Six Nations Clarifies Restricting Access to Territory for Shopping or Recreational Purposes

Six Nations received a 3rd positive COVID-19 test result on Monday March 30, 2020; this is in addition to two cases of the COVID-19 virus being confirmed in the Six Nations territory on Saturday March 28, 2020. The latest case began isolating upon becoming symptomatic and testing was completed. Contact tracing is being conducted by Ohsweken Public Health and all contacts are being advised to self-isolate, monitor for symptoms and to report symptoms immediately to the Ohsweken Public Health Office. If you have not been contacted by the Ohsweken Public Health Office and advised that you are a contact, this means that you have not been in contact with these cases.

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council would like to thank everyone for their patience yesterday as the Emergency Control Group had to move up the timeline and are now restricting access to the community. This is part of our ongoing efforts to curb further transmission of the COVID-19 virus. We are taking this measure to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Everyone is still encouraged to practice social distancing; remain at home and away from others unless it is absolutely necessary to leave your home. If you must leave your home, stay a minimum of 2 meters away from those around you and wash your hands after leaving a public space and upon returning to your home.

In order to clarify from yesterday’s release, gas stations and variety stores are an essential service and should remain open. For a list of essential services in Six Nations, please see attached.

To be clear:

- All Six Nations residences will have access in and out of the community.

- We will be asking all visitors who are trying to access the community for shopping or recreational purposes to turn around, stay safe and stay home.

- To ensure our essential services continue, the following list of individuals will still be able to access the community, during this time of restrictive access:
  - Non-native band council employees
  - Non-native clients seeking health or other essential services
  - Contractors providing health care or other essential services
  - Non-natives working for a business on Six Nations
- Delivery of all goods (delivery trucks and vans)
- Private caregivers

The Six Nations Elected Council and the Emergency Control Group are monitoring any and all issues with the restrictive access daily and will adjust the process as necessary. We will be taking the advice of our Health Care professionals later this week and hope to have a timeline on the length of the restrictive access measures at that time.

All staff at the check points will be members of Six Nations community and verify the residency of incoming motorists. Please see attached map for all closed points and access points.

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council and the emergency control group has already communicated their plans to neighbouring communities and transportation providers.

They will also create and distribute traffic advisories for distribution through physical and virtual channels such as community radio and the SNGREC’s website and social media feeds.

Everybody is invited to visit sixnationscovid19.ca for the latest information on the SNGREC’s emergency response measures.

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Media: most feet are on the ground, but we will try our best to accommodate requests.

Please direct them to: Communications Officer at clickers@sixnations.ca
Business Support Programs

Please find below some programs offered to businesses who are being called upon to implement extra precautionary measure, to keep our community safe from COVID 19.

Government of Canada

Extension of Work Sharing Program

- Extension of the maximum duration of the Work-Sharing program from 38 weeks to 76 weeks.
- The Work-Sharing program is offered to workers who agree to reduce their normal working hours because of developments beyond the control of their employers.
- All members of a Work-Sharing unit must agree to reduce their normal work hours and to share the available work. If, during the period of the Work-Sharing agreement, work activity increases, the additional hours of work must be shared equally among all members of the unit.

Small Business wage subsidies

Small employers can access a temporary wage subsidy for a period of three months. The subsidy will be equal to 10% of remuneration paid during that period, up to a maximum subsidy of $1,375 per employee and $25,000 per employer.

Businesses can defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after March 18 and before September 2020. This relief would apply to tax balances due, as well as instalments, under Part I of the Income Tax Act. No interest or penalties will accumulate on these amounts during this period.

Support for Individuals facing unemployment

The new Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

CERB will provide a taxable benefit of $2,000 a month for up to 4 months to:

- workers who must stop working due to COVID19 and do not have access to paid leave or other income support.
• workers who are sick, quarantined, or taking care of someone who is sick with COVID-19.
• working parents who must stay home without pay to care for children that are sick or need additional care because of school and daycare closures.
• workers who still have their employment but are not being paid because there is currently not sufficient work and their employer has asked them not to come to work.
• wage earners and self-employed individuals, including contract workers, who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance.

