



Health Centre of Excellence

A message from the Norway House Cree Nation Health Centre of Excellence Project Team:

Norway House Cree Nation is taking the proper precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in the community. The Pandemic Advisory Team (PAT) was established on March 13th, 2020 to provide Norway House Cree Nation with guidance and advice in line with all provincial public health directives, which now limits travel to and from the community to essential services only. Members who have travelled outside the community are required to go into self-isolation in their home for a mandatory 14-day period. Those who are self-isolating must continue to self-monitor for any COVID-19 symptoms. The PAT, through leadership and direction from our Chief of Staff Dr. Courtney Leary ensures that there is critical support for the community that focuses on the health and safety of Band Members with constant and comprehensive monitoring and communication.

After consultation with PAT and Dr. Courtney Leary, the Norway House Cree Nation Health Centre of Excellence project continues to progress despite the enormous global challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Construction was halted for a 2-week period in April, to implement enhanced safety measures and to allow staff from outside the community the opportunity to self isolate for a period of two weeks before returning to the site on April 24th. JNR Construction Ltd. has implemented numerous measures to keep the worksite and the community safe in a manner that also adheres to the current community restrictions in place that prohibit outside individuals from entering the community to contain the spread of COVID-19 and adhere to Public Health directives. Current measures are as follows:

- Restricting all deliveries and delivery drivers, whereby the trucker is not allowed to exit his/her vehicle and must leave the community as soon as they are unloaded;
- Reduced capacity of dining area in work-camp to allow for proper social distancing;
- COVID-19 topics and safety measures discussed during all daily project safety meetings;
- Meetings being limited to no more than 10 employees at a time so that proper social distancing can be observed;
- COVID-19 bulletins concerning proper hand washing and best practices are posted throughout the camp and office locations and significant enhancement of cleaning and sanitization measures related to work camp and construction equipment
- In addition to standard safety gear and protective equipment, facemasks are now a mandatory piece of safety equipment as well.
- No air travel permitted, all staff traveling to the community can only do so in company assigned vehicles.

All of the above actions will continue to be in place until such a time as clearance is given from Community Leadership and medical personnel that things may return to normal operating standards.

For more information on the current COVID-19 situation in Manitoba please visit the following link: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/index.html>