

Eabametoong First Nation

Fort Hope Indian Reserve #64
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Eabametoong First Nation COVID-19 Community Protection and Emergency Response Order

1) COMMUNITY ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:

1. Regular scheduled flights are hereby restricted to accommodate community needs deemed necessary by Chief and Council and will be established in coordination with the airline(s) and then communicated to membership. Aircraft chartered to EFN will require the permission of the First Nation ahead of time. Airlines will ensure airport screening. Any delivery of items will be done with caution (when removing from delivery vehicles), items must all be wiped down with disinfectant and persons must wear gloves and other protective equipment as necessary when handling items from the delivery vehicles. Social distancing shall be practiced on aircraft and in airport facilities.
2. Any person who has not normally resided in Eabametoong First Nation for a period of 180 days as of March 30, 2020, is prohibited from entering or remaining on Eabametoong First Nation (Fort Hope IR #64) while this Order is in effect, with the following exceptions for temporary entry:
 - a) qualified health care providers entering onto for the purpose of the provision of health care services;
 - b) police officers, paramedics, firefighters, air ambulance, social services and other emergency responders in the course of their duties;
 - c) emergency repair service providers, where emergency repairs are reasonably required and approved by the Chief and Council;
 - d) Canada Post carriers and persons making shipments and deliveries of goods and mail reasonably required by businesses and community members;
 - e) Flight crews working on any chartered flights arriving in the First Nation;
 - f) Persons providing services in the course of importation of goods and other supply chain material – i.e.: diesel fuel, gasoline, disinfectant, food, water, etc. necessary for community wellbeing;
 - g) Persons involved in National Defense, Emergency Preparedness and / or other individuals essential to community wellbeing, as approved by Chief and Council;
 - h) Persons involved in working on the construction of major capital infrastructure projects deemed essential by the Chief and Council as set out in the attached list in Schedule A;
 - i) Persons travelling from the First Nation for urgent medical travel purposes, including patients, escorts and medical personnel. Gloves and other protective equipment shall be worn. Their return to the community will be subject to screening protocols and they will be required to follow the recommended course of action established by the Chief and Council, under advice from the EFN Chief Medical Officer (e.g. Nurse in Charge) , including a mandatory 14 day self-isolation period. During this period, members returning to the community are not to visit

community stores or physically interact with members outside their household. Whether presenting symptoms or not, these members pose a high risk for COVID-19 transmission to the rest of the community. Food and supply delivery can be arranged with neighbouring households or other community members if they practice no-touch delivery. These protocols may be amended by EFN from time to time;

In the First Nation, all medical appointments must be rescheduled unless for urgent care medical appointments. The medical vehicle must be wiped down with disinfectant and persons must wear gloves and other protective equipment as necessary upon entering the vehicle. Social distancing shall be practiced.

- j) Persons being transported to a correctional/judicial facility, along with those persons engaged in the transportation or escort;

In the First Nation, police vehicles must be wiped down with disinfectant and persons must wear gloves and other protective equipment as necessary upon entering the vehicle. Social distancing shall be practiced as best as possible. Their return to the community will be subject to screening protocols and be required to follow the recommended course of action established by the Chief and Council, under advice from the EFN Chief Medical Officer (e.g. Nurse in Charge), including a mandatory 14 day self-isolation period. During this period, members returning to the community are not to visit community stores or physically interact with members outside their household. Whether presenting symptoms or not, these members pose a high risk for COVID-19 transmission to the rest of the community. Food and supply delivery can be arranged with neighbouring households or other community members if they practice no-touch delivery. These protocols may be amended by EFN from time to time;

- k) Community Access point (e.g. EFN airport) will be staffed to ensure only residents of the community have access into the community, subject to provisions of 1.-2. a) – k) above. Designated community staff shall be conferred with authority by this Order to prohibit the entry of any persons not provided for in 1.-2. a)-k), and shall ensure they depart on the next available flight (e.g. the plane they arrived on). Any and all costs of return are the responsibility of the person(s) not given community access

3. All personal freight, parcel deliveries, or direct bulk orders will be subject to Section 1.1.-2., including adjusted flight schedules, charter arrangements, cleansing and/or quarantine protocols developed between airlines and the EFN Chief and Council. These measures will be communicated via airlines servicing the community while the Order is in effect.

