

File Reference No.

2020/21-1609

The Council of the			
MOOSE CREE FIRST NATION			
Date	Quorum		
APRIL 13, 2020	SEVEN (7)		

**WHEREAS** the spread of COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.

**WHEREAS** the Moose Factory Pandemic Emergency Operations Team (PEOT) was formed and includes representatives from Moose Cree First Nation, MoCreebec, Mushkegowuk and Weeneebayko Area Health Authority. The Pandemic Emergency Operations Team was mandated by Chief and Council to ensure the health and safety of the community. (Motion No. 2020-12-458)

**WHEREAS** the PEOT and Chief & Council are aware of the continued risk to the community members of Moose Factory Island.

WHEREAS there are confirmed COVID-19 cases rapidly spreading in the community.

**WHEREAS** the Delta and Omicron Variants are quickly spreading across Ontario and have been identified in the community. The Omicron Variant is highly transmissible even amongst vaccinated people and we need to protect the vulnerable and the un-vaccinated.

**WHEREAS** 88% of the population of Moose Factory Island aged 18 and over is now vaccinated, and 87% of those aged 12 to 17 are also vaccinated. 69% of children aged 5-11 have received at least one dose.

**WHEREAS** the community needs to ensure that the essential infrastructure and services at the Weeneebayko Area Health Authority, Moose Factory Public Health, Stores, Post Office, Day Care, Schools, Businesses and other workplaces remain strong and healthy while they continue to implement the preventative measures.

WHEREAS the rapidly spreading cases are a result of community members continuing to gather without safety measures in place, therefore such non-essential gatherings must cease immediately. All community members need to assist in ensuring these measures are followed.

**WHEREAS** the PEOT has determined that the community of Moose Factory must re-open at a slower rate than the rest of the province due to the high percentage of community members with pre-existing conditions that place them at high risk, and due to the community's limited health infrastructure to manage a COVID-19 outbreak.

**WHEREAS** the Moose Cree First Nation has an inherent right to self-government and existing Aboriginal and treaty rights throughout the whole of the Moose Cree Homeland, rooted in the precolonial occupation of our Homeland by our ancestors and in our pre-existing systems of law and governance.

**WHEREAS** Chief & Council have the authority and jurisdiction pursuant to the inherent and treaty rights of Moose Cree First Nation and sections 81(1)(a), (c), (d), (p), (q), and (r) of the *Indian Act* to enact emergency measures to prevent the spreading of contagious and infectious diseases.

**NOW THEREFORE**, Chief and Council hereby enact the following bylaw for the protection of public health and safety on Moose Factory Island:

## **Emergency Preventative Measures**

- 1. A mandatory community curfew is in effect from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m. Exceptions would be for emergency personnel, medical care, family emergencies and for those practicing traditional harvesting. An additional exception will be for those arriving or leaving via Wetum Road.
- 2. Due to local quarantine requirements, residents of communities other than Moose Factory Island that arrive via Wetum Road shall not be permitted to remain in Moose Factory Island but must travel on to their own community.
- 3. All indoor gatherings are limited to individual households only.

- 4. If gathering outdoors and other households are present, ensure masking and safe distancing measures are applied.
- 5. To limit interaction and risk within the public places, each household is to designate one person to do the household shopping for essential supplies.
- 6. The only entrance to Moose Factory is McLeod's Hill (Barge Landing) and this is where Checkpoint will be situated.
- 7. All residents and non-residents of Moose Factory must continue to stop at the screening checkpoint.
- 8. All non-residents (unknown to checkpoint staff) of Moose Factory must provide identification upon request at the screening checkpoints.
- 9. All residents of Moose Factory Island that have travelled beyond Moosonee must continue to stop at the screening checkpoint.
- 10. At the screening checkpoint, all travelers must declare whether they are vaccinated or not.
- 11. Non-residents of Moose Factory that declare they are vaccinated must provide documentation.
- 12. Masking (three-ply) is mandatory for all Moose Factory Island residents and non-residents in all public spaces and where physical distancing of 6 feet (2 metres) is not possible.
- 13. Funerals must ensure safety measures are implemented and approved by PEOT and not implemented by the administrative leads of these gatherings. Funerals in Moose Factory shall be coordinated with the Acting Community Liaison Worker at Moose Cree First Nation or with Marilyn McLeod, Director of Health Services at MoCreebec.
- 14. Any resident or non-resident with symptoms of COVID-19, must arrange for COVID-19 testing with the Moose Factory Health Centre by calling 705.658.4220; such individuals must self-isolate inside his or her residence until a negative test result is confirmed and guidance from the Moose Factory Health Centre is provided.
- 15. Any non-residents of Moose Factory Island who have been identified as a high-risk exposure contact or are experiencing symptoms are prohibited from travelling to Moose Factory.
- 16. Any resident of Moose Factory Island that has been identified as a high-risk exposure must contact the Health Centre upon return and enter into a 10-day isolation.
- 17. Residents and non-residents of Moose Factory, that are <u>not</u> fully vaccinated that travel must quarantine for seven (7) days upon return at their own residence or, if visiting, at the residence of family or friends, and self-monitor for symptoms for an additional seven days. Others in the household are not required to quarantine, unless any of the individuals in the household begin to exhibit symptoms.
- 18. An Isolation Centre is available and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 19. Residents and non-residents of Moose Factory Island who are fully vaccinated (two doses) that travel must quarantine for three (3) days at their own residence or, if visiting, at the residence of family or friends.
- 20. Anyone travelling to Moose Factory from destinations outside of Canada who are not fully vaccinated must quarantine for fourteen (14) days upon arrival in Moose Factory.
- 21. Anyone travelling to Moose Factory from destinations outside of Canada who are fully vaccinated must guarantine for seven (7) days upon arrival in Moose Factory.
- 22. Non-residents of Moose Factory that must travel to Moose Factory to perform an essential service will be permitted to do so only with the permission of the Moose Factory Pandemic Operations Team, with the exception of those that have a modified quarantine and access to rapid testing and Personal Protective Equipment.
- 23. All essential service providers must arrange for COVID-19 testing upon arrival with the Moose Factory Health Centre. Essential service providers must adhere to the Pandemic safety measures and are to avoid public areas and interaction.
- 24. Visits to Elders or individuals with underlying health issues shall be done in strictest adherence to the safety measures.

25. All schools and daycares, spiritual services, traditional ceremonies, churches and sports/recreational programming in Moose Factory Island are permitted on the condition that safety measures are approved by the PEOT and implemented by the administrative leads of these gatherings.

## **Restorative Justice**

- 26. In order to promote accountability to each other as band members of Moose Cree First Nation and to each other as members of the entire community of Moose Factory Island, those who violate this bylaw will be contacted by a member of a Pandemic Restorative Justice Team.
- 27. A discussion will take place on the importance of this bylaw and how following it will keep all our community members healthy and safe, particularly those most at risk should they come into contact with COVID-19, including those pre-existing conditions and Elders.
- 28. The Pandemic Restorative Justice Team will include representatives of the Moose Factory Pandemic Emergency Operations Team and other health professionals, members of Chief & Council, and will also include community Elder and Youth representatives.
- 29. Community members that observe violations of the bylaw can make referrals to the Pandemic Restorative Justice Team by contacting the following:

Sara Wesley, Executive Administrative Assistant at <a href="mailto:sara.wesley@moosecree.com">sara.wesley@moosecree.com</a> or mobile 705.288.1217.

## **Temporary Effectiveness**

30. As per Council Motion # 2022-11-322 passed on February 2, 2022 this bylaw will remain in force until March 4, 2022, unless that time period is extended or abridged by resolution of Council.

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