



Big Grassy River First Nation

P.O.Box 414, Morson, Ontario P0W 1J0

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April 11, 2020

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Big Grassy First Nation is providing an update of activities to the members in the community of planned preparedness in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic declared by the World Health Organization. On March 13th, 2020, the Leadership in partnership with the Health Centre staff reviewed and implemented the Big Grassy First Nation pandemic plan, and have been following the plan to date with preparing and being in communication with our local Tribal Health – Fort Frances Area Tribal Health services for the Public Health Information in regards to updates of any cases in our catchment area.

It was further decided by leadership and management to begin the necessary steps to review, update and begin the implementation of our Master Emergency Response Plan which has been in effect as of March 27th, 2020. We have created a Community Control Group that teleconferences 3x weekly and does have guest(s) join our calls to provide valuable information and to communicate with all of our Community Control Group members. We have personnel from our staff that are part of this Community Control Group along with Leadership and is compromised of Social Services, Health, Education, Management, Finance, and Child and Family Services, as well as operational service programs.

In response to the confirmed case of COVID-19 at the Rainy River Assessment Centre test site, we were immediately apprised and updated on an emergency call with FFATHS and then a decision was made on March 27th, 2020 to be in a standby position to declaring a state of emergency in our First Nation.

Since that time, we have ramped up plans in preparedness and have taken measures to be implemented immediately. Some of the tasks that have completed to date include, food security measures, ordering of PPE, hamper deliveries, cleaned and disinfected all band buildings done by Service Master cleaning, assisted financially to members, provided deep freezers, coordinated equipment delivery, secured volunteers/ staff to stand security to our community and planning for isolation centers per recommendation by Chiefs of Ontario.

Some of these items include;

- Prepared home kits for the community households, March 12th, 2020.
- Implemented a protocol for returning staff of isolation, March 13th, 2020.
- Issued a travel restriction for non essential travel, March 13th, 2020.
- Provided households copy of the Pandemic Plan, March 13th, 2020.

- Issued a travel advisory for outside of Canada to self-isolate, March 15th, 2020.
- Provided assistance to off reserve members for COVID-19 relief, March 20th, 2020.
- Closure and restrictions to non essential business and visitors, March 25th, 2020.
- Issued a curfew from 10:00pm – 7:00am, beginning March 27th, 2020.
- Emergency Response Plan, March 27th, 2020.
- Public Notice for Implementing Security Check Points.
- Updated the Big Grassy First Nation Trespass Law for Peacekeepers, April 10th, 2020.
- Provided the Membership with the Treaty Three Press Release for COVID-19 Enforcement, April 11th, 2020.

As this COVID-19 virus changes daily, we will continue to try be in a preparedness position however we do not know what kind of impact or potential that this COVID-19 brings and we can only request that our own community members and public abide by the measures taken to date.

In regards to travel, it was recommended by the Community Control Group that any person(s) who may have traveled to or from an area known to have reported a high volume of confirmed COVID-19 cases such as Winnipeg, and or Thunder Bay, are being requested to voluntarily self isolate and to self monitor for any flu like symptoms, such as, cough, fever, and or difficulty breathing.

In the immediate future please be aware of our Service Providers who will reaching out to inquire if any members within your household who are experiencing cold or flu like symptoms, which will then be followed up by our Community Health Nurse from FFATHS.

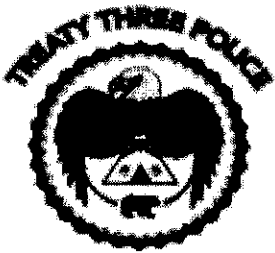
We are open to suggestions and ideas so do not hesitate to contact any member of leadership. Please remember to be aware and to always practice your preventative measures when out for essential travel.

Miigwech,



Allison Finlayson

Communication's Officer



Treaty Three Police Service

NEWS RELEASE

FROM: Treaty Three Police Service Headquarters

April 09, 2020

COVID-19 ENFORCEMENT

The Treaty Three Police Service will be working in conjunction with Treaty #3 First Nations Communities to enforce Band Council Resolutions in response to the COVID 19 Pandemic. Our police officers will be working with community Check Point security workers to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep our communities safe. We will enforce non-compliance of community border closures and related COVID 19 measures.

Individuals not complying with the direction given at the Check Points to leave the community can be arrested without warrant and charged with Trespass to Property Act Offences with fines up to \$10,000.

Individuals found in non-compliance of the Indian Act and who do not leave the community when asked to do so can also be fined up to \$50.00 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month or both.

When an individual insists that they are entering/exiting the community and fail to comply with border/check stops or an officer they can be charged under the Criminal Code for Obstructing a Peace Officer and if found guilty of the offence could be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

Ontario is currently under a state of Emergency and pursuant to the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. Under this State of Emergency, the provincial government has issued a series of orders and regulations, along with amendments to the *Provincial Offences Act*, that together impose new rules on public activity during this crisis. During this State of Emergency, officers have the authority to question, arrest and ticket/fine individuals for breach of these emergency orders.

