

# FIRST NATION CONTROL GROUP COMMUNITY BRIEFING



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

June 3, 2022

## CURRENT ACTIVE CASES IN THE COMMUNITY OF BEAR ISLAND

CASES	STATUS
0	Active
70	Total # of Cases Since Jan. 2022

AS OF JUNE 2, 2022 12:00 PM

PLEASE REPORT ANY POSITIVE RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS TO DELMA  
AT 705-237-8900 EXT. 305

## Bear Island Cautiously Easing into Stage 3

After consulting with the TFN Medical advisors, Dr. Banerji and Mae Katt, NP, Chief and Council have confirmed that Bear Island will cautiously move into the 3rd Stage of the Opening Plan.

A few key things to note with this change in Stage are:

The No-Trespassing Order has been lifted;

Wearing a proper fitting mask in indoor public settings remains a requirement; and there are no limitations on outdoor gatherings but a 75% capacity limitation for indoor gatherings in order to encourage maintaining physical distancing.

This [Stages](#) document outlines guidance for how to safely operate as the COVID-19 Global Pandemic carries on. We are able to gather and hold in-person meetings and events again. The energy of togetherness is so appreciated after the lack there of. During public gatherings, please continue to be diligent with health and safety precautions. Masking and physical distancing continue to help fight against spread of infection. We also encourage everyone to use our DPHC Rapid Testing Services and monitoring for the COVID-19 by using the Rapid Antigen Test kits available.

Bear Island has 0 reported active cases at the time of this report!

Please remember that, should you test positive on a Rapid Antigen Test, please report your findings to Delma Peshabo, Community Health Nurse by calling 705-237-8900 ext. 305 so that the FNCG can support you and your household members.

As always, questions and concerns surrounding the pandemic can be directed to Paula Potts at [pandemic@temagamifirstnation.ca](mailto:pandemic@temagamifirstnation.ca).

## NEW COVID-19 RAPID TESTING HOURS

Monday to Friday

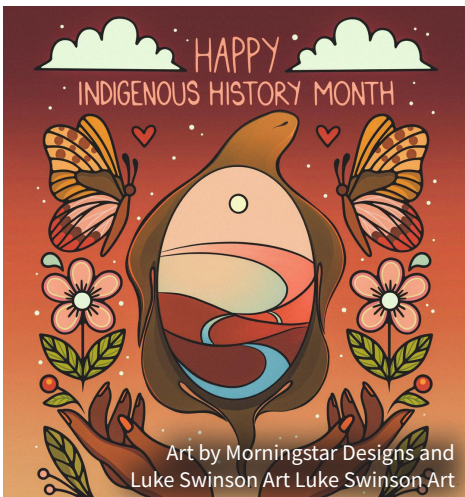
8:30am - 12:00pm, 1:00pm - 4:30pm

Saturday CLOSED

Sunday 12:00pm-8:00pm (extended hours)

To book your appointment, call

**705-237-8900 ext. 316**



## TEMAGAMI FIRST NATION VACCINATION STATISTICS REPORTED ON APRIL 27, 2022

AGE GROUP	POPULATION	1ST DOSE	2ND DOSE	3RD DOSE	4TH DOSE
18+	221	89%	86.8%	56.2%	4%
12 - 17	25	88%	79%	33%	
5 - 11	24	63%	33%		

Indicators used to determine may not be 100% accurate - individuals may reside on Bear Island BUT may not be a TFN member; or there may be TFN members with addresses or postal codes outside of BI. Therefore, coverage rates may be overestimated in some age groups \*\*\*

### Stage Three

#### NO TRESPASSING ORDER LIFTED

- Band Buildings are open to the public.
- All employees can return to offices, adhering to applicable public health recommendations.
- Programs and services to resume as regular, adhering to applicable public health recommendations.
- TFN employee travel to resume without restrictions.
- Medical transit services can resume as normal. Sanitizing protocols and protective measures may still be implemented.
- Shuttle services are available. Sanitizing protocols and protective measures may still be implemented.

Link [HERE](#) to read the full Stages to Re-Opening guiding document

## TFN Food Security Program

In light of reopening of programs and services, the Food Security Program is evolving. It will continue on a bi-weekly basis, **offering only the basic necessities.**

Please see the revised Food List on the website by following this link: <https://temagamifirstnation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/updated-food-security-order-form-May-27-2022.pdf>

April McKenzie, Food Security Coordinator can be reached by calling **705-237-8943 ext.121** or by email at [fsc@temagamifirstnation.ca](mailto:fsc@temagamifirstnation.ca)

Please Use Order Forms and return to [fsc@temagamifirstnation.ca](mailto:fsc@temagamifirstnation.ca) or drop it off to the Band Office reception or the Pier Market drop box.

The next food delivery will be on Wednesday, June 8th.



