



**TEMAGAMI  
FIRST NATION**

April 24, 2020

**FIRST NATION CONTROL GROUP  
WEEKLY REPORT**

# **COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**STATE OF EMERGENCY  
LEVEL 3  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC**





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# TEMAGAMI FIRST NATION

**BEAR ISLAND**

**LAKE TEMAGAMI, ONTARIO P0H 1C0**

TEL 1.888.737.9884 or 705.237.8943

tfn@temagamifirstnation.ca

www.temagamifirstnation.ca

April 24, 2020

Greetings Community Residents:

In this briefing you will find updates as to what has been happening this past week. There has been no further elevation to the status of Level 3 State of Emergency in response to the Covid 19 Global Pandemic.

Our community is doing well with social distancing and isolation practices although, some improvements can be made which are addressed below. Staff have been asked to continue to be diligent in exercising safe practices while on the front lines. As ever, I am grateful for those essential workers that maintain the operations of Temagami First Nation and for the support as we navigate through this Pandemic.

The following are highlights of local meetings in which I have participated:

BIEA/Chief & Council Joint Meeting - April 20<sup>th</sup>: I am pleased to report that Temagami First Nation sponsored Post Secondary students were granted Covid 19 Emergency funding support for the month of May 2020. TFN Council & BIEA will continue to review the needs mid-May to see if this further action will be required.

First Nation Control Group - April 21 & TFN Council Meeting - April 22: Status of the Level 3 State of Emergency remains status quo. We did use a different telecommunication platform called "Zoom" which seemed to work out for some. The FNCG representatives provided updates and concerns raised from the community. A concern raised is non-residents using Bear Island roads (joggers and walkers). In response, signage will be posted that Bear Island Reserve is Private Property and trespassing (beyond the Pier Market and Post Office) will not tolerated during this Level 3 State of Emergency. Another concern raised is community members visiting the Contractor Work camp. Those responsible for the Contractor Work camp have instilled safe practices/social distancing measures and have asked that community residents refrain from visiting the camp. Signs will be posted to address the above.

Members from Chief & Council have been meeting with the Municipality of Temagami via teleconference. We have been addressing common issues and preventative measures to curb the Covid 19 pandemic from entering the area. Chief & Council has provided a letter of support of the Municipality's letter to Ontario Premier Doug Ford. In the letter, the Municipality are requesting tougher measures and restrictions to deter seasonal residents accessing Lake Temagami. The measures outlined the letter to the Premier are not to impact Bear Island residents negatively or TFN right to utilize n'Daki Menan traditionally.

I continue to participate in teleconferences with Chiefs of Ontario, Independent First Nations and Indigenous Services Canada to ensure that we are included in the information shared in advocating for the needs of our community and First Nation.

Notices of the Fire Ban on Bear Island, No Trespassing on Bear Island, and Airboat Operations will follow. You are encouraged to monitor the TFN website, the TFN Facebook page, and your email accounts, as we have been keeping all information available digitally. By all means, feel free to contact the Control Group leaders should you have specific questions regarding health, social, infrastructure or emergency services. On behalf of Chief & Council, take care and continue to be safe and healthy. Miigwetch.

Respectfully,

Arnold Paul, Chief  
Temagami First Nation



# FIRST NATION CONTROL GROUP COMMUNITY BRIEFING

April 21, 2020

## CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

Timiskaming	Timmins/Porcupine	Sudbury	North Bay / Parry Sound	Algoma
12	50	43	16	12

As of April 20, 2020

**According to Timiskaming Health Unit, 9 out of the 12 cases in the Timiskaming District are now classified as Resolved. - April 20, 2020**

### Health Services

**COPING WITH STRESS AND ANXIETY DURING COVID-19:** If you feel distress around COVID-19 and feel you are not coping well, you may need extra support managing your mental health. The following organizations can offer online or telephone support:

- Bounce Back – [www.bouncebackontario.ca](http://www.bouncebackontario.ca)
- Big White Wall – [www.bigwhitewall.com](http://www.bigwhitewall.com)
- Seniors Centre Without Walls: 1-800-361-5820

PLEASE STAY HOME, AT YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE,  
ONLY ESSENTIAL OUTINGS PLEASE.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND  
EFFORTS TOWARDS FLATTENING THE CURVE OF COVID-19.

The DPHC remains closed to the public but those needing to be seen can call to make an appointment and assessment and triage will be done on an individual basis. If you have medical prescription needs please call (705) 237-8900 ext 301

### Food Security

The food will be delivered on Tuesdays and Thursdays to those requesting the services. For those picking up the food, there will be a table placed on the deck in front of the gathering hall kitchen and that's where your order will be for pick up. Please be advised that the Food Security Group is taking every precaution while getting the food for you. We ask that you also take the time to wipe down all packaging as an extra precaution. If you have any questions or concerns, or to place an order, contact Michelle 705-237-8698 ext 601 or Rachel 705-237-8900 ext 312 Monday - Friday from 9am-5pm.

### Bear Island Police

Bear Island Police request that the community please refrain from nuisance calls to them as they are essential services and need to minimize themselves from contact with the general public as much as possible.

