



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Date: March 20, 2020

From: Hiawatha First Nation Council, Administration & Health

Re: COVID-19 Update #2 to Citizens

Aaniin Citizens,

We would like to first say that it is important that we don't allow this to control us through fear, to stay calm, and to keep in mind all the preventative information available to us. As stated elsewhere, the best way we can stay together right now is by staying apart. Council and our Staff have been in constant contact with various federal agencies, provincial authorities and health officials to ensure that we will receive adequate resources and accurate, timely information is available for our Citizens.

As we continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic, we are making changes as necessary that align with keeping our Citizens and Community as safe as possible. As you are aware public buildings are closed and no programming or community meetings will be taking place.

Council will be continuing regular business by way of teleconference and will be meeting regularly via conference call. Our COVID – 19 Task Team (see table below) are talking daily and meeting every other day to keep updated on local, regional and national changes and we will make the necessary changes at the Community level as required. We will continue to keep you updated through flyers, social media pages and through our website at www.hiawathafirstnation.com

Department	Team
Council	Laurie Carr, Cynthia Gray, Jeff Loucks, Katie Wilson, Kirk Edwards
Administration/Finance	Trisha Shearer, Amy Bickmore, Nikki Paudash
Health	Tina Howard, Lori Webster
ORRS	JD Monette

With the recent local increased cases of COVID-19 and expectation of more to be confirmed we have made the changes/decisions noted below:

- **No April programming will occur – therefore there will be no April 2020 Newsletter.**
- **ORRS will only be open for GAS and PROPANE sales between the hours of 3-7pm until further notice.**
- **If you are unable to attend work, and are now on a reduced income due to COVID-19, please speak to our Housing Coordinator, Lisa Cowie, regarding your monthly mortgage or rent payment. Lisa can be reached at 705-295-4421 (leave a message) or by email at lcowie@hiawathafn.ca For those not affected, mortgage and rent payments can be made by mail at this time.**
- **Due to the very limited availability to get supplies in bulk, we will be sending each household a cheque for \$150.00 to purchase cleaning/hygiene supplies. These cheques will be ready by March 27, 2020. It may be easier to get these supplies on an individual basis as opposed to us being able to get them in bulk at this time.**

We will continue to plan and prepare our Community so that we will have best possible outcomes moving forward. We need everyone to do their part and know that we will get through this together.

As recommended by Ontario and Canada, we also ask those who have returned from out-of-Country to self-isolate. Ask family and/or friends to pick up any supplies you may need so they can leave them for you upon your return.

If those who have travelled, or anyone who feels may be affected by the COVID-19 virus, and have questions, please follow these steps first:

- 1) **Go to the Peterborough Public Health Website**
<https://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/>
- 2) **If you cannot find the information online or you feel you may be affected, please call Peterborough Public Health 705-743-1000 or 1-877-743-0101.**
- 3) **It is advised that you DO NOT visit the hospital, as you may be turned away due to the increased volume.**

If you are in self-isolation due to out-of-Country travel, or illness, and require essential supplies, such as food, medication or protective equipment (masks, gloves, etc) please contact **Chief Carr at 705-927-7012 or Health Manager, Tina Howard at 705-930-1107.**

We continue to strongly encourage you and your family to stay at home to help stop the spread of the virus. We understand that people will have to go out to get groceries, or to pharmacies, etc. and ask that you take the precautionary measures below when doing these tasks:

- **Leave two metres (6 feet) between yourself and next person.**
- **If you have to cough or sneeze, do this into your sleeve.**
- **Avoid contact with people who are sick.**
- **Frequently wash hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.**
- **Avoid touching your face.**

We ask our Citizens to check in with family members and neighbors who have mobility/health issues.

If you require police services and in order to ensure the safe delivery of services, for the Community and front-line Officers, the OPP is requesting Community Citizens wishing to report a **non-urgent matter** to **use** our website **opp.ca/reporting** or **call** the toll free number **1-888-310-1122** to reach the Provincial Communications Centre.

Call **911** for **emergency** use only.

We will be providing another update with more comprehensive COVID-19 information next week.

If you have any questions regarding this update please do not hesitate to call our Office at 705-295-4421 and leave a message for Administrator Trisha Shearer, or Chief Laurie Carr. We will be checking our messages regularly and return your message as soon as possible.

“Our Citizens and Community remain our first priority and we will work to mitigate risks for best possible outcomes moving forward through the COVID-19 pandemic.”