



O'CHIESE FIRST NATION

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O'Chiese Leadership Update March 29, 2020

The Nations Curfew will be implemented Tuesday March 31st, 2020 12am to 5:30am, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day

O'Chiese Band Office Closure effective: March 30, 2020 until further notice only few essential staff at a time, the O'Chiese Band Office is closed to the public.

Treaty 6 Treaty Right to Health: Pestilence and Famine Pandemic Emergency Management Team

Our Chief and Council together has a fundamental role as the Treaty 6 Rights Holder for our Nation to:

- Make decisions, around the risks to our people, from needs stemming from pestilence and famine, from needs stemming from our Treaty Right to health and our Medicine Chest Clause and these are not contained in any Pandemic or Emergency Operation or Procedural Plans.
- Control or prohibit travel in and out the Nation, to ensure that our Nation members have reasonable ability to be safe within their reserve.
- Implement a curfew and to pre-emptive other measures that ensure our Nation members have reasonable ability to be safe within their reserve.
- Provide direction, feedback and navigate the Treaty 6 Treaty Right to Health: Pestilence and Famine Pandemic Emergency Management Team and designate the authority to implement Treaty 6 Treaty Right to Health Pestilence and Famine Pandemic Emergency Management.
- Collaborate with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC/formerly INAC), First Nation and Inuit Health Branch, (FNIHB), Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to ensure appropriate and adequate funding is flowed to address the medical or emergency needs of the Nation's people and those who would be 'Ordinarily Residents On-Reserve.' (Off-Reserve Members).
- Support and collaborate within the Treaty 6 Territory and the rights of Treaty 6 Treaty right to Health and all clauses that pertain to any pandemic or emergency, the Nation leaders communicate with their membership regarding their decisions based on critical basic life sustaining and cultural needs of their Nation members.
- Maintain communications and collaborate with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), Yellowhead Tribal Council (YTC) and other First Nations entities, affiliates and other Treaty Rights Holders.
- Reasonably support and work with other federal, provincial and other municipalities when they declare their states of emergency.
- Declare O'Chiese First Nation in a "State of Emergency" status as necessary.

The Leadership are an integral part of the Pandemic/Emergency Team. They provide the direction, membership/Elders feedback and forward the obligations/ assignments required to the designated Authority. The designated Authority will implement the Chief and Council decisions around next steps which may include:

- Communication updating*
- Monitoring delegations of responsibilities
- Mitigating and preparing for potential probabilities and unforeseen issues, all of which causes rewriting of the current Pandemic and Emergency plans
- Constant vigilance to the decisions and monitor to ensure that the team meets at least 2 times per week, or sooner if need be.

*The Leaders maintain constant communication and they endorse the written communications to be officially posted on the O'Chiese website and ochieseleadership facebook

*Members: Call, text, email or facebook the Leadership if necessary

O'CHIESE FIRST NATION ESSENTIAL SERVICES:

O'Chiese Health Centre: The O'Chiese Nursing Team have their supplies and swabs now to do testing and at this time we have no affirmed cases, we would like to keep it this way. The Nursing Team is under the pandemic planning and have implemented their Triage Team. They have cordoned-off the Health Centre for appointment only, another area for testing, and they also included home visits for testing for members who are unable to come to the O'Chiese Health Centre.

The Health Centre team has a great set of helpers that help with language barriers, with interpretation, sending and getting information. Already, the CHR's /FASD and our Mental Health Therapist have gone to home visits to obtain information and also to introduce our Mental Health Therapist.

Our first home visit questionnaire results showed situations of:

- chronic health issues,
- overcrowding,
- no freezers,
- some have to pack/haul water,
- no vital instruments to check on fevers like thermometers,
- nowhere to store needful cleaning supplies,
- nowhere to store produce,
- some limited internet abilities,
- Elders living alone—need to be checked on regularly,
- single parent families,
- chronic care issues,
- and the list goes on.

From this survey we learned we need to obtain a potable water truck, so our members do not have to go to nearby towns to get water. We also need trailers for our members to reside in to address the housing crisis of overcrowded homes.

O'Chiese Road Monitoring: We have teamed up with Safety Services from the O'Chiese Business/Investment Centre, Shannon Strawberry and Nigel Daychief to help us with organizing our Road Monitoring. As you know, we began monitoring who was coming into our communities, now we are monitoring in and out individuals who are coming and going into our reserve because we have several vulnerable community members in our community. So, we are taking no risks to ensure their safety and health.

The Chief and Council expect the O'Chiese Road Monitors to take their duty seriously as they are tasked with protecting our vulnerable community from this COVID-19 Virus which has very serious and severe consequences.

The Leaders have established and directed the staff to implement the time for curfew is 12am to 5:30am, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day...(For Example: you will be turned back if you try to come in at 5am in the morning unless you are a food/gas/propane supply or you are headed to your dialysis and are allowed to enter...) This will start by Tuesday March 31st, 2020. We have 2 sets of 7 days a week, 24-hour Road Monitors at 3 entrances of our Nation. The food and gas supply will continue to

be supplied throughout the curfew duration. There are a series of questions that you need to politely answer to help reduce the risk of covid-19 from coming into our vulnerable community because we have no major medical infrastructure to treat our people. We are encouraging our members to stay on Reserve and stay home and only get the essentials required to keep them in food, water, cleaners and the necessities of life. Thank you for complying with our Road Monitors.

Curfew begins Tuesday March 31, 2020

O'Chiese Administration and Finance Teams, Valerie SB and her finance team have teamed up with John and his team from the O'Chiese Marketplace. They have managed to get the first set of temporary P.O.'s out to the store. Social Assistance Team and the Health Centre team is doing its best to provide their special needs P.O.'s as well. "Our Ordinarily Resident On-Reserve" (Off-Reserve members): Just to remind you, imputing documentation electronically takes time so the target date for getting your temporary monies is April 1, 2020. Thank you for your patience and thank you Leaders for starting with food funds as the immediate priority.

Traditional Food Gatherers The essential service of traditional food gatherers who is headed by Shane P. who supervises and organizes this essential service. The leaders have made decisions with the advisement of elders to have the traditional food gatherers as an essential service. Traditional food gatherers They have already given over 60 freezer bags of cultural food to Heads of Households, Elders and families. Thank you Elders and Leaders and of course the Traditional Food Gatherers.

The Fire Department continue to assist with emergencies, work with our Health Team and the ambulance service. They have not received their critical supplies of masks and breathing apparatuses oxygen and other supplies required for pandemic and vital emergency requirements. Please stay safe, limit your risk of injury, maintain social distancing and stay home. For example, keep fire safety in mind, use ladders safely and remove general safety hazards with all family members.

The Public Works Department are continuing with maintaining the roads, wastewater trucks, (the Nation assisted with buying another Vac Truck) as the other is down, but it will be fixed soon. They are continuing with garbage pick-up and continuing with constructing our Landfill. Public Works also assists with obtaining signs and barricades for our road monitors and anything else that is needed.

Some aspects of Property Management are essential and have responsibilities to ensure our plumbing, furnace, electrical and other needs are looked after. So, let them do their job when you call them and ensure you are physical distancing (2 meters/6 feet) and make sure your dogs are tied up.

Let's stay informed, maintain social distancing, stay home and in our community as directed by our Chief and Council

Thank you, we cannot thank you enough for taking the precautions to reduce the risk for our Elders, families and children!

Respectfully,

OCFN Leaders/Administration