

Community First

April 2020

Ginoogaming First Nation Newsletter



CHIEF AND COUNCIL

Chief Celia Echum

Councillors

Sheri Taylor

Victor Chapais

Lisa Echum

Martha Taylor

Maurice Waboose

Kelly Fortier

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Chief's Message—stay healthy, be smart during pandemic

Boozhoo, good day to all Ginoogaming First Nation band members:

The Ginoogaming First Nation Chief and Council were first made aware of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Friday March 6. Council was notified regarding Coronavirus, and we had to sit down and digest what the virus is. We had to understand how, where, when, and what it was before we could do anything. We all remembered what was being said about Coronavirus in China since December on the news, and we figured it was the same as SARS and H1N1. Nobody thought it would come this far. We were not prepared for this, but the entire country of Canada was not prepared either. The message now to people is: this is life-threatening, especially for babies, elderly people, those with immune systems that are down, or those with chronic illness. They will not have a chance to fight this. It has hit some of the young people too, and they had a hard time fighting it even with healthy bodies. It depends on how your body and mind responds to the virus.

This is serious, the measures that we put in place are there for your own safety. The Chief and Council were not prepared to put these measures in place, because as you know First Nation people love their freedom, to be able to go wherever they

want. We don't know everything about this virus. The scientists are saying that it's living in the cold and the only thing you can do is wipe down everything. We must all learn to practice the safety measures that are being put in place by the World Health Organization. It is a safety precaution.

It has to be accepted. People are starting to be aware of the danger and the harmful effects. It is all about trying to change life accordingly. This virus is making everyone think about their lives. Security is important for the community. That is why we have limited access. We have closed down the two entrances, the northern end and the eastern end. We may go into the next step, which is lockdown. It could be a month. It depends what the council says. Right now, the limited access is indefinite until full lockdown. We need our people to work with our security staff on the front lines. Please respect all safety measures and precautions, so that we all can stay healthy.



Megwetch, Chief Echum

Health **ALERT**

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



The virus doesn't move; people move it. We stop moving, the virus stops moving, the virus dies—its that simple”

SHERI TAYLOR, HEALTH DIRECTOR

Our message to you all is stay home, please do not leave unless absolutely necessary for grocery/ prescriptions, medical appointments, or emergencies. We have the gates at the entrances for your safety, we also have a curfew from 11pm to 6am. During the curfew hours absolutely no one is allowed to leave or come into the community unless it's an emergency vehicle (police, fire, ambulance). We ask you all to respect what is in place so we can keep our children, Elders and loved ones safe. A detailed protocol for the gates will be provided.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact any one of us on this list, we are looking at more food security supports and options and will update you all very soon.

Yours in Health,

Sheri Taylor, Health Director/Pandemic Coordinator

PROTOCOL WHEN GETTING HOME



Take shoes off before entering home



Spray alcohol top and bottom of shoes



Also do to clothes, cell phone, glasses, keys, work utensils, computers ect.



Throw away any receipt or papers



Go to where you can take your clothes off and put them in the washer



Don't touch or sit in any chairs or beds



Go the bathroom to take a shower, brush your teeth, etc



Now you can hug your family

Here is some information if you anyone becomes ill/fever and you are worried about what to do.

Below is the link to do a self-assessment, if you don't have access to the internet here is a guide.

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/#q0>

You need to assess the level of symptoms

MILD

- Fever
- Cough
- Sneezing
- Sore throat

PLEASE STAY AT HOME. As a precaution the Public Health Agency of Canada is asking anyone with symptoms (fever, cough, sneezing, and sore throat,) to at least stay home for 14 days.

MODERATE

- Mild to moderate short of breath
- Inability to lie down because of difficulty breathing
- Chronic Health conditions that you are having difficulty managing because of difficulty breathing.

Consult a Health Care Provider if unable to reach call please call Telehealth 1-866-797-0000 to speak to a Registered Nurse

SEVERE

- Severe difficulty breathing (eg, struggling to breath or speaking in single words)
- Severe chest pain
- Having a very hard time waking up
- Feeling confused
- Losing consciousness

Please call 911 these symptoms require immediate attention.



Medical Transportation Notice:

We will provide a ride to the OATC for those that need to attend for doctor appointment or ingestion, but we are restricting to two (2) people at a time, and no children allowed on the medical van due to social distancing measures. You will also be subjected to screening protocols and be required to follow the recommended course of action, if you present a cold/fever, cough you will not be permitted on the medical van.

If any person has a cold/fever cough we ask that you stay home, if you feel that it has worsened and need medical attention you are asked to call the Telehealth # at **1-866-797-0000** or call the Thunder Bay District Health Unit at **1-888-294-6630**, or if worsened and emergency call 911.