Updates on information surrounding the COVID-19 State of Emergency can be found at [www.temagamifirstnation.ca](http://www.temagamifirstnation.ca)

### Telehealth: 1-866-797-0000

Emergency Information Coordinator:  
Heidi Jobson

OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 107  
[communication@temagamifirstnation.ca](mailto:communication@temagamifirstnation.ca)

[www.temagamifirstnation.ca](http://www.temagamifirstnation.ca)

### CITIZEN INQUIRY SPOKESPERSON:

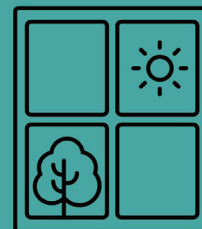
Wayne Potts  
OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 302  
[hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca](mailto:hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca)

Deployment of the Level 3 Declaration of Emergency remains the same. All TFN facilities remain closed to the public at this time as per FNCG Facilities Protocol. Accessibility to the public is arranged by appointment only and limited staff are operating within facilities.

While there is no travel restriction in place for the community, we highly recommend limiting travel to necessary travel only.

### Stop the Spread

Stay home.  
Don't put others at risk.



Possible COVID-19 symptoms to include **cough, fever, difficulty breathing, sore throat/hoarse voice, difficulty swallowing, a loss of sense of smell or taste, fatigue, muscle aches, runny nose, loss of appetite, diarrhea, and nausea or vomiting.** Should you have symptoms, call the Timiskaming Health Unit COVID line at 705- 647-4305 or 1-866-747-4305, ext 7 to speak to someone regarding testing.



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# NOTICE

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April 24, 2020

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## Bear Island Residents:

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT A FIRE BAN HAS BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT UNTIL COVID 19 PANDEMIC MEASURES HAVE BEEN DECREASED. THIS IS A MEASURE TO REDUCE UNNECESSARY STRAIN ON OUR COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES.**

**BURNABLE YARD DEBRIS WILL BE PICKED UP IN UPCOMING WEEKS – KEEP YOU EYES OPEN FOR THE NOTICE**



# DISTRESS CODES



## Residents of Bear Island

In early April, all households on Bear Island were given a package of colour coded cards. Please advise the FNCG if your family did not receive these as part of a Community Information Package.

These cards will become effective in such times that there is no other means of telecommunication options available such as telephone and email. If such a time should occur, Bear Island Police will take special note of these cards while on patrol. In accordance with Temagami First Nation's Communicable Disease Control and Management Plan, these cards are to be hung in a window visible to the road (or lake if only lake accessible) to signal to the First Nation Control Group that there is distress within your home.

Currently the best means of communication would be to call the FNCG reception to declare these issues and a member of FNCG will respond accordingly.

705-237-8943 ext 101  
tfn@temagamifirstnation.ca

Stay in good health,  
FNCG



The **GREEN** Card signals to the FNCG that there is a member in your household that is sick and in self-isolation.



The **YELLOW** Card signals to the FNCG that your household is in need of food.



The **RED** Card signals to the FNCG that there is an issue within your household with your utilities.  
*This can include electrical, plumbing, sewage, hot water tank, telephone, internet and appliances issues, as examples.*



The **BLUE** Card signals to the FNCG that there is a need for drinking water in your household.

For information surrounding the Level 3 State of Emergency  
go to [www.temagamifirstnation.ca](http://www.temagamifirstnation.ca)

**DOREEN  
POTTS**



**HEALTH  
CENTRE**

## HEALTH NEWS BITES

*Health Services Manager, Wayne Potts*

### **FROM ONTARIO:**

- Renewal of the provincial state of emergency to at least 12 May 2020
- Continued public health protection advice – modelling information shared by province that measures are working but we need to continue them to keep control of COVID-19
- Continue physical (previously called social) distancing
- Stay home if you are not an essential worker— Stay home except for essential errands like to a medical appointment or for groceries/medication (and minimise these trips)
- Stay 2 metres from other people if you have to go out
- Importance of self-isolation if unwell, and self-quarantine (also often called self-isolation) if there was a potential exposure
- Closure of a community, or restriction of entry is not sufficient to prevent spread, as people (like essential workers) may still be going in and out – also need physical distancing and other measures

### **COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update**

- Remote/Isolated/Rural/Indigenous communities remain a priority
- Testing should be offered to individuals in Remote/Isolated/Rural/Indigenous Communities who are experiencing one of the following symptoms
- Fever (Temperature of 37.8°C or greater); OR Any new/worsening acute respiratory illness symptom (e.g. cough, shortness of breath (dyspnea), sore throat, runny nose or sneezing, nasal congestion, hoarse voice, difficulty swallowing); OR Clinical or radiological evidence of pneumonia.
- Atypical presentations should be considered, particularly in elderly persons
- Addition of specific priority populations, including those with frequent contact with the healthcare system
- A new point-of-care test called Spartan Cube was authorized by Health Canada on 11 April 2020 – not available to our community for another 2-3 weeks ... as we have more information we will share

## LIFTING COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

The World Health Organization identified six criteria that should be in place before countries consider relaxing physical distancing measures:

- that transmission of the virus is controlled;
- the health system has the capacity to detect, test, isolate and treat every new case and trace every contact;
- outbreak risks are minimized in vulnerable settings, such as hospitals and nursing homes;
- preventive measures are put in place in schools and workplaces;
- importation risks can be managed;
- and that communities are “fully educated, engaged and empowered” to adjust to the new norm.

