MATAWA FIRST NATIONS

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

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The status of the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is changing daily. Matawa is working to ensure that our First Nations and community members have the necessary information to safely and effectively deal with the situation. Bulletins will be issued on an ongoing basis. The following is accurate as of this date. Please also check our website (indicated below) and our Facebook page for other important information. Every person has a duty to remain up to date and informed, and comply with, the details of this evolving situation.



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.

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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.

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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 pro- viding drive-through testing in some road-access commu-nities 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 checkpoints 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.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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- 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:

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.

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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.

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