

## **\*COMMUNITY UPDATE ALERT\***

### January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022: UPDATE

Big Grassy First Nation is officially notifying the community of a case of COVID-19. We are requesting that all community residents of the First Nation be diligent in their efforts to contain the further spread of COVID-19 by following public health guidelines.

In all of our collective efforts, we will be implementing all public health measures in the best interests of the households, band administration buildings, and the community with screening sign ins sheets, mask wearing, if not well do not visit places of interest, and encouraged sanitizing.

We have been in contact with our public health providers, Fort Frances Tribal Area Health Services (FFTAHS) and they will determine next steps as COVID-19 guidelines have changed within the province of Ontario. First Nation communities continue to be a high risk and they will issue an update of changes to the public health guidelines.

Esiniwab Health Centre will be available to those who are interested to rapid test (ID NOW) as a screening for COVID-19 virus should you have developed any symptoms.

In the best interest of health and safety to all of our community, we would encourage you to contact the Esiniwab Health Centre for availability of testing.

*Please find a list of measures in place:*

- *All offices will be closed to the public.*
- *Masks and covid tracking information will be mandatory in all offices.*
- *Please be cautious in your daily interactions outside of your home.*
- *Continue to hand sanitize diligently.*
- *Wear your masks when outside of your home and within community.*
- *If determined a close contact – please isolate and self-monitor for any symptoms.*

Please also <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1001394/ontario-temporarily-moving-to-modified-step-two-of-the-roadmap-to-reopen> which will be implemented in Ontario for a 21 day period effective January 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:01am. This site lists all changes as part of the modified step two.

[Updated Eligibility for PCR Testing and Case and Contact Management Guidance in Ontario | Ontario Newsroom](#)

[COVID-19: Stop the spread | ontario.ca](#)

The current situation will be re-assessed after 10 days and notification will be sent out once this is resolved.