### NOTE:

To prevent transmission of COVID-19 here is what we know is proven:

- Staying home as much as possible
- Physical distancing
- Washing your hands
- Protecting the most vulnerable from infection and exposure to others
- Covering your cough with tissues or your sleeve

**It is critical that these measures  
continue at this time**



# THE 5-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER OF TWO DETROIT FIRST RESPONDERS HAS DIED OF COMPLICATIONS FROM CORONAVIRUS.

Submitted by Raymond Katt, Community Health Rep  
as published on [www.ctvnews.ca](http://www.ctvnews.ca) website April 21, 2020

*Skylar Herbert died Sunday at Beaumont Royal Oak Hospital after being on a ventilator for two weeks, CNN affiliate WXYZ reported. She tested positive for coronavirus last month and developed a rare form of meningitis and swelling on the brain, according to WXYZ.*

*“The loss of a child, at any time, under any circumstances, is a tragedy,” Beaumont Hospital said in a statement obtained by WXYZ. “We are heartbroken that COVID-19 has taken the life of a child. We extend our deepest sympathy to Skylar’s family and all others who have lost a loved one to this virus.”*

*Skylar’s mother has been a Detroit Police officer for 25 years and her father has worked as a firefighter with the Detroit Fire Department for 18 years, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said during a Monday news conference.*

*“They’ve been on the frontline and they’ve served with honor and integrity and they did not deserve to lose their child to this virus,” Whitmer said. “Nobody does.”*

*Detroit has been hit hard by the virus, with at least 7,736 people testing positive and 641 deaths, according to the Michigan Health Department website.*

*Those who have died have ranged in age from*

*5 to 107 years old, according to the website. Last week, Mayor Mike Duggan told CNN’s Poppy Harlow that the city is working to expand testing among its fire and police departments after at least 600 officers had to be quarantined due to possible exposure to the virus.*

*Skylar’s mother LaVondria Herbert told WXYZ that her daughter was beautiful, happy and full of life before falling ill.*

*“She was a beautiful spirit, she was friendly, she was loving, she was caring, she was funny. Just a happy 5-year-old,” Herbert said. “She was a beautiful little girl. She lived her life, she lived her 5 years. You knew she lived a great life in those 5 years.”*

*Although Herbert and her husband Ebbie Herbert are grieving, they say Skylar’s battle with the deadly virus should serve as a warning to others.*

*“This is a hurtful feeling that I don’t want any other family to have to experience,” Ebbie Herbert told WXYZ.*

*“This virus doesn’t care what age you are what nationality you are, what political preference you have. It’s serious and it will devastate you,” Ebbie Herbert told the news station. “Skylar is shining her light to tell the world this can happen to any family.”*

# CAUTION

## MEEHAGAN



**3 Wolves have been sighted  
in the Community.**

*April 24th, 2020 - sighted just out in front of Bear Island near the shoal by George and Linda Mathias'.*

*The advice is to keep small dogs and/or even bigger dogs, inside at night.*

*If wolf(s) are seen, please call the BI Police at (705) 237-8963. **Do not approach.***

*It is advised to not leave children unsupervised outside at this time. Walking in pairs in the mornings or evenings is recommended. As well, perhaps carrying a walking stick (Hockey stick) may help if needed.*

*MeeGweetch and have a safe weekend.*

*Raymond Katt – Community Health Representative*



### BEAR ISLAND **EMERGENCY** COVID CRISIS CONTACTS

Telehealth	1-866-797-0000
THU	1-866-747-4305 x7
DPHC	705-237-8900 x301
Police	1-888-310-1122
Fire	1-866-762-0911
EFR	705-569-3434
FNCG	705-237-8943 x101
Home Support	705-237-8900 x312

BounceBack	1-866-345-0224
Kids Help Phone	1-800-668-6868

#### **STOP THE SPREAD**

**Stay Home.**

**Don't put others at risk.**

Michelle Polson  
(705) 237-8698 ext 601



## **TEMAGAMI FIRST NATION FOOD CONTROL GROUP UPDATE**

### **NORTHERN FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAM**

The Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program is a program to provide healthy produce to students offered through the Timiskaming Health Unit. During the school shut down, the program is still being offered to our community. Thank you to Hilary LeFrancois for coordinating the delivery of the produce, John Shymko for delivering the produce to the access road, and Travis for delivering the produce to the island.

From our delivery on Thursday afternoon we received 250 lbs of potatoes, 5 boxes of grapes, and 50 bags of mini carrots. If your household would like any of the mentioned produce, please write it on your order form or let us know when placing your order.

### **FOOD CONTROL GROUP MEAT**

If you require ham, chicken thighs, or stewing beef, please let us know by Tuesday and we will have it ready for Thursday's orders. The ham, stewing beef, and chicken thighs were shipped frozen and require time to thaw and separate into smaller portions.

Thank you for your understanding.

### **FOOD FROM APPLEBY COLLEGE**

Here are items we have available from the food we received from Appleby College

- Chocolate chips
- Polenta
- Refried pinto beans
- Granola
- Lipton Chai Tea
- Chick peas
- Granola bars
- Rice krispie treats
- Egg noodles
- Couscous
- Whole wheat flour
- Spaghetti noodles
- Hot chocolate mix
- Lentil & roasted garlic soup mix
- Red Thai Curry Chicken with Rice soup mix

If you would like any of the listed items, please mention them when placing your food order.