2) OFF RESERVE MEMBERS:

- a) Off-reserve members, as defined as any person who has not normally resided in Eabametoong First Nation for a period of 180 days as of March 30, 2020, will not be permitted (return or) to enter the community for any purpose including visiting, or moving back to the First Nation, etc. while this Order is in effect. The only exceptional circumstance is for funerals, which are currently restricted to 10 persons or less, and any funeral arrangements are subject to Section 1.2.a-k); visitors will require written permission from Chief and Council, and are subject to all other community protection restrictions of this Order;

- b) Any members who are currently visiting at the time this Order is issued and have a home off-reserve are encouraged to return to their normal place of residence. This will assist with managing overcrowding within our very limited community housing.

3) ON RESERVE MEMBERS, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS

- a) On reserve members, staff, and volunteers who are required to exit the community by air travel for reasons approved by Chief and Council on a case-by-case basis for such things as supplies, water, food, critical emergency business, etc., will have to:
 - 1) Obtain Chief and Council approval;
 - 2) Provide reasons and supporting documentation where available;
 - 3) Provide specific dates and times for exit and re-entry, including confirmation of flight provisions;
 - 4) Take the highest precautions when travelling to urban centres in terms of ensuring all protective measures are followed.

Examples of such people are patients, escorts, contract workers, staff absolutely required to travel for the health and safety of the community.

- b) EFN harvesters, hunters, and gatherers are encouraged to practice traditional skills and support their households through traditional harvesting activities. Such actions are encouraged in the surrounding Eabametoong traditional lands, providing they do not take place to the south along forestry roads or in regions where harvesting activities may involve contact with other persons. All activities on the land will be subject to the self-isolation and physical distancing protocols in the following section.

4) PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND SELF-ISOLATION:

All persons and businesses on the First Nation shall, while this Order is in effect, follow strict precautions in order to avoid the spread of COVID-19 by complying with the following:

- a) All persons are required to follow the community-wide Order to stay at home unless for essential and brief trips to purchase food and supplies, following protocols established by EFN in partnership with local stores. Daily walks and other exercise, while strictly practicing physical distancing, and outings to gather wood, traditional harvesting, hunting, and fishing are encouraged;
- b) As described above, self-isolation and physical distancing protocols do not prohibit activities on the land. However, common activities will need to be adapted to ensure the safety of all participants and ensure physical distancing of 6ft is practiced. For example, riding in the same vehicle, boat, or on skidoo with people not in your household should be avoided;
- c) All persons experiencing coughs, fever or symptoms of cold, flu or possible COVID-19 shall inform the Health Centre by telephone and follow any of their recommendations and directives of the **Community Health Representative and/or available medical staff;**

- d) No person who is experiencing cough, fever, or symptoms of cold, flu or COVID-19 shall leave the home where they reside for a period of at least 14 days unless directed by medical staff and take all possible measures to self-isolate from other members of their household;
- e) Members of any household with persons experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or suspected COVID-19 symptoms, must self-isolate as best as possible, and not participate in any group activities, visit community stores or facilities. Other non-contact arrangements must be made for food and water delivery from EFN staff or community volunteers;
- f) There shall be no group gatherings of more than 5 persons, with the exceptions of official Council meetings as necessary, and a limit of 10 persons for funeral services¹;
- g) Businesses that provide essential services in the First Nation may remain open, provided they implement appropriate physical distancing and health and safety measures, including regular sanitization of any contact points, and comply with all orders and directives of the First Nation;
- h) Each individual shall at all times maintain a safe distance of at least two metres (6ft) from any person who is not a member of their household;
- i) Where possible, groceries should be done by delivery to the persons home based on phone order. Where that is not possible, grocery shopping should be done with a maximum of ten (10) customers in the store at one time while ensuring physical distancing in the store and within lines to purchase items or to enter the store. Additional safety precautions, i.e. hand sanitizer available at entrance to the store and immediate hand washing when customers return home, and other protocols may be adopted by the stores in partnership with EFN Chief and Council under guidance from medical professionals as the COVID-19 situation evolves over time;
- j) All persons and businesses shall comply with this Order, all must take part in respecting and collectively implementing Chief and Council's leadership decisions. This will help to promote our collective interests in community health and safety beyond individual comfort and self-interest, and dramatically improve our chances of avoiding a COVID-19 outbreak in EFN. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that our most vulnerable are protected, i.e. Those with weak immune systems, who already have health ailments, elders, and children; and limit the potential impacts of this crisis within our community;
- k) Parents must be aware of the location of children under the age of 16 at all times and ensure that they abide by the restrictions on social distancing and group activities. It is recommended that all outdoor activities are directly supervised by parents. Typical child and youth behavior within the community (e.g. visiting multiple homes to see friends, eat, play, and spend time together) poses a serious public health threat to the community during the COVID-19, and could rapidly undermine other physical distancing and emergency measures (including potentially-deadly risks to elders and those with existing medical complications). Community playgrounds and other structures are off-limits until this Order is lifted. While this will be challenging to implement, it will provide other opportunities for family and household activities including safe outdoor practices on the land;
- l) All persons under the age of 18 are required to abide by a 10pm evening curfew.

