



COVID-19 Updates from the Chief

February 19, 2021

COVID-19 BULLETIN #47

FULL LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

Tansi!

Good News! We avoided another very close call in the community. So far, all close contacts have tested negative. We are waiting for a few test results with two households in isolation in the community. Unfortunately, a number of our Citizens living in Thompson have had or currently have the virus. We remind everyone how important it is to practice the three C's: Avoid Crowds, Avoid Closed Spaces and Avoid Close Contacts. Always wear a good fitting mask, keep your distance from people who do not live in your house, wash your hands frequently, do not go visiting and get the vaccine as soon as it becomes available.

Following all the rules is more important than ever as new variants of the virus are spreading across the country. The UK variant has been found in Manitoba. Public Health experts reminded us today that **strong, stringent and sustained public health measures** are the only way to contain the virus and not allow the more deadly variants to get into our community. Vaccine supply remains a global issue but Indigenous people in Canada are being prioritized so there is a light at the end of this very long, stressful year.

The OIC approved on February 5, 2021 and the previous partial lockdown restrictions are now back in effect with several changes.

Offices, Stores and Facilities

- Multi-Plex, Arena and Wellness Gym will all be open based on their capacities;



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- Three Rivers Store will be open during its regular hours but is limited to 40 people at a time;
- Gas Station will be open from 8:30 am to 10:00 pm;
- All NCN and NCN Entity Offices will be open to the public by appointment only;
- ATEC classes will resume;
- Schools will remain closed until final test results are obtained then will re-open in accordance with mitigation plans;
- Confectionaries/Home based businesses can re-open but are limited to one person at a time and mask wearing remains mandatory;
- Food sales will be permitted as long as masks, physical distancing and no contact sales are followed.

Alcohol and Cannabis

- Deliveries of Alcohol and Cannabis to the check stop are not allowed at this time;
- Mail deliveries of Alcohol and Cannabis that are legally permissible will be allowed.

Visiting, Camping, Recreational Activities and Curfew

- Two people can be designated to visit but only the same two people must visit inside but five people can visit outside;
- Bingos require a mitigation plan approved by the NCN Health Director or designate;
- Ice Fishing is allowed but only household members can be inside each ice shack;
- All camping requests must be approved by the Executive Director of Justice and Public Safety or designate;



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- Curfew will be in effect from 11:00 pm until 7:00 am.

Church Services, Sweats, Funerals and Weddings

- Church services and Sweat Lodges are limited to 10 people plus the officiant;
- Funerals are limited to 10 people plus the officiant;
- Weddings are limited to 10 people plus the officiant and either a photographer or a videographer.

Commuters, Medical Appointments, Work-Related Travel and Vehicle Maintenance

- Only Nurses will be allowed to commute at this time;
- Medical appointments must be approved by the Nurse in Charge;
- Vehicle maintenance appointments must be approved by the Executive Director of Justice and Public Safety or designate in advance (warranty documents and other information must be presented for approval);
- Upon re-entry to the community, all persons will be required to isolate as directed by the NCN Health Director or designate – during isolation no-one is allowed visitors or to leave their designated isolation location as this is critical to prevent any potential community spread of the virus

Grocery Deliveries

Starting Saturday, February 20th, arrangements have been made for groceries and other supplies to be ordered, pre-paid, delivered to the Mystery Lake Hotel, screened and delivered to the Gilbert McDonald Arena for pick-up. These procedures are being put in place to avoid potential transmission of the virus from Thompson or other areas to the check stop and into our community.



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Grocery Delivery Procedures

Who	What	Where	When
NCN Citizen (shopper)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send E-transfer to Thompson Citizen • Thompson Citizen shops for NCN citizen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Foods • Walmart • Safeway • Giant Tiger • Canadian Tire • Shoppers Drug Mart • Etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groceries & Essential items to be dropped off at Mystery Lake Motor Hotel: Makwa Room • Monday to Friday • 9:00 AM- 11: 00 AM (1st run) • 11:00AM- 2:00PM (2nd run)
NCN Staff living in Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grocery Check • Seal • Name and Number Boxes • Tracking List to be created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mystery Lake Motor Hotel: Makwa Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On going between 9:00AM- 11:00 AM • Load Truck at 11:00 AM • Cube Truck Leaves for NCN at 12:00 PM
Cube Truck Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrives in NCN at 1: 00 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groceries delivered to GMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCN Distribution Staff unload and sort • To limit crowding, NCN Citizens will be contacted by phone to pick up at DC



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Cube Truck Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaves NCN at 2:00 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrives in Thompson at 3:00 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pick up second delivery at Makwa Room CT leaves for NCN at 4:00PM
NCN Staff living in Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grocery Check Seal Name and Number Boxes Tracking List to be created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mystery Lake Motor Hotel: Makwa Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On going between 11:00AM- 2:00 PM Load Truck at 3:00 PM CT Leaves for NCN at 4:00 PM
Cube Truck Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrives in NCN at 5: 00 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groceries delivered to GMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCN Distribution Staff unload and sort

Extension Federal Benefits Announced Today

The following Benefits may assist some of our Citizens as restrictions remain in place and our Own Source Revenues are impacted:

- Canada Recovery Benefit and Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit have been expanded from 26 to 38 weeks;
- EI has been expanded from 26 to 50 weeks;
- Federal Sickness Benefit has been expanded from 2 weeks to 4 weeks so people with any symptoms or who must isolate can stay home.

Our community continues to avoid widespread illness by working together. As leaders we remain very thankful the majority of our citizens are following the rules we have put in place for the health and safety of us all. Unfortunately, we have to get through the rest of

CHIEF MARCEL MOODY



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this year before things will become more normal again. We appreciate your continued support.

Ekosani!

COVID-19 related phone numbers are (204) 679-0179 and (204) 679-0279