# Support for Students and Recent Graduates Impacted by COVID-19

From: Department of Finance Canada

[www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/support-for-students-and-recent-graduates-impacted-by-covid-19.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/support-for-students-and-recent-graduates-impacted-by-covid-19.html)

April 22, 2020

The Government of Canada recognizes that students and recent graduates are being significantly affected by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, the number of post-secondary working students, aged 15-29, dropped by 28% from February 2020.

As many post-secondary students adapt to the new reality brought on by COVID-19, they are concerned about the effect of the pandemic on their ability to continue their studies, secure and retain summer employment, pay their bills, and save for tuition in the fall. Additionally, students who are about to graduate might struggle to find employment in their field of study, which may in turn, have a negative impact on the value of their education over the long term.

The government has announced a series of measures as part of its COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan that will help Canadian students and recent graduates overcome these challenges and support their future success. These represent an investment of approximately \$9 billion.

**Canada's Student Population**  
In 2017-18, there were an estimated 2.1 million students enrolled in public Canadian post-secondary institutions with 1.3 million registered in universities and 700,000 in colleges – 1.6 million studied full-time and 500,000 studied part-time.

Each year around 350,000 students graduate high school.  
Each year around 25 per cent of 19 year olds go on to college and around 36 per cent of 21 year olds attend university.

**Supporting Students through Expanded Student and Youth Programming**  
The government is creating and connecting students to meaningful employment and service opportunities, with:

The launch of the “I Want to Help” Platform. The new platform will provide helpful information about available service opportunities and ways to get involved and support efforts of young Canadians to pursue service positions.

\$153.7 million for the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy to help youth develop the skills and gain the experience they need to successfully transition into the labour market. Funding will support a range of measures in high-demand sectors such as agriculture, technology, health and essential services, creating over 6,000 additional job placements.

Changes to the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy's Canada Summer Jobs program, including increased wage subsidies, expanded eligibility and new flexibilities for employers, to ensure it can continue to support up to 70,000 student job placements in 2020-21. These new measures are being supported by a reallocation of existing resources.

\$80 million for the Student Work Placement Program to support up to 20,000 post-secondary students across Canada to obtain paid work experience related to their field of study.

\$15 million for the Supports for Student Learning Program to serve an additional 14,700 youth through support to complete high school and transition to post-secondary education in order to help ensure that vulnerable children and youth do not become further marginalized as a result of COVID-19.

Additional support for the Canada Service Corps to expand support for meaningful youth service projects that have positive impacts in communities across Canada, including increasing the number of microgrants from 1,800 to 15,000, and providing stipends to participants.

\$40 million to Innovation, Science and Economic Development to support Mitacs in order to create 5,000 new

job placements. The Business/Higher Education Roundtable (BHER) will also create a further 5,000 to 10,000 new student placements, by reorienting existing federal support and building online tools.

\$75.2 million to provide additional distinctions-based support to First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation post-secondary students.

\$291.6 million to support up to 40,000 student researchers and post-doctoral fellows through the federal granting councils. Funding would support a one-semester extension for eligible students whose research scholarships or fellowships end between March and August 2020 and who intend to continue their studies. It would also provide a 3-month extension in funding for holders of federal research grants to support eligible trainees and staff paid out of these awards. These extensions cannot be combined with other income supports.

\$7.5 million to support student and post-doctoral research placements within the National Research Council. Enhancing Student Financial Assistance for Fall 2020

The Canada Student Loan Program provides student financial assistance to post-secondary education students. With more than 700,000 student currently benefiting from these grants and loans, it has the broadest reach of federal student programs.

Due to the economic impacts of COVID-19, students may be unable to secure and retain summer employment, and save for school in the fall. As a result, many students are worried about their ability to manage tuition fees and the cost of books for the next school year.

To address additional financial needs of students caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the government proposes to change the Canada Student Loan Program's eligibility requirements in 2020-21 to allow more students to qualify for supports and be eligible for

greater amounts, including doubling the non-repayable Canada Student Grants for full and part time students, as well as for students with disabilities and students with dependents, in the coming academic year. These measures are expected to expand the reach of the program and benefit more than 760,000 students at an estimated cost of approximately \$1.9 billion over two years starting in 2020-21.

By announcing this now, the government is providing more financial certainty for students preparing to enter or continue their post-secondary education this fall. The Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) is delivered in collaboration with 10 participating jurisdictions. Students in Quebec, Northwest Territories and Nunavut do not receive CSLP support as these jurisdictions run their own student financial assistance programs. Additional compensation will be offered to provinces and territories that do not participate in the CSLP.

Canada Emergency Student Benefit For post-secondary students and recent graduates who are ineligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit or for Employment Insurance, but who are unable to find full-time employment or are unable to work due to COVID-19, the government proposes to introduce the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB).

The CESB would provide \$1,250 per month for eligible students from May through August 2020, and \$1,750 for students with dependents and those with permanent disabilities.

This new grant would provide income support to post-secondary students who will experience financial hardship over the Summer due to COVID-19. The CESB will be delivered by CRA and more details will be communicated.

**Canada Student Service Grant**  
While the COVID-19 pandemic will limit employment opportunities for students, it presents an opportunity for students and youth to mobilize and take part in national service activities that can provide valuable labour market and skills development experiences, while giving back to their local communities.

