

COVID-19 BULLETIN

MATAWA FIRST NATIONS

Issue 15 - July 10, 2020 - Global Pandemic Day #122

HIGH TOUCH SURFACES TO DISINFECT DAILY

TOILETS
PHONES
ELECTRONICS
DOOR HANDLES
BEDSIDE TABLES
TELEVISION REMOTES



WWW.CANADA.CA/EN/PUBLIC-HEALTH/SERVICES/DISEASES/2019-NOVEL-CORONAVIRUS-INFECTION/PREVENTION-RISKS.HTML

MATAWA OFFICES CLOSED

Please note, office closures have been extended to July 31, 2020 (from June 30 previously). This may be extended if necessary. Our staff continue to work remotely, with the exception of essential staff. Our phone lines, including the Matawa Health Co-op Nursing Line (1-833-625-3611) are still open.

POSTPONEMENT OF 32ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On July 8, 2020, the Matawa Chiefs Council made a decision to postpone their AGM which was originally scheduled to take place from July 28 - 30 in Webequie First Nation. A decision will be made on re-scheduling it later in the year when COVID-19 has subsided and there is no longer a danger to have large gatherings.

COVID-19 SPREAD IN MATAWA FIRST NATIONS

The three (3) positive cases were confirmed in Eabametoong First Nation on June 15, 2020 have now been cleared. There are currently no new/active cases within Matawa. The Matawa Health Co-operative have been providing drive-through testing in some road-access communities with the next one taking place in Constance Lake First Nation on Mon. July 13 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. A number of road-access communities are easing restrictions as northern Ontario has moved into Phase 2 of re-opening and are opening up check-points at periodic times. Some remote communities are at the beginning stages of deciding on easing restrictions.

MATAWA RADIO SHOW RE-ESTABLISHED

As a result of the Matawa office closure, the bi-weekly Matawa Radio Show needed to be discontinued. We are pleased to announce that we are now prepared to start it back up on a regular basis again. The first show will take place on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 from 4:00 - 4:30 pm EST. CEO David-Paul Achneepineskum will be providing an update at that time. The next shows in August highlighting news from various Matawa Program Managers (and other guests) will take place on August 11 and 25 from 4:00 - 4:30 pm EST. Other show dates have been posted at: www.matawa.on.ca/services/communications/ - the ways to tune in are:

- www.wawataynews.ca
- 89.9 FM in Sioux Lookout
- 106.7 FM in Timmins
- Bell TV Channel 962



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COVID-19 TESTING/SITUATION UPDATE

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Health Unit	Positive	Negative	Tests	Pending	Resolved	Deaths
Porcupine	67	9,422	9,489	-	67	8
Thunder Bay	92	22,110	22,202	-	89	1
Northwestern	42	10,488	10,530	-	38	-
TOTALS FOR HEALTH UNITS IN MATAWA	201	42,020	42,221	-	194	9

DATE EXTRACTED - July 10, 2020 - meegwetch to the Matawa Health Co-operative for the compilation of statistics.

NOTES: In terms of positive cases from our last bulletin on June 5, 2020 (two weeks ago): the Porcupine Health Unit is the same, the Thunder Bay Health Unit is up 2 and the Northwestern Health Unit is up 6. Overall positive cases are still climbing. The overall testing went up 7,242 (from 34,979 two weeks ago). The death toll stayed the same.

MATAWA HEALTH & SOCIAL MENO BIIMADESWIN TRAVEL PROCEDURES/PROTOCOL FOR MENTAL WELLNESS TEAMS

During a community crisis, the Matawa Meno Biimadeswin department is able to put together a mental wellness (MW) team. The MW Team can consist of crisis support workers, case managers, psychometrists, child/youth specialists, psychiatrists, psychologists, Elders, Traditional Medicine Specialists, etc. During the COVID-19 pandemic, they are required to adhere to these procedures and protocols. For more information on MW Teams, please contact Ila Beaver, Mental Wellness Team Lead Facilitator at: (807)631-1956.

- 1 MW Team Members are **screened** by being asked these questions:
 - Have you been out of the country of Canada in the last 14 days?
 - Do you have any symptoms of fever, coughing, difficulty breathing?
 - Have you been in close contact with anyone with COVID 19 or anyone who has been tested positive?

If any team member answers YES to one or more questions, they are NOT allowed to travel. They are advised to self-quarantine for 14 days or to get tested.

- 2 MW Team Members are **tested** prior to going in to a community by Matawa Health Co-op. It takes up to 24-48 hrs to know the results of the test. During this time, the team members are required to wear masks at all times and practice protocols required.
- 3 In the community, MW Team members are **required to wear their PPE at all times during work and especially when distance visiting clients**. They are expected to practice social distancing while in the community and to frequently to wash hands or use hand sanitizer.