



## **Beausoleil First Nation Emergency Control Group**

Eleven O-Gemaa Miikaan  
Christian Island, ON, L9M 0A9  
Tel: 705-247-8989 Fax: 705-247-2239 Email: [epp@chimnissing.ca](mailto:epp@chimnissing.ca)

March 17, 2020

### **Re: ECG Daily Update for March 17 2020**

Ahniin Chimnissing,

As the effects of the COVID-19 move it's away across the country and the world, I want to assure you that we are taking measures to reduce the spread of it in our community too. This requires your support and cooperation.

We are taking measures to provide supports for our community and our Teams are busy at work throughout the day. Our Emergency Preparedness Plan was enacted yesterday with our Emergency Control Group meeting on a regular basis.

Please take all the precautions that are being recommended and take them seriously.

Daily Briefing for March 17, 2020

#### **1. Health Department - Deborah Laramey, Health Director**

- Cedar Point Testing will be conducted by Rebecca Wright will begin testing and screening at Cedar Point; the Ferry Shelter will be used for testing only. A new waiting area will be made available to residents waiting for transportation. The testing and screening schedule to align with the revised ferry schedule. Security Measures will be in place with the assistance of APS and BFN Community Safety Officers.
- An Information Hotline has been set up as a temporary measure, there will be a dedicated information hotline to relay information approved by the Emergency Control Group. Information regarding the latest information from Chief and Council, Public Health Ontario will be made available. The hotline will have a "LIVE" person answering the phone Monday to Friday during normal office hours and a pre-recorded message will be played after hours – there will not be the ability to leave a message. **The hotline telephone number 705-247-8939.**
- For Your Information - Hospitals are not taking patients unless the patient is in high emergency, such as needing oxygen, etc. Onus is on members to self-isolate.

- Over the Counter Medications – A bulk order has been placed for various Over the Counter medication such as pain relief, cough syrup, cold and sinus medications, etc. and will be available at the Beausoleil Family Health Centre.

2. Transportation Department - Arnold Jamieson, Transportation Coordinator

- Both ferries will run on a limited schedule. Four (4) trips per day 7:30/8:00; 11:00/11:30; 2:30/3:00 and 5:30/6:00. Vehicle fares will be waived for the duration of the community emergency. There will be a passenger restriction to a maximum of 2 persons per vehicle. Passengers are required to remain in their vehicle during passage.
- There will be a dedicate Sanitization team to ensure both vessels are sanitized and disinfected after each run. The sanitization crew will assist with disinfecting the pre-screen and testing area as well the ferry passenger waiting area. An order has been placed for a fogger machine that will disinfect areas quickly and efficiently – any and all goods and material will require sanitization before being transported.

3. Capital & Public Works - James Trimble, Director and Dawn Smith, Admin Assistant

- Forestry Crews continue to work their daily tasks. Garbage and Recycling remain on schedule.

4. Housing Department - Amanda Mixemong, Housing Manager

- The Housing Manager will be on call only as needed in the case of emergencies for tenants/homeowners that may require assistance for the following:
  1. No heat service calls;
  2. Plumbing;
  3. Electrical;
  4. Materials will only be as needed.
- We currently have a list of sub-trades/contractors and vendors that will be being making themselves available for the next few weeks. Currently each company has developed their own health and safety measures for keeping themselves, their employees and the general public safe from the spread of Covid-19. They have closed their office/showrooms from the general public and operating by call in only. They are also sanitizing all surfaces, providing face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer to all staff. These designated sub-trades/contractors are only servicing Simcoe County. Employees are being asked to stay home if they have travelled recently or are feeling ill.
- Any sub-trades/contractors and vendors that need to come to the Community will be subject to the required screening process. We may also be implementing one for those trades that need access to homes.
- Should you require assistance, please call the office at 705-247-8960 leave a message or my cell at 705-529-3893. Email: [amixemong@chimnissing.ca](mailto:amixemong@chimnissing.ca)

## 5. Social Services - PJ Sandy, Director

- Beausoleil First Nation Social Services Ontario Works (OW) location will remain open at this time, but no in-person appointments are being held in an effort to limit the risk of transmission of any illness, especially due to the recent COVID-19 Pandemic declared.
- Applications can be processed through telephone or email. Submission of documents required for eligibility decisions can be done via fax or email. Ontario Works assistance or general information about programs and services can be accessed by calling 705-247-1180.
- Current BFN Ontario Works & ODSP Recipients entitlements are being processed for the April 1st issue date. We have implemented an exemption of the hard copy Income Statement submission requirement for all clients for this reporting period in order to have your entitlement processed in a timely manner. Those with any changes to report in relation to living circumstances or income, can provide the update via telephone, fax, or email. Please contact the office and speak to a caseworker. We are requesting that any recipients who have active bank accounts and haven't provided this information to us yet, to please contact the office for options to provide or update these details. We would like to have the vast majority of recipients to receive their entitlements via direct bank deposit for the upcoming period to reduce any unnecessary contact with others.
- For those who are not receiving financial assistance from our office, if you are low income, or experiencing financial difficulty during this time, you may contact the office to discuss methods of making an application for Ontario Works. Every Ontario resident is entitled to make an application to Ontario Works. Decisions of eligibility are made on a case-by-case basis, using the regulations of the program. You may request an application for a normal intake, or you may request to make an application for emergency assistance. Please see the end of this message regarding Emergency Assistance Applications under the Ontario Works Program.
- Social Services will be working with teams in order to provide one community meal per day for the period of Friday, March 20th to Sunday, April 5th, 2020. The meal plan and schedule will be posted to the public for viewing. Meals will be take out only, no dining in. We will also have delivery available for the elderly and those with mobility issues.
- Food bank will be making care packages for community member access, and the details for pickup times & location will also be posted to the public.
- Signage with information on self-screening and enhanced public health precautions is posted at all entrances and service counters in Social Services Department offices.

## 6. Communications Update - Joseph Stup, Communications Officer

- Communication will continue on a daily basis. There will be a live stream from Facebook Chimnissing News Page each day, shortly after 4:00 pm. The video will be recorded and available on our members only site and YouTube channel. For those members who are not online, we will have a paper copy available and delivered.

- Chimnissing News Facebook Page – any and all updates will be posted to the page. Public posting has been turned off. Commenting will be monitored and any inappropriate commenting will be removed. Any questions or concerns can be emailed to [epp@chimnissing.ca](mailto:epp@chimnissing.ca) or [info@chimnissing.ca](mailto:info@chimnissing.ca).
- Nish Radio will be on reduced hours but will remain open 7 days per week. There will be a morning and afternoon update. The Radio Announcers has expressed interest in running the Radio Bingo again – stay tuned for details (restrictions in place).
- Cedar Point General Receiving will remain open and on a modified schedule (stay tuned); Christian Island Residents will not be required to go an pick up their package. The finer details are being worked on and once finalized; a communication will be sent out to all members.
- Chase the Ace fundraiser; Nish Radio and LNHL will continue to have the weekly draw but would like to caution everyone, EMT's are preferred. The draw will happen on Thursday at around 6:00 pm with sales closing at 4:30 pm. An updated sellers list is available on the Facebook Page or you can email [nish101.3@chimnissing.ca](mailto:nish101.3@chimnissing.ca).

The ECG will meet on a daily basis from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) located at the BFN Fire Hall. The main email to send questions or concerns will be [epp@chimnissing.ca](mailto:epp@chimnissing.ca) and communication will come from the PIO Joseph Stup, Chief Guy Monague and/or First Nation Administrator Dan Monague.

Miigwetch,

*Guy Monague*

Chief Guy Monague