To encourage students to participate in the COVID-19 response, the government will launch a new national service initiative to recognize students' significant contributions to the COVID-19 efforts, and provide support through a new Canada Student Service Grant which will provide up to \$5,000 to support student's post-secondary education costs in the fall.

More details will be made available on the I Want to Help platform over

the coming weeks, including more detailed information about eligibility, the levels of funding available under the grant, how to apply for a national service position, and how applications will be assessed.

**International students**  
The Government of Canada will remove the restriction that allows international students to work only a maximum of 20 hours per week while classes are in session, provided they are working in an essential service or function, such as health care, critical infrastructure, or the supply of food or other critical goods.

International students and their employers should consult Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada's Guidance on Essential Services and Functions in Canada during the COVID-19 Outbreak to determine if the work the student is doing would allow them to work more than 20 hours per week during the academic session. This temporary rule change will be in place until August 31, 2020.

Statistics Canada reported that in 2017-2018, more than 11,000 international students were enrolled in health-care programs at Canada's universities and colleges, representing about 4 per cent of health-care students at that time.

## Summary of COVID-19 situation in the Timiskaming district:

<b>Tests submitted locally</b> Tests soumis à l'échelle locale	527		
<b>Positive COVID-19 cases to date</b> Cas d'infection à COVID-19 jusqu'à présent	12	<b>Positive cases resolved</b> Cas d'infection - RÉSOLUS	10
<b>Negative COVID-19 cases to date</b> Cas COVID-19 négatifs jusqu'à présent	439		
<b>Pending Results</b> Résultats en attente	76		

(Updated on April 23 at 4:06 p.m.)

## CERB Update, April 20, 2020



The CERB was introduced in March to assist individuals who had ceased working in relation to COVID-19. The original legislation had requirements that may have been restricting access to the benefit in certain circumstances. In order to broaden the availability of the benefit, the government announced the following planned revisions to the legislation on April 16, 2020:

- Previously, in order to access the benefit, people were required to have no income for a period of time (14 consecutive days in an initial four week period, and none at all in subsequent periods). That threshold has increased from NIL (\$0) to a maximum of \$1,000 income to accommodate individuals that have a significantly reduced income, but are still working part-time;
- Individuals who work seasonally and are unable to obtain a job as a result of COVID-19 may be eligible for the CERB; and
- Individuals who have exhausted their regular EI benefits between December 29, 2019 and October 3, 2020 will be able to obtain the CERB.

The government also announced planned measures for essential workers who are continuing to work but earning less than \$2,500 per month, to top-up their income. Further details or clarification on these measures will be provided once amendments to the draft legislation are made available.

If you have any questions about these matters please do not hesitate to check with the Canada.ca [Corvid 19 CERB webpage](https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html): <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html> .

### Who is eligible

The Benefit is available to workers:

Residing in Canada, who are at least 15 years old;

Who have stopped working because of reasons related to COVID-19 or are eligible for Employment Insurance regular or sickness benefits or have exhausted their Employment Insurance regular benefits between December 29, 2019 and October 3, 2020;

Who had employment and/or self-employment income of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in the 12 months prior to the date of their application; and,

Who have not quit their job voluntarily.

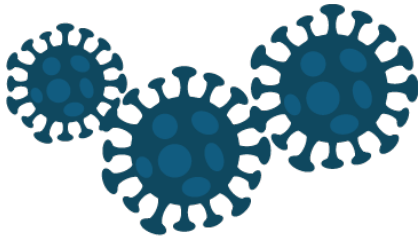
When submitting your first claim, you cannot have earned more than \$1,000 in employment and/or self-employment income for 14 or more consecutive days within the four-week benefit period of your claim.

When submitting subsequent claims, you cannot have earned more than \$1,000 in employment and/or self-employment income for the entire four-week benefit period of your new claim.

How to apply

To deliver payments to Canadians in a fast and easy way, the CERB is being jointly delivered by Service Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency.

Please read these [questions and answers](https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application/questions.html) for more details. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application/questions.html>



For more information:  
[Canada.ca/coronavirus](https://Canada.ca/coronavirus)

Information for Indigenous communities:  
[Canada.ca/coronavirus-info-indigenous](https://Canada.ca/coronavirus-info-indigenous)

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## Accessing financial benefits and support during the COVID-19 outbreak

On March 18, 2020, the Prime Minister announced a new set of economic measures to help stabilize the economy during this challenging period. These measures will provide up to \$27 billion in direct support to Canadian workers and businesses.

**All Indigenous People have access to these financial benefits.**

**First Nations, Inuit, Métis, regardless of where they reside**

### IMPORTANT

Everyone is encouraged to file their 2018 income tax return to ensure they receive the benefits and credits to which they are entitled. To access some of the benefits below, a tax return must be filed. ISC is working with CRA to explore simplified methods of accessing benefits.

### Support for individuals and families

#### Increasing the Canada Child Benefit (must have filed your 2018 tax return)

- If you already receive the Canada Child Benefit payment and have an eligible child under your care in May 2020, you will receive \$300 more per child in addition to your regular payment.
- **No need to re-apply.**
- To apply, click [here](#) or call 1-800-387-1193; or, for Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut: 1-866-426-1527.