5) QUARANTINE:

All persons diagnosed with COVID-19 will be under the supervision of the EFN Chief Medical Officer (e.g. Nurse in Charge) and if necessary, for their own health /and other others in the household, will be removed from their residence and shall be confined to a quarantine site as determined by the EFN Chief Medical Officer (e.g. Nurse in Charge).

6) DURATION:

This Order comes into effect on the date that it is adopted by Council and remains in effect until it is revoked by Chief and Council.

7) AMENDMENTS:

The Council may approve written amendments to this Order, including additional protective measures, by vote at a duly convened meeting. Given the emergency situation, no consultation with membership will be required for any amendments.

This Order will be reviewed within 15 days of coming into effect, and may be amended, or new procedural guidance issued, by directive of Chief and Council (e.g. on or prior to April 15, 2020).

If the Council approves an amended Order, it will promptly post the new Order on the Eabametoong First Nation website and in prominent locations in the community.

By Order of the *Ontario Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, [Emergency Order](#) issued Mar 28, 2020

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Schedule A

List of essential Workers. Prior communication, risk assessment and approval by the Chief and Council of their visit is necessary.

Waste and Wastewater

- Employees needed to operate and maintain public and private drinking water and wastewater/drainage infrastructure, including:
- Operational staff at water authorities
- Operational staff at community water systems
- Operational staff at wastewater treatment facilities
- Workers repairing water and wastewater conveyances and performing required sampling or monitoring
- Operational staff for water distribution and testing
- Operational staff at wastewater collection facilities
- Operational staff and technical support for SCADA Control systems\Chemical disinfectant suppliers for wastewater and personnel protection
- Workers that maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting water and wastewater operations

Public Works

- Workers who support the operation, inspection, and maintenance of essential public works facilities and operations, including roads and bridges, water and sewer main breaks, fleet maintenance personnel, construction of critical or strategic infrastructure, traffic signal maintenance, emergency location services for buried utilities, maintenance of digital systems infrastructure supporting public works operations, and other emergent issues
- Workers-including contracted vendors-involved in the construction of critical or strategic infrastructure including public works construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, nuclear, oil refining and other critical energy services, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, and internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services)
- Workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, inspectors and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, construction sites and projects, and needed facilities
- Support, such as road and line clearing and utility relocation, to ensure the availability of needed facilities, transportation, energy and communications

- Support to ensure the effective removal, storage, and disposal of residential and commercial solid waste and hazardous waste
- Licensed site clean-up professionals and other workers addressing hazardous spills, waste sites, and remediation.

Transportation and Logistics

- Employees supporting or enabling transportation functions, including dispatchers, maintenance and repair technicians,
- Employees of firm providing services that enable logistics operations, including cooling, storing, packaging, and distributing products for wholesale or retail sale or use of food
- Transportation workers, including contracted vendors providing transportation and maintenance services to/ from the First Nation
- Workers responsible for operating dispatching passenger, commuter and freight trains and public transportation and buses and maintaining rail and transit infrastructure, capabilities, functions, and services
- Automotive repair and maintenance facilities
- Workers who respond to and clear traffic crashes, including contracted vendors and dispatchers
- Postal and shipping workers, to include private companies
- Workers who support moving and storage services
- Employees who repair and maintain vehicles, aircraft, and the equipment and infrastructure that enables operations that encompass movement of cargo and passengers
- Air transportation employees, including air traffic controllers, ramp personnel, aviation security, and aviation management and other workers- including contracted vendors-providing services for air passengers
- Workers who support the maintenance and operation of cargo by air transportation, including flight crews, maintenance, airport operations, and other on- and off- airport facilities workers

Energy and Electricity industry

- Workers who maintain, ensure, or restore the reliable generation, transmission, and distribution of electric power, including call centres, utility workers, reliability engineers and fleet maintenance technicians
- Workers at generation, transmission, electric black start facilities, independent system operators, regional transmission organizations, and balancing authorities
- Mutual assistance personnel
- IT and OT technology staff- for EMS (Energy Management Systems) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, and utility data centres; Cybersecurity engineers; cybersecurity risk management
- Environmental emergency remediation/monitoring technicians
- Instrumentation, protection, and control technicians