Attached is a step by step guide if you have any questions or concerns if you or any of your family becomes ill, and not sure what to do about it. I have attached the link to the telehealth website.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-medical-advice-telehealth-ontario>

Rexall (prescription)

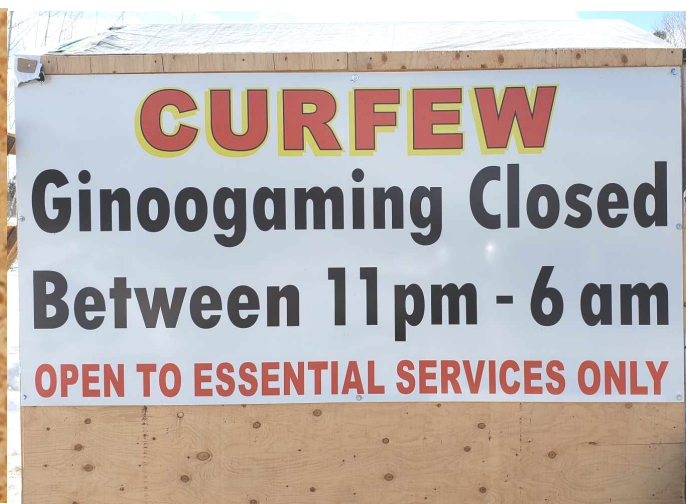
We will not be providing rides to pick up prescriptions or to go to the Rexall for anything else, if you need a prescription picked up please call our medical van driver at **807-853-1226**. He will be happy to assist you.

Ontario Works – Transportation

Roseline Mendowegan will provide rides to the store at a limit of (2) people at a time, please no children allowed. Her cell number is **807-853-2140**.

Pandemic Team—Contact List

- 1. Sheri Taylor** (807) 853-1946
Health Director/Pandemic Coordinator
- 2. Liz Ferris** (807) 853-1949
Ontario Works Administrator/Pandemic Team Security
- 3. Lisa Echum** (807) 853-2074
Mental Health Worker/Pandemic Team/Security
- 4. Fern Charles** (807) 876-2242
First Nation Finance – Pandemic Team
- 5. Vanessa Legarde** (807) 853-2069
Ontario Works Case Worker/ Pandemic Team – Security
- 6. Kelly Fortier** (807) 853-2072
Community Health Rep/Pandemic Team
- 7. Peter Rasevych** (807) 876-2242
Pandemic Team Communications
- 8. Calvin Taylor** (807) 876-2242
Lands and Resources/Pandemic Team
- 9. Victor Chapais** (807) 853-2492
Education Supports/Pandemic Team
- 10. Celia Echum** (807) 854-8940
Chief, Ginoogaming First Nation



TO ALL GINOOGAMING COMMUNITY MEMBERS—APRIL 7, 2020

This notice is in addition to the original GFN Public Notice that was issued on Monday March 30, 2020 regarding the 11:00 pm to 6:00 am curfew, and the 24/7 monitoring of our community access roads.

The Ginoogaming First Nation Chief and Council are requesting all community members to please work with us by respecting the safety measures that have been put in place.

Security Gate Keepers have been employed to keep everyone in our community healthy and safe during these difficult times.

The brief screening that the Security Gate Keepers are doing is very light, please help them by cooperating.

The screening and controlled access is there to ensure that COVID-19 cases do not enter our community – children, Elders, and anyone with compromised immune system, anyone who smokes, anyone with previous respiratory difficulty (eg. Asthma), anyone with pre-existing health conditions (eg. Diabetes, cancer) are all at great risk.

We are preparing the community in the event that the community has to go to another phase that would include even more measures (eg. full lockdown).

We do not want to have to go into a full lockdown phase.

We want to keep the community in this phase, with everyone healthy and safe, and the way to do that is to comply with the curfew and also the controlled access.

Full lockdown would entail that nobody would be able to leave the community, and we do not want to see that happen here.

Full lockdown may also depend on what is going on in the rest of Canada, it may come to pass that we will all have to go onto full lockdown anyway, so it is good to prepare for this likelihood.

At the current time, we cannot add any new non-band members to the GFN household list.

Once again, we ask everyone to please cooperate with the GFN Security Gate Keepers who are working to safeguard your and your families' health and well-being.



QUARANTINE ACT UPDATE

Quick Reference Tool

Quarantine Act

In Canada, the federal Quarantine Act empowers the government to control the movement of people and goods in the event of a health emergency. In these circumstances, the Quarantine Act has been deployed to grant health officials the power to restrict the movement of an individual in certain circumstances for the purpose of minimizing the spread of COVID-19. At midnight on March 25, the federal government announced that it will enforce mandatory 14-day quarantines on all Canadians returning to the country. There could be fines and jail time for individuals who do not comply with these orders. The goal for the OPP is to use discretion and information to educate the public prior to considering fines or arrest authorities.

