751-5818 or via email at covid.assessment@bchsys.org
- Outside of regular business hours, you can contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.

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Please note, the MCFN Community Health Office is not a Public Health Office, although it does assist with contact tracing and wellness checks for those who reside on MCFN.

We cannot stress enough, how important it is to follow the Public Health guidelines. We learned during the first wave, that we can effectively curve the spread of COVID-19 when we work together. Let's keep our community safe.

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.