The Canada Emergency Response Benefit will be accessible through a secure web portal starting in early April. Applicants will also be able to apply via an automated telephone line or via a toll-free number.

Province of Ontario

The province of Ontario has launched a toll-free line 1-888-444-3659 to provide support to Ontario businesses who have questions about the province’s recent emergency order to close at-risk workplaces following recommendations by Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Supporting more affordable electricity bills for eligible residential, farm and small business consumers, by providing approximately $5.6 billion for electricity cost relief programs in 2020-21, which is an increase of approximately $1.5 billion compared to the 2019 Budget plan.

Six Nations of the Grand River

The Elected Council is working to develop support for local businesses that don’t qualify for support under Federal and Provincial programs. Details will be communicated on our websites:

www.sixnations.ca
www.sixnationscovid19.ca
www.sixnationscovid19.com
Six Nations
List of Essential Services

Automotive Repair
- Garages that provide motor vehicle repairs on an emergency basis

Accommodations
- The Bear’s Inn, to support emergency services
- Any business that provides accommodations to persons residing in the Territory, on an emergency basis.

Banking and Financial Services, including
- Financial Institutions, ATMs and other payment methods

Building Maintenance Services
- Janitorial work that provides support and maintenance services, including urgent repair, to maintain the safety, security, sanitation and essential operation of properties and buildings

Child & Welfare
- Ogwadeni:deo

Construction sector
- Electricians, plumbers, heating, cooling and other trades for emergency services;

Emergency Services
- Six Nations Police
- Six Nations Paramedic Services
- Six Nations Fire Department
Essential stores

- Laundromats
- Water Haulage
- Pet food and supplies stores

Food

- Food Bank
- Restaurants (takeout counters or delivery only)
- Storage and similar dwellings who offer food with safety measures in place

Funeral Services

- Funeral home and cemeteries with safety restrictions in place

Gas Stations

- Gas, diesel, and propane purchases

Gane Yohs Medical Clinic

- Dental Services (Emergency Services Only)
- Ohsweken Public Health (Emergency Services Only)
- Other Medical appointments please contact your health care professional

Government Services

- SNGREC governance and administration (please contact the department and/or specific program to learn more about available essential services)
- Emergency Support Staff
- Environmental Health Officer
- Six Nations Landfill Site
- Ontario Works

Health Care Services

- Animal Control Service
- Birthing Centre
- Iroquois Lodge – closed to visitors
- Home & Community Services
• Personal Support Services – service for complex clients maintained; on call support
• Community Support Services – maintaining Meals on Wheels and grocery delivery
• Jay Silverheels Complex – closed to visitors
• Palliative Shared Care Outreach Team

• Medical Transportation
• Pharmacies
• White Pines Wellness Centre – closed to the public; open to staff as needed for supplies and server access; open for dialysis through a separate entrance
  • Diabetes Wellness Program – available for telephone consults
  • Therapy Services – available for telephone consults
  • Health Promotion & Nutrition Services – maintained and expanded food access supports only

**Infrastructure**
• Six Nations Public Works (water and sewer essential services in the community on an emergency as need basis)
• Construction, and the maintenance of essential activities related to public and private infrastructure that may pose a threat to public health and safety
• Six Nations Water Treatment plant
• Computer resources (security, maintenance, urgent needs related to the situation)
• Utility Companies

**Legal Services**
• Matters who require urgent legal advice (by phone only)

**Media and Telecommunications**
• Telecommunications & Internet (network and equipment)
• Printers (solely for printing newspapers)
• Local media (Two Row Times, Turtle Island News)
• Radio Station (CKRZ, JUKASA)
Transportation
- Emergency transportation service (may include taxis)
- Postal services, message handling and parcel delivery

Towing Services
- Businesses engaged in providing services to operations of non-operating motor vehicles

Victim Services
- Six Nations Victim Services
- Ganq̱hkwásra

Variety Stores
- Those that provide essential food and water supplies

Wellness Service
- Six Nations Counselling Services
- Six Nations Mental Health and Addictions – open for walk-in crisis support
- Professional and Social Service programs that support individuals in the legal and justice system

This list is a living document to allow the Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council to add to the essential services list as deemed necessary over time.