

DRAFT MEETING NOTES
CHIEFS OF ONTARIO
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL CONFERENCE CALL REGARDING COVID19
March 12, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.

Those Present

ORC RoseAnne Archibald
GC Joel Abram
GC Alvin Fiddler
Dan Morriseau Treaty #3
Geoff Stonefish, AIAI
Marica Trudeau Bomberri
Tracy Antone
Sherry Antone
Barret Dokis
Donna Simon
Linda Ogilvie
Lori Keeshig-Martin
Vanessa Ominika

ORC RoseAnne advised that there was no quorum for this meeting, but would deal with decisions if any on a consensus basis.

ORC noted that she is getting ready to send out a communique to the Chiefs which will be high level note on the COVID-19 pandemic. She highlighted what a pandemic is and advised that the Chiefs of Ontario Health sector will be sending another communique that will have more details on general pandemic plans and some paths forward.

Linda Ogilvie advised that the pandemic is the responsibility of FNIHB who will work with First Nation communities, providing planning and capacity for that has to happen. It is up to the individual communities to work with them and review their plans. COO has no status of those plans and where they are. Tracy added that the community plans are somewhat dated and things may have changed in the communities. Health Canada as well as ISC should have resources and capacity for those who wish to update their plans, we have not had any update from ISC that they will do this - we will need to press this upon them.

ORC asked that a plan be initiated on pandemic planning, the target dates and communicate that through the CCOH.

Tracy added that we will need to push the government to revisit Chapter 10; federally and provincially. For the timeline, we are in the middle of the pandemic so hard to say to drop everything to do this. COO will ensure we get all the information out, updates for our communities and supporting communities if no plan updated.

Linda also advised that there are weekly calls with Province, which ISC is a part of as well as PTO Health Directors have been invited to be a part of. We can push that as an agenda item.

ORC suggested that this be done simultaneous; update them and give them roadmap for it. Letter to Government to be drafted to go under her signature.

Grand Chief Fiddler talked of his situation in the NAN communities, and added that it is a reality that the communities if they had plans they were developed 10-12 years ago are extremely outdated. His office is receiving many calls and emails to find resources to update these which he is connecting with health authorities and other service providers to see how we can work together. He further commented on the lack of protective equipment for the communities, the nurses and front line workers.

This item of protective equipment can be added to the agenda for the conference calls with the Province and ISC for all communities, as well as asking about the declaration of a pandemic, does the Ontario Chief Medical Officer need to announce this (not just the WHO organization). Linda added that the issue of health centres, health offices and long term facilities will be also asked about and ensuring they too receive updated information. Linda will bring these issues forward and advise the Leadership Council of the update when call is complete.

Grand Chief Fiddler advised that the other issue is the concern of mass gatherings, i.e. hockey tournaments. Dryden has now cancelled their hockey tournament. Little NHL should do the same. He added that there is a call out from NAN and Treaty #3 for this and he was asking other PTO's to join the call.

Grand Chief Joel Abram stated that he has been looking at the table and all of the risk factors. He will be emailing the AIAI Chiefs and ask for their input. It is better to be safe then sorry.

With that, it was noted that weekly calls would take place on this with the Leadership Council (Thursday's); a memo would be sent from ORC today to the FN Leadership; another Memo to go to the FN Leadership from the COO Health Sector (technical newsletter on COVID-19); Linda to bring forward agenda items to the table and provide notes and outcomes after her meeting.