

COVID-19 BULLETIN

MATAWA FIRST NATIONS

Issue 18 - August 7, 2020 - Global Pandemic Day #150

MATAWA EXTENDS OFFICE CLOSURES

Please note, the Matawa FN Management Board of Directors have extended all Matawa office closures to August 28, 2020 (from July 31 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.

COVID-19 SPREAD IN MATAWA FIRST NATIONS

The three (3) positive cases that were confirmed in Eabametoong First Nation on June 15, 2020 have now been cleared. There are currently no new/active cases within Matawa.

MATAWA RADIO SHOW SCHEDULE

All shows take place from 4:00 - 4:30 pm EST. Guests have been scheduled as follows:

- August 11: Jacqueline Gagnon (KKETS) and Lillian Stoney (KKETS graduate student)
- August 25: Audrea Sturgeon & Wayne Slipperjack, Rapid Lynx Telecommunications
- September 8: Brad Battiston, Principal and Jackie Corbett (Vice-Principal) Matawa Education and Care Centre

Tune in to hear their latest updates at: www.wawataynews.ca OR 89.9 FM in Sioux Lookout OR 106.7 FM in Timmins OR Bell TV Channel 962

RADIO SHOW

Tune in on Matawa's radio show through Wawatay to get the latest updates for the Rapid Lynx Broadband Project

Date: Tuesday August 25, 2020
Time: 4:00 PM EST



TREATY ANNUITY PAYMENTS POSTPONED

Due to the coronavirus outbreak, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is postponing all treaty annuity payment events until further notice. To receive a treaty payment, a treaty annuity payment request form must be completed and mailed to your ISC regional office. Treaty payments will be mailed to you in the form of a cheque.

Treaty annuity payment request forms can be obtained here: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032294/1581869772685>

(EXCERPT FROM INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA)

What are treaty payments?

Every year the Government of Canada makes treaty annuity payments to status Indians who are entitled to them through membership in bands that have signed specific historic treaties with the Crown.

Most treaty payments are made in cash during treaty payment events in First Nation communities and urban centers, on or off reserve. They are coordinated by Treaty First Nations and ISC regional offices. The fulfillment of treaty provisions is a legal obligation of the Government of Canada.

Honouring treaty commitments

ISC is responsible for honouring the Crown's money-related treaty promises, which include most treaty annuities.

The fulfillment of the commitments made under the treaties is symbolic of the special relationship between First Nations and the Crown. The Government of Canada honours and respects these historical events and is committed to upholding the important place they hold for Indigenous peoples and all Canadians.

Who is eligible?

You are entitled to treaty annuity payments if you are a Status Indian (registered Indian) and a member of a First Nation that has signed one of the following treaties:

- The Robinson-Huron and Robinson-Superior Treaties (1850)
- Treaty No.1, Treaty No.2, Treaty No.3, Treaty No.4, Treaty No.5, Treaty No.6, Treaty No.7, Treaty No.8, Treaty No.9, Treaty No.10, and Treaty No.11 (together, these are known as the eleven "Numbered Treaties" from 1871-1921)

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COVID-19 TESTING/SITUATION UPDATE

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Health Unit	Positive	Resolved	Deaths
Porcupine	72	na	8
Thunder Bay	99	na	1
Northwestern	44	na	-
TOTALS FOR HEALTH UNITS IN MATAWA	215	na	9

DATE EXTRACTED - August 7, 2020 - meegwetch to the Matawa Health Co-operative for the compilation of statistics. Please note that the table has been adjusted to account for changes on health unit websites. *na = not available

NOTES: In terms of positive cases from our last bulletin July 31, 2020: the Porcupine Health Unit is up 2 positive cases, and the Thunder Bay Health Unit is up 4 positive cases, and Northwestern Health Unit has stayed the same. Overall positive cases went up 6. The death toll stayed the same.

Supporting a Friend Experiencing Abuse

Find help and advice for yourself or someone you care about.



If you are worried about a friend who is being abused or feels unsafe, review these tips on how best to support them.

Need help for yourself? See tips and resources for people experiencing abuse.



Stay in Touch and Be Creative

Ask your friend the best way to stay in touch. The abuser may be monitoring calls, texts and emails, so think of other ways to connect. Secret code words, sentences or even emojis can help you communicate privately.

Be Supportive

Reassure your friend they are not alone. Help and support are out there. Recognize that it may be difficult for them to talk about the abuse due to fear or shame. If they want to talk, listen carefully and be empathetic



Help Make a Plan

Sheltering in place can escalate an abuser's use of violence. Help your friend create a plan for getting through this time safely. For example, you can help your friend reach out to friends and family to find a place to stay.

Let Them Be in Charge

Your friend should be making their own decisions and choices about their safety. Unless you strongly believe that their life is in immediate danger, ask their consent before doing anything on their behalf.



Share Resources

Let your friend know they can talk to someone who has been trained to help. Share information about local helplines or domestic violence programs.