

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** First Nation Chiefs, Leadership Council  
**CC:** Chiefs of Ontario Secretariat  
**FROM:** Ontario Regional Chief RoseAnne Archibald  
**DATE:** May 14, 2020  
**RE:** ORC WEEKLY UPDATE

---

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

As we approach the long holiday weekend, I am please to report that the rate of infection has plateaued for the last four days. Some communities are impacted more severely than others and I ask you to continue sending your prayers for all communities. Together we are working towards finding solutions that will support the specific needs of our communities and members.

The work in my office continues to be guided by the higher purpose of preserving and protecting the health, well-being and lives of First Nation Members during the COVID-19 pandemic, with an overall goal of zero new confirmed COVID-19 cases in First Nation communities. This weekly memo highlights our work.

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

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

- Globally = 4,508,663
- Canada = 72,536
- Ontario = 21,494

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

- Total Confirmed = 81 (44 on-reserve)
- Declared State of Emergencies = 70
- Self-Isolating Communities = 47
- Airport Restrictions = 12
- Road Restrictions = 76

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

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

- Extended the Declaration of Emergency to June 2<sup>nd</sup> and have launched stage one of opening the economy.

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

- ISC/FNIHB released a framework to assist First Nation's on re-opening their communities. The framework can be found at [www.coo-covid19.com](http://www.coo-covid19.com).
- Announced new measures to support large and middle-sized businesses and introduced additional measures to support seniors.

- ISC has begun transporting essential service personnel and supplies via carefully managed charter flights.

#### **ORC OFFICE PANDEMIC INITIATIVES**

- My office is in the process of hiring a Director of Policy (COVID-19) and we continue 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).

#### **EMERGING ISSUES**

- The Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey joined First Nation leaders on Thursday May 14, 2020 to discuss the issue of enforcing and prosecuting First Nation by-laws.
  - A meeting with federal and provincial counterparts is being sought to resolve the issue of Bylaws, BCRs and Enforcement & Prosecution (Ontario Attorney General & Minister of Justice and Attorney General Canada).
- The Public Prosecution Service of Canada (PPSC) will prosecute by-laws related to COVID-19 and that are pursuant to the *Indian Act*.

#### **WEEKLY CALLS**

##### **Wednesday – Leadership Council**

This week the LC was joined by: Minister Greg Rickford, Indigenous Affairs Ontario, and Deputy Minister Shawn Batise, Indigenous Affairs Ontario.

**Next Wednesday May 20** – The Minister of Indigenous Services Canada, Marc Miller will be joining the LC weekly call.

##### **Thursday – Leadership Council and Chiefs**

This week the LC and Chiefs were joined by: Ontario Minister of Energy, Mines, Northern Development and Indigenous Affairs Greg Rickford, Attorney General of Ontario, Doug Downey, and Deputy Minister Shawn Batise, Indigenous Affairs Ontario.

**Next Thursday May 21** - The Assistant Minister of Addictions and Mental Health, Michael Tibollo will be joining the LC and Chiefs weekly call.

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. Kisahkeetin.  
Wishing you Peace beyond all understanding,



Ontario Regional Chief RoseAnne Archibald