Frontline Impact:

- The federal Quarantine Act doesn't give police any new powers, but the police will assist with requests from those designated as screening or quarantine officers under terms of the Act, applying the appropriate police discretion on when/how to enforce.
- All members are encouraged to regularly visit the dedicated [COVID-19 intranet page](#) for up-to-date information and resources.
- At this time, all allegations regarding compliance with the Quarantine Act are to be referred to the Frontline Support Unit (FSU).
- If the complaint is dispatched to an officer, the officer is to engage with the Detachment Commander prior to attending the location.

Quick Reference Sections:

- Arrest without a warrant (s. 18)
 - A peace officers may, at the request of a screening officer or quarantine officer, arrest without a warrant and bring to a quarantine officer any traveller who the peace officer has reasonable grounds to believe has refused to be isolated or refuses to comply with a measure under subsection 15(3) (a measure ordered by a screening officer or quarantine officer).
- Arrest without warrant (s. 28(2))
 - A peace officer may, at the request of a quarantine officer, arrest without a warrant and bring to the quarantine officer any traveller who:
 - Has refused to be disinfested or to undergo a health assessment;
 - has been required to undergo a medical examination under subsection 22(1);
 - has failed to comply with an order made under section 26
 - a quarantine officer has reasonable grounds to believe:
 - has or might have a communicable disease or is infested with vectors,

QUARANTINE ACT UPDATE

Quick Reference Tool

- or has recently been in close proximity to a person who has or might have a communicable disease or is infested with vectors; and
- is capable of infecting other people;
 - has been arrested under section 27; or
 - has been arrested without a warrant under section 18.
- Peace officer to assist (s. 52)
 - A peace officer shall provide any assistance that an officer acting under the Quarantine Act may request for the purpose of administering or enforcing the Act.

Penalties and Fines

- Every person who causes a risk of imminent death or serious bodily harm to another person while wilfully or recklessly contravening this Act (s. 67(1)) is liable to:
 - Fine/Penalty: up to \$1,000,000 and/or imprisonment up to three years (Indictable) and up to \$300,000 and/or imprisonment up to six months (Summary)
- Every person who fails to comply with the reasonable measures ordered by a quarantine officer or screening officer for the purpose of preventing the introduction of spread of a communicable disease, including treatment or other measures, (s. 15(3), 25(1) or 26) is guilty of an offence.
 - Fine/Penalty: up to \$200,000 and/or to imprisonment up to six months.
- Every person who fails to comply with an obligation regarding the operation or movement of a conveyance (s. 35, 39(1), 44(3) or 51) is guilty of an offence,
 - Fine/Penalty: up to \$750,000 and/or to imprisonment up to six months.

Protocols:

- OPP Command requests the following priority/protocols be applied regarding allegations of non-compliance:
 1. Discretion;
 2. Education;
 3. Consultation with a quarantine officer by phone;
 4. Detention/arrest only as a last resort.

FAQ:

Q: How Can Police Enforce Self-Isolation Rules?

A: Police leaders in Ontario continue to work closely with provincial and federal decision-makers to determine what the expectations are from the government regarding quarantine and self-isolation. At this time, there is very little guidance on how to ensure travellers are in self-isolation and/or quarantine. Police efforts should remain focused on education, the well-being of travellers, and the option to detain travellers should be viewed as a last resort after consultation with a quarantine officer.

Q: Has a phone number been established where a peace officer can call a quarantine officer to discuss a particular situation?

A: A peace officer can call 613-614-4754 between 08h00 and 17h00 to discuss a particular situation encountered. This line will be answered a PHAC official involved with compliance verification and enforcement of the Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation). If a determination is made that the advice or input of a Quarantine Officer is required, the call will be forwarded by the official. PHAC will not setting up a dedicated line that concerned citizens can call.

GERALDTON DISTRICT HOSPITAL

COVID-19 UPDATE

March 24, 2020

There are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Geraldton District Hospital.

FACILITY RESTRICTIONS

If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, do not enter the facility. Call **Telehealth at 1-866-797-0000** or the **Thunder Bay District Health Unit at 1-888-294-6630**.

For other issues, do not come to the Emergency Department unless it is an emergency or urgent matter.

Patients and care partners must use the Emergency Entrance to enter the facility. You will be screened prior to entry.