Indigenous Services  
Canada

Services aux  
Autochtones Canada

Canada

# Navigating Resources for Those Impacted by COVID-19

Preparing for an emergency is especially difficult for low-income persons, those in receipt of social assistance and for those who have just lost their livelihoods due to the pandemic. Depending on the individuals' situation (case-by-case), there are different resources that can be accessed to provide for the health and well-being of benefit units.

## Persons on Social Assistance in a First Nation Community

Benefit units already in receipt of social assistance can be issued mandatory and discretionary benefits depending on their health and safety needs. Mandatory and discretionary health benefits may be used to cover the costs of medical supplies or other medical needs. The First Nation Ontario Works Administrator may also approve the provision of discretionary benefits for food, supplies, or to cover the costs of shelter-related items. Benefit units may also qualify for the Transitional Support Fund.

## Persons Not on Social Assistance Residing in a First Nation Community

For those living on the First Nation but not on social assistance, Administrators may choose to provide for the health and well-being of benefit units through Emergency Assistance or the Transitional Support Fund. Contact your local Ontario Works office and request an Emergency Application. Staff may ask to verify information electronically if possible to assess eligibility. Transitional Support Funds may be available to assist low-income based on a case by case basis pending funding availability. Contact your local Ontario Works office to learn more.

## First Nations Off-Reserve

Those who reside off-reserve in receipt of Ontario Works should be redirected to their Ontario Works office. ODSP clients can be referred to their Ontario Disability Support Program office. Local ODSP and Ontario Works offices will follow their local policies. Those living off-reserve with changes in their circumstances and who are not in receipt of social assistance should contact the Ontario Works office for their geographic location. There may be additional supports through Friendship Centres, Homeless Shelters and other non-profits.

## Other Government Supports

- One-time GST special payment
- Canada Emergency Response Benefit (available in April)
- Increase to CCB
- COVID-19 EI Benefit
- New ODSP Emergency Benefit

Information on these and other federal supports is available on the Coronavirus diseases (COVID-19) – Employment and Social Development Canada website and on the Indigenous Services Canada website.

Contact your local Ontario Works office:

[ontarioworks@temagamifirstnation.ca](mailto:ontarioworks@temagamifirstnation.ca)



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[www.onwaa.ca](http://www.onwaa.ca)



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# COVID-19 Developments to March 30/2020

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MCCSS has communicated policy changes and supports in response to COVID-19. There are four main documents that contain the information you need to know.

- ✓ [COVID-19 Early Measures Memo: March 17, 2020](#)
- ✓ [COVID-19 Q n A for Ontario Works Staff: March 20, 2020](#)
- ✓ [Emergency Assistance for Vulnerable Ontarians: Temporary Changes Q&A: March 24, 2020](#)
- ✓ [New Emergency Benefit for ODSP Q&A: March 27, 2020](#)

**Business Continuity: Ontario Works delivery agents are deemed essential services and have the authority to develop risk-based approaches to ensure business continuity during an emergency situation to support:**

- **Regardless of the emergency, persons in financial need have an opportunity to apply for Ontario Works including emergency assistance and;**
- **Those in receipt of assistance continue to receive their benefits.**

## **Key changes include:**

**Verification:** Verification to support an application may be deferred and will be requested when risk-based processes are lifted.

**Income reporting:** Not suspending those who do not report income.

**Participation:** As a temporary measure, participation in employment assistance activities is not required. Participants do not need to attend appointments for participation agreement updates. New applicants will be deferred for 60 days.

**Eligibility Verification Process:** EVP requirement is temporarily lifted.

## **COVID-19 Emergency Assistance & Benefits**

Retro-active to March 17, 2020 the government is providing social services relief funding to help protect the health and safety of the province's most vulnerable people.

**For people who are not currently receiving social assistance:** expanding access to emergency assistance for those facing a crisis or emergency situation who have no access to other supports, including those who are waiting for new COVID-19 support from the federal government to become available.

*Emergency & TSF key changes:*

- Administrators may issue up to 48 consecutive days of Emergency Assistance.
- The once in six-month rule was suspended.
- MCCSS provided additional TSF allotment to First Nations based on population to support low income who are in crisis or need.

## For people who are in receipt of social assistance:

**Discretionary benefits** may be issued on a case by case basis to those who require additional support and assistance with their health and wellbeing. Administrators have flexibility when issuing discretionary benefits.

**Mandatory Health Benefits & Special Diet:** To ease the burden on the health system, delivery agents have the authority to waive temporary confirmation from a health professional to support and ensure continuation of mandatory health benefits such as Special Diet Allowance.

### Key changes:

- Administrators can extend SDA beyond expiry date to ensure no disruption of benefits
- Temporarily, confirmation of an approved health professional may be waived for mandatory health related benefits.

### COVID-19 related discretionary benefits may include:

- Access to food where food banks have closed.
- Payments for the continuation of hydro/heating to prevent eviction and items or
- Costs necessary to maintain the safety or well-being of a person in the household, related to COVID-19 (masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, disinfectant/cleaning supplies for COVID-19 self-isolation or quarantine).
- Culturally appropriate requests to support food security.
- Any other request the Ontario Works Administrator deems necessary for the best interest of the benefit unit

**Emergency Benefit for ODSP Recipients:** ODSP recipients can contact ODSP worker to request a one-time emergency benefit to assist with costs associated with COVID-19.