### CONTACT INFORMATION

**PANDEMIC SAFETY COORDINATOR**  
PAULA POTTS  
705-237-8900 EXT. 304

**COVID-19 RAPID TESTING**  
705-237-8900 EXT. 316  
(LEAVE A MESSAGE IF NO ANSWER)

**FOOD SECURITY COORDINATOR**  
APRIL MCKENZIE  
705-237-8943 EXT. 121

Monkeypox virus is an orthopoxvirus that causes a disease with symptoms similar to smallpox (eradicated in 1980) but far less severe. It is typically mild, however, severe illness can occur.

Monkeypox was first discovered in 1958 when two outbreaks of a pox-like disease occurred in colonies of monkeys kept for research, hence the name 'monkeypox.' The first human case of monkeypox was recorded in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) during a period of intensified effort to eliminate smallpox. On May 20, 2022, the World Health Organization reported 80 confirmed cases worldwide with another 50 pending investigation.

## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:

- Fever
- Chills
- Headache
- Muscle Aches and Pain
- Swollen lymph nodes (e.g. in the neck and groin)
- Fatigue
- Rash (on face, limbs-including palms of the hands and soles of the feet, mucous membranes such as mouth, and genitals) that

follows 1 to 3 days after other symptom onset. The rash characteristically begins on the face and then spreads to other parts of the body. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) describes the rash/fluid filled lesions as progressing over a 2-3 week period-before scabbing over and resolving.

## HOW DO YOU CATCH IT?

Only individuals in close physical contact with a person with monkeypox virus are at risk of infection. Human-to-human transmission occurs primarily through close contact with an infected individual's bodily fluids, respiratory droplets or lesions or through items that have been contaminated with the infected person's fluids.

## PREVENTION

Risk of exposure to monkeypox can be lowered by maintaining physical distance, washing hands, and using respiratory hygiene, which can include wearing a mask. The incubation period for monkeypox is typically 6 to 13 days but can range from 5 days to 21 days. Individuals can be communicable from symptom onset until all scabs

have fallen off and new skin forms. It is recommended that anyone who has been in close contact with a suspected case of monkeypox should watch for symptoms for 21 days and avoid intimate contact. If symptoms arise, get tested by a health care professional. Updated guidance on infection control and treatment will be released in the coming weeks.

## TREATMENT

Treatment for monkeypox disease is mainly supportive (Health Canada website). Only limited data is available on the clinical effectiveness of specific treatments; however, the vaccine Imvamune (small pox vaccine) and other therapeutics from Canada's National Emergency Strategic Stockpile (NESS) were sent to Quebec in preparation to support the high number of cases there. Imvamune received extended approval through Health Canada in 2020 to be used with other orthopoxvirus infections, including monkeypox. World Health Organization officials stress that mass vaccination is NOT necessary and that the monkeypox virus outbreak is far different than the early stages of the COVID-19 virus outbreak

# TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

Kwe Kwe,

The time has come where we have entered Stage Three to Reopening, which means there is more of an onus on individual folks to ensure that they continue to be vigilant in regard to the Covid-19 virus. Once again, we reiterate that the Pandemic is not considered over. Many people believe that if that they have contracted the virus, they do not get very ill. However, there are exceptions and Ontario is still reporting people needing to enter the hospital when they have covid. These are the people we hope to protect, because we do not know how one will be affected by the virus. Once again, we say Chi Miigwetch to everyone with your patience and compliance with our prevention measures. We were able to have seven vaccination clinics, acquire the anti-viral medication and develop a system to assist those who were required to isolate. We continue to encourage you to get your COVID-19 vaccinations when you're eligible to do so. We intend to hold future clinics locally, periodically.

The following is a list of key messages suggested to us by our Covid Medical Advisor

1. It is our duty not to infect others – If you have COVID-19, please self-isolate.
2. Please continue taking steps to prevent COVID-19 spread (e.g., wearing masks, washing hands regularly, avoiding gatherings if you are feeling ill, open a window in crowded spaces).
3. Recognize the importance, safety and positive effect of COVID-19 vaccinations and booster shots for adults and children – Be “up-to-date” on COVID-19 vaccines.
4. Recognize and continue protecting those who are most vulnerable to getting very sick from the virus -- Identify and protect high-risk individuals
5. Make sure that when somebody gets COVID-19, that they can get treated with medicines that stop the virus from causing sickness (“antiviral agents”) – Quick and easy access to COVID-19 treatments. The First Nation Control Group is available to assist those who are ill.

## Get to know the FNCG Members

**The TFN First Nation Control Group (FNCG) advises and makes recommendation to Chief and Council on matters surrounding COVID-19 .**



Mae Katt, NP



Delma Peshabo



Jennifer Peshabo



Kassandra Plante, THU



Annette Paul



Paula Potts



Tanya Legall



Virginia Paul



Victoria Grant



April McKenzie



Heidi Jobson

Photo by Bradley Paul

Link [HERE](#) to TFN Updates on COVID-19