

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** First Nation Chiefs, Leadership Council  
**CC:** Chiefs of Ontario Secretariat  
**FROM:** Ontario Regional Chief RoseAnne Archibald  
**DATE:** September 30, 2020  
**RE:** ORC MONTHLY UPDATE

---

Wahcheeyay, Aanii, Boozhoo, She:kon, Shekoli,

The province of Ontario is now in the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic as declared by the Premier this week. Many of you may have received my memo on the second wave, which highlights potential measures to consider for the protection of your community moving forward. My office will continue to provide current and accurate information to support your efforts to keep your community and families safe.

### **COVID-19 CASES AND PREVENTION**

#### **COVID-19 CASES:**

- Globally = 34,020,311
- Canada = 156,961
- Ontario = 51,085

#### **COVID-19 First Nations in Ontario:**

- Total Confirmed = 205 (79 on-reserve)

Note: Please see the Summary Report for more detailed information on the COVID-19 cases in First Nation communities.

### **ORC OFFICE PANDEMIC INITIATIVES**

- My office continues to work on the following initiatives: COVID-19 Community Coordinators; 24-Hour Coordinated Response STAT Teams; and Community House Mapping (to support tracing of contacts).
- More information on the ORC Initiatives is located in the Summary Report.

### **PROVINCIAL MEASURES RESPONDING TO COVID-19**

This month Ontario announced: \$1.07 billion to expand contact tracing and testing; \$30 million to prevent and manage outbreaks in the priority sectors; Expanded COVID-19 testing to pharmacies; Support for renters and small businesses for COVID-19 recovery; A rent freeze for small businesses and protection from evictions for 2021; \$14.75 million to increase mental health and addiction services; and close to \$540 million to protect residents and caregivers at long-term care homes.

### **FEDERAL MEASURES RESPONDING TO COVID-19**

- This month Canada announced: They have secured over 20 million vaccines candidates for COVID-19; \$9.5 million in funding for safer supply projects for people with opioid use disorders; Assistance for urban Indigenous organizations in the London area; \$31 million in funding for the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative; the opening of a new health care facility in Fort William First Nation; and (CERCA) was extended for another month for small businesses.

## ORC POLITICAL UPDATES

- **Education** – Leadership Council and Chiefs met with Minister Miller on September 10, 2020 to discuss the \$112M funding announcement. A commitment was made to release funds by the end of September.
- **Women's Caucus** – The FNWC is taking steps to determine how engagement on the National Framework for the MMIWG report will roll out in Ontario.
- **First Nation Bylaws & BCRs** – The province is looking to establish a technical table to address issues on enforcement and prosecution. My office is seeking a political meeting with both levels of government to provide direction on this important issue.
- **Federal Legislation:** The federal government has presented legislation on UNDRIP and is expected to launch a 6-week engagement process. Legislation on First Nations Policing has also been introduced. More information will be provided as we learn more.
- **Provincial Legislation:** Ontario released a discussion paper to review and provide input on the development of Regulations that stem from Bill 156 *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act*. The closing date is October 15, 2020.

## UPCOMING LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

### Leadership Council – Wednesday October 7, 2020

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, the Leadership Council will be joined by: Premier Doug Ford, Minister Greg Rickford, Indigenous Affairs Ontario and Minister Erine Hardeman, Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

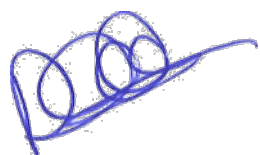
### **Leadership Council & Chiefs – Thursday October 8, 2020**

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, the LC and Chiefs will be joined by: Minister Greg Rickford, Indigenous Affairs Ontario and Deputy Minister Shawn Batise, Indigenous Affairs Ontario.

To assist Leadership and make the weekly call process more efficient and solutions-based, we have created the email address: [COVID19@coo.org](mailto:COVID19@coo.org) for you to submit your questions in advance of each meeting. Please submit questions by **Tuesday at 5:00pm.**

Ninanaskamon. Kishkeewin.

Wishing you Peace beyond all understanding,



Ontario Regional Chief RoseAnne Archibald