Offences under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* include:

- Gathering in groups over five people (unless they are from the same household) other than for funerals, which allow for a gathering of maximum ten people. This includes vehicles with more than five people

Failure to comply with the above could result in being fined \$100,000 or imprisonment for no more than one year.

In addition to the above failing to comply with the following is also in contravention of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*:

- Regulating or prohibiting travel or movement to or from a specified area
- Closing any place, public or private

An individual could be fined up to \$750 for failure to comply with an order made during an emergency

Obstruction of a person exercising a power/performing a duty in accordance with an emergency order could result in a fine up to \$1000.

Individuals who are either symptomatic or screen positive for COVID-19 and/or return from travel outside of Canada and fail to isolate and/or quarantine could be fined between \$750-\$1000.

Contact:

**Acting Staff Sergeant T. Rupert
Pandemic Coordinator
Treaty Three Police Service
Phone: (807)548-5474**



Big Grassy River Ojibwe First Nation

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April 6th, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

1. Check points will be implemented at Big Grassy First Nation reserve roads, Beach Road, and NorthShore Drive. Roads closed are Anishinabe Way and Ojibwe Road. Access to these will be only via Beach Road.
2. This closure will be effective April 6, 2020 in additional security efforts to keep our community safe of the COVID-19 Virus.
3. Security will be designated as Peace Keepers under the First Nation's Trespass Bylaw, non members and non residents will be issued no trespass orders, denied entry and will be reported to the Treaty#3 Police Services.
4. We are encouraging our peacekeepers to keep a log of activities, record date, name & time, license plate and travel reason, while practicing safe social distances measures.
5. Please respect our peace keepers as they are there to protect and keep our community safe. There will be zero tolerance for verbal abuse and violence.
6. Leadership is encouraging that only 1 per family (household) to essential travel.
7. We would like to highlight the curfew hours as they are still in effect from 10:00pm to 7:00am. Please respect these hours as these are measures to keep our community safe and healthy.
8. The check point hours will be in rotations of 8 hour shifts.
 - 12:00am – 8:00am
 - 8:00am – 4:00pm
 - 4:00pm – 12:00am

Emergency Contact Numbers:

Treaty Three Police: # 911

Ambulance: # 911

Ontario Provincial Police: # 911

Fire: # 911

2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) HOW TO SELF-ISOLATE & MONITOR

IF YOU HAVE TRAVELED OUTSIDE OF CANADA IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU VOLUNTARILY SELF-ISOLATE FOR 14 DAYS WHILE SELF-MONITORING SYMPTOMS

SELF ISOLATION AND AVOIDING PUBLIC SPACES

Self-isolation is the avoidance of unnecessary social and physical contact and is a responsible method of slowing down the potential spread of COVID-19 and protecting our most vulnerable community members.

- AVOID PUBLIC SPACES
- STAY HOME
- LIMIT VISITORS
- AVOID CONTACT WITH OTHERS
- KEEP DISTANCE
- Cover cough & sneezes, wash hands frequently or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Speak to your Community Health Nurse about how to avoid contact with Elders, seniors, and other family and community members with medical conditions including diabetes, lung problems or immune deficiencies

WHAT DO I DO IF I DEVELOP SYMPTOMS?



FEVER

AND/OR



COUGH

- Monitor for **FEVER** and/or **COUGH**
- Contact your healthcare provider or your Community Health Nurse **IMMEDIATELY** and before attending the emergency department if you develop symptoms. **The emergency department will need to prepare for your visit.**

PLEASE CALL TELEHEALTH ONTARIO AT 1-866-797-0000 TO SPEAK TO A REGISTERED NURSE AT ANYTIME

Fort Frances Tribal Area Health Services Community Health Nurses

Anishinaabeg of Naongashing
Mishkosiminiziibiing

Beth Freeman-Wroldstad, RN

Onigaming

Carole Easton, RN

Seine River
Rainy River First Nations

Carolyn Kozlowshi, RN

Lac La Croix

Nicole Sandelovich, RN

Mitaanjigamiing
Nigigoonsiminikaaning

Heather Sinclair, RN

807-274-2042



DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

There's a lot of different words being shared around the world right now, but what do they mean?

Social Distancing

- An act of physical distance from others
- Maintaining a 2 meter (6 feet) distance away from others
- Avoiding non-essential gatherings or travel
- Work from home, if you can

Self-Monitoring

- Monitor yourself for 1 or more symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, difficulty breathing) for 14 days
- If you have a history of possible exposure to COVID-19
- Continue to go about your day, but practice social distancing
- If you have been advised by a medical professional

Self-Isolation

- If you had recent travel outside of Canada, self-isolate for 14 days
- If you have been indentified by Public Health as a close contact
- If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or awaiting test results
- Stay at home, avoid contact with others, monitor your symptoms
- If symptoms get worse, call your doctor or public health unit