This Emergency Benefit is a discretionary one-time benefit.

- ODSP singles are eligible for a maximum of \$50
- ODSP families are eligible for a maximum of \$75.

ONWAA has been providing support and resources to members during these uncertain times. Our team is available to provide policy clarification, assist with business continuity planning, and will continue to offer training via WebEx to those who request service.

email:  
reception@onwaa.ca

phone:  
1 (705) 942-3157

toll-free:  
1 (877) 291-7542

fax:  
1(705) 942-9993



**ONWAA**

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## TEMAGAMI UPDATE #18 on COVID-19

April 22, 2020

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN NORTHERN ONTARIO				
Timiskaming	Timmins/Porcupine	Sudbury	North Bay / Parry Sound	Algoma
12	54	47	16	12

The Municipality of Temagami is continually monitoring COVID-19 and is working closely with the Timiskaming Health Unit and community partners to take preventative measures and respond appropriately.

As the warm weather emerges and the ice on our lakes starts to melt away, we are urging our seasonal residents to please stay at your primary residence, where your community can support all of your needs. It has been recommended by your Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments to please stay home and only go out for essential reasons, such as food and medication.

The Emergency Control group will be having further discussions around access to municipal lakes and seasonal properties. Please continue to watch our messaging for new updates.

**If you suspect you have symptoms of COVID-19, please call the Temagami Family Health Team at: 705-569-3244 or Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 or Services de santé du Timiskaming Health Unit at 705-647-4305.**

There have been some concerns around people forgoing COVID-19 testing for a fear of having to self-isolate for 14 days. This is a very dangerous mentality and we need to ensure that everyone is following the directives set out by public health officials. If a public health official is requesting that you get tested, for the safety of your loved ones and others around you, PLEASE FOLLOW THEIR DIRECTION.

Please be advised that, due to unsafe ice conditions, our emergency services will not be providing lake response until further notice.

**PLEASE STAY HOME, AT YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE,**  
**ONLY ESSENTIAL OUTINGS PLEASE.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND EFFORTS TOWARDS  
FLATTENING THE CURVE OF COVID-19.**

# FIRST NATION CONTROL GROUP

## ROLES AND CONTACT INFO

CONTACT INFORMATION: RECEPTIONIST AT (705) 237-8943 EXT. 101

Position & Description	Main Contact	Designate
<b>Chief</b> <i>Providing overall leadership in responding to an emergency</i>	Arnold Paul OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 105 <a href="mailto:chief@temagamifirstnation.ca">chief@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	John Turner OFFICE: 1 (705) 237-8982 EXT. 504 <a href="mailto:2ndchieffn@temagamifirstnation.ca">2ndchieffn@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Operations Officer</b> <i>Chairing the FNCG</i>	Virginia Paul OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 102 <a href="mailto:ed@temagamifirstnation.ca">ed@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Robin Koistinen OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 204 <a href="mailto:robin.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca">robin.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Community Emergency Management Coordinator</b> <i>Ensuring that all members of the FNCG have necessary plans, resources, supplies, maps, and equipment</i>	Jamie Koistinen OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 103 <a href="mailto:cim@temagamifirstnation.ca">cim@temagamifirstnation.ca</a> <a href="mailto:jamie.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca">jamie.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Tom Mathias OFFICE: (705) 237-8631 EXT. 705 <a href="mailto:pwsuper@temagamifirstnation.ca">pwsuper@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Police Representative</b> <i>Notifying necessary emergency and community services, as required;</i>	Brad Kerr OFFICE: (705) 237-8963 DISPATCH: 1 (888) 310-1122 <a href="mailto:brad.e.kerr@opp.ca">brad.e.kerr@opp.ca</a>	Tom Saville OFFICE: (705) 237-8963 DISPATCH: 1 (888) 310-1122 <a href="mailto:thomas.saville@opp.ca">thomas.saville@opp.ca</a>
<b>Fire Chief</b> <i>Activating the emergency notification system through the Community Emergency Coordinator;</i>	Jamie Saville DISPATCH: 1 (866) 762-0911 <a href="mailto:5tfnouncillor@temagamifirstnation.ca">5tfnouncillor@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Louis LeFrancois DISPATCH: 1 (866) 762-0911 <a href="mailto:2fire.chief@temagamifirstnation.ca">2fire.chief@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Public Works Rep</b> <i>Providing and maintaining all equipment necessary as well as keeping the water/sewer services running</i>	Derek Green OFFICE: (705) 237-8631 EXT. 701 <a href="mailto:derek.green@temagamifirstnation.ca">derek.green@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Tom Mathias OFFICE: (705) 237-8631 EXT. 705 <a href="mailto:pwsuper@temagamifirstnation.ca">pwsuper@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Medical/Health Rep</b> <i>Acting as a coordinating link for all emergency health services at the FNCG and ensuring liaison with Health Canada;</i>	Wayne Potts OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 302 <a href="mailto:hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca">hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Donna Mattias OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 301 <a href="mailto:dphc@temagamifirstnation.ca">dphc@temagamifirstnation.ca</a> <a href="mailto:donna.mattias@temagamifirstnation.ca">donna.mattias@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Social Services Rep</b> <i>Ensuring the well-being of residents who have been displaced from their homes by arranging emergency lodging, clothing, feeding, registration and inquiries and personal services;</i>	Annette Paul OFFICE: (705) 237-8022 EXT. 401 <a href="mailto:sss@temagamifirstnation.ca">sss@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Alice Moore OFFICE: (705) 237-8022 EXT. 402 <a href="mailto:3tfnouncillor@temagamifirstnation.ca">3tfnouncillor@temagamifirstnation.ca</a> <a href="mailto:hbhc@temagamifirstnation.ca">hbhc@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Emergency Medical Service Rep</b> <i>Ensuring emergency medical services at the emergency site</i>	Marie Paul DISPATCH: (705) 569-3434 <a href="mailto:efr@temagamifirstnation.ca">efr@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Delma Peshabo OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 305 <a href="mailto:delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca">delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Electrical Utility Rep</b> <i>Monitoring the status of power outages and customers without services;</i>	Jamie Koistinen OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 103 <a href="mailto:cim@temagamifirstnation.ca">cim@temagamifirstnation.ca</a> <a href="mailto:jamie.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca">jamie.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Tom Mathias OFFICE: (705) 237-8631 EXT. 705 <a href="mailto:pwsuper@temagamifirstnation.ca">pwsuper@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Emergency Information Coordinator</b> <i>The Emergency Information Coordinator is responsible for the dissemination of news and information to the media for the public</i>	Heidi Jobson OFFICE: 1 (705) 237-8943 EXT. 107 <a href="mailto:communication@temagamifirstnation.ca">communication@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Courtney Saville OFFICE: 1 (705) 237-8943 EXT. 110 <a href="mailto:courtney.saville@temagamifirstnation.ca">courtney.saville@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>