VISITORS

- **No visitors are permitted in the John Owens Residence (Long Term Care)**
- Acute Care visiting hours have been reduced to 11am to 7pm.
- Only **1** care partner, as designated by the resident or patient, may visit patients in Acute Care.
- Children under the age of 16 are not permitted to visit.
- Exception will be made on a case by case basis for palliative patients.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are sick
- Practice social distancing of 1m-2m



COVID-19

Lifespan On Different Surfaces



Air

3 Hours

eg: moisture from coughs/sneezes, fog, dust, medical gas



Aluminum

2 - 8 Hours

eg: automobile, wheels, cans, cooking utensils, foils, staples



Rubber

8 Hours

eg: tyres, wipers, rubber/surgical gloves, rubber toys, tubes & hoses



Cardboard

24 Hours

eg: food packaging, packages, playing cards, hardcover book



Plastic & Steels

2 - 3 Days

eg: car dashboard, buttons, bottles, containers, plastic bag, bank cards, taps, kitchen appliances & utensils, coins



Glass

4 Days

eg: windows, side mirrors, mobile phones, tablets, spectacles, cups, bottles, jars, jugs, bulbs



Paper

4 - 5 Days

eg: banknotes, tissue paper, toilet rolls, newspaper, notebook paper, mails



Wood

8 Days

eg: wooden blocks, pencils, chopsticks, furnitures, flooring, kitchen cabinet

Do you receive Ontario Works or ODSP?

Ontario Works Covid-19 Benefit

\$50.00 for singles and \$100.00 for families

You must request this benefit directly from the TBDSSAB office by calling 766-2111

ODSP Covid-19 Benefit

\$100.00 for singles and \$200.00 for families

Call your local office at 473-3130 to request these funds

Let's Stop COVID-19

Stay Safe



We deliver

Longlac Freshmart

How to order:

1. Email at bucheron86@hotmail.com or fax at 807-876-4623.
2. Pay by Visa or Mastercard.
3. Order must be put one day in advance.
4. Must be specific to each item, size and brand. Please indicate a substitute if you require an item we might not have in stock. (no returns will be accepted)
5. Order sheets will be available in store, by email or you can request an order sheet in your delivery.

Deliveries

1. All deliveries will be done by Porkys Delivery Services.
2. A charge of \$5.00 in town or \$6.00 to the Rez, delivery charge must be paid cash when received.
3. Deliveries will be done between 10:30 am to 12:00pm. If you require delivery outside these hours we will try to accommodate.
4. We will practice safe social distance upon delivery.

We are trying to put in place a curb side pick up. Stay tune.



MATAWA HEALTH CO-OPERATIVE



Updated March 30, 2020

The Matawa Health Co-operative is providing COVID-19 Mental Wellness assistance through telephone support:

Mental Wellness Phone Counselling

Mondays & Saturdays - 10:00am-6:00pm

(807) 252-5392

Wednesdays 8:30am – 4:30pm

(807) 630-2526

Tuesday & Thursday Evenings

6:00pm – 9:00pm

(807) 631-0831

Fridays 10:00am – 6:00pm

(807) 632-5058

More updates...

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

COVID-19 assistance available to Ginoogaming First Nation members residing both on- and off-reserve. GFN will be providing monetary assistance per household.

- To apply to receive funding, we will need your proof of address and status number

Deadline to apply: Friday, April 10 at 4:00 pm (because we need to apply before the government deadline on Monday April 13)

Send your information in to:

Kelly Fortier

kelly.fortier@ginoogamingfn.ca

Ph: (807) 853-2072

Fax: (807) 876-1614

Celia Echum

celia.echum@ginoogamingfn.ca

Ph: (807) 854-8940

Fax: (807) 876-2495

Fern Charles

fern.charles@ginoogamingfn.ca

Ph: (807) 876-2242

Fax: (807) 876-2495

Amounts payable are to be determined. Calculations will be based on household and family size, or if living single.

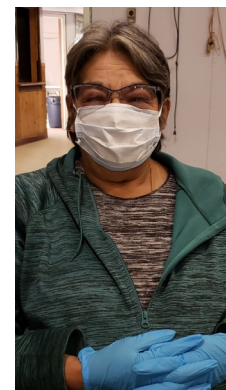
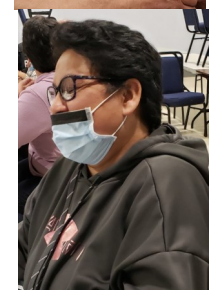
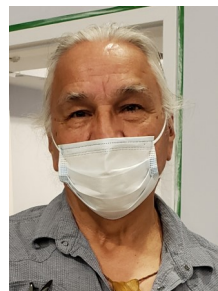
GFN Education Update: Councillor Victor Chapais

Victor Chapais would like to inform all on-reserve GFN members who are nominal roll and registered with Indigenous Services Canada who are interested, that they may complete school work from JK to grade 12 online through an Internet connection. School teachers will be contacting all students.

GFN will distribute laptops for school purposes. Victor has also asked for those interested to let him know if they require Internet connection.

NOTICE FROM CHIEF AND COUNCIL:

There is absolutely no dumping of garbage in the community. We have regular garbage pick up weekly. Ernest has been notified to provide a garbage box for households requiring a **garbage box**.



GINOOGAMING FIRST NATION

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Phone: 807-876-2242

Visit us online

www.ginoogamingfn.ca