

Atikameksheng Emergency Response Team (ERT) Updates

To keep the community informed of our COVID-19 response efforts, below is an overview of on-going supports.

Active Cases	All cases will be reported on the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Website.
State of Emergency & Order #20-05-01	The Order and State of Emergency is in effect until March 31, 2022 . This provides an opportunity to not only convey the significance of the ongoing pandemic but allow for Council to pass emergency measures to either close or open the community through a phased approach. There are orders and precautions currently in place to protect our community and visitors.
Testing	The Government has changed testing and case management for COVID-19 cases; Those with symptoms can obtain PCR testing if your Indigenous, positive rapid tests will no longer require PCR confirmation and those who are COVID-19 positive & fully vaccinated will isolate for five (5) days and unvaccinated for ten (10) days. If you are COVID-19 positive, please contact the Health Centre Community Health Nurse to access support services for you and your family. Rapid tests are available by the government at pharmacies and LCBO's but is in short supply. Please visit https://news.ontario.ca/en/backgrounder/1001387/updated-eligibility-for-pcr-testing-and-case-and-contact-management-guidance-in-ontario for more information. The Health Team ordered rapid tests for the community and we have received 200 kits and a little over 50 tests remaining, we have ordered more. Safiyah Briggs, COVID Rapid Test Screener has been hired and started January 12, 2022 and will be here until March 31, 2022.
COVID-19 Coordinator	The Community COVID-19 Coordinator is in place to respond to support requests from Atikameksheng Members (on and off reserve). Please email covid@wfn.com or call (705) 918-6752. Additionally, contact can be made to membership@wfn.com .
Community Isolation Centre	The Shawenekezhik Health Centre is prepared to assist families with temporary accommodations for those who cannot self-isolate in their home. Accommodations can be made for persons living in crowded home or with vulnerable persons, and for those who do not have a home. For questions or to obtain services, please contact: Darlene Geauvreau at 705-698-6818. With the increased numbers of cases in the community, the Health Team is preparing the Community Centre to operate as the Isolation Centre. The Isolation Centre will be in operational order for January 24, 2022. Gimaa and Council approved BCR #2021-2022-048 on Jan. 6/22 that Atikameksheng Anishnawbek adopted the Health Protection and Promotion Act where Section 22 can be enacted meaning fines can be imposed for those who fail to comply with isolation directives. The act can be obtained at this link; https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90h07
Travel Advisory	The safest options are to stay in the area of your home community or to stay in the region. Please avoid all non-essential travel . Any person whose travel originates from a public health region experiencing active COVID-19 cases must self-monitor when coming home and if becomes symptomatic, please get a test.
Virtual Work Mode	The Office will begin working in virtual mode on January 3, 2022, until further notice. Essential services will remain and continue to be provided in the community. The office will be open for essential services only and all members entering the office will be actively screened.
Retail Stores	Retailer stores will remain open. As per Gimaa and Council Order, all retail store patrons: must wear a mask at all times, must maintain 2m physical distance, must hand sanitize upon entering and passive Screening. All Retailers are expected to post Screening Signs at their entrances and 50% capacity of patrons in the store at one time.
Vaccine Roll Out	Vaccine Clinic is scheduled for 22nd, 2022, please contact Darlene Geauvreau to book your appointment. Moderna is available to those 30 years + and Pfizer for those 29 years and younger. There was 121 members who received a vaccine at the last Clinic of Jan 8th.
CoVaxOn System	Effective January 4, 2022, the use of the enhanced COVID-19 vaccine certificate with QR code and the Verify Ontario app will be required where proof of vaccination is required. Download by visiting https://covid-19.ontario.ca/get-proof/ , or call the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900 to have your vaccine certificate mailed. Please contact Stacy Green, Acting Community Health Nurse at the office ext. 225 or contact Darlene Geauvreau at 705-698-6818 if you require assistance in printing your proof of vaccination.

Issued: January 14, 2022 **Wash your hands, maintain 6ft physical distance and wear a mask.**