## FIRST NATION CONTROL GROUP ROLES AND CONTACT INFO CONTINUED

<b>Telecommunications Coordinator</b> <i>Ensuring that all communication methods continue to stay up and running</i>	Jamie Koistinen OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 103 <a href="mailto:cim@temagamifirstnation.ca">cim@temagamifirstnation.ca</a> <a href="mailto:jamie.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca">jamie.koistinen@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Patrick Cormier OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 109 <a href="mailto:projectadmin@temagamifirstnation.ca">projectadmin@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Education/LMLC Rep</b> <i>Providing any school (as appropriate and available) for use as an evacuation or reception centre and a representative(s) to co-ordinate the maintenance, use and operation of the facilities being utilized as evacuation or reception centres;</i>	Lynn Mongrain OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 501 <a href="mailto:lynn.mongrain@temagamifirstnation.ca">lynn.mongrain@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Michelle Polson OFFICE: (705) 237-8698 EXT.601 <a href="mailto:michelle.polson@temagamifirstnation.ca">michelle.polson@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Health Centre Administrator</b> <i>Implementing the health centre/nursing stations emergency plan;</i>	Wayne Potts OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 302 <a href="mailto:hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca">hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Delma Peshabo OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 304 <a href="mailto:delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca">delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Community Spokesperson</b> <i>The voice of the community for outside organizations; provides updates and constant communication for media etc.</i>	Arnold Paul OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 105 <a href="mailto:chief@temagamifirstnation.ca">chief@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	John Turner OFFICE: 1 (705) 237-8982 EXT. 504 <a href="mailto:2ndchieftfn@temagamifirstnation.ca">2ndchieftfn@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Citizen Inquiry Spokesperson</b> <i>Point of contact for community members that may have questions or require an update on developing situations.</i>	Wayne Potts OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 302 <a href="mailto:hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca">hsm@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Delma Peshabo OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 304 <a href="mailto:delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca">delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Food Service Lead</b> <i>Ensuring that the most vulnerable population within the community will have their basic needs met during the duration of the emergency plan.</i>	Michelle Polson OFFICE: (705) 237-8698 EXT.601 <a href="mailto:michelle.polson@temagamifirstnation.ca">michelle.polson@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Rachel McKee OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 312 <a href="mailto:hcc@temagamifirstnation.ca">hcc@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Finance Lead</b> <i>Provides essential financial services such as Ontario Works cheques and other payments as required.</i>	Vicky Blake OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 113 <a href="mailto:vicky.blake@temagamifirstnation.ca">vicky.blake@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Beverley St.Denis OFFICE: (705) 237-8943 EXT. 111 <a href="mailto:beverly.stdenis@temagamifirstnation.ca">beverly.stdenis@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>
<b>Mental Health Rep</b> <i>Providing support for the community's health and wellness during the duration of an emergency plan enactment.</i>	Raymond Katt OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 307 <a href="mailto:chr@temagamifirstnation.ca">chr@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>	Delma Peshabo OFFICE: (705) 237-8900 EXT. 304 <a href="mailto:delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca">delma.peshabo@temagamifirstnation.ca</a>

# STAY HOME. SAVE LIVES!

Pretend, for a moment, that you have just tested positive for COVID-19. The Health Unit calls to ask who you have been in contact with.

How many names would you list?

COVID-19 causes minimal symptoms in many people, who can then unknowingly transmit the infection to their family, friends, and neighbors through close contact.

The safest way to stop the spread is to stay home, not visit those who do not live in your home, and maintain 2 meters of distance between yourself and the next person when you must leave the house for essential tasks.

Stay home. Save lives!