

BYLAW

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.

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

WHEREAS, there is a significant amount of new confirmed COVID-19 cases in both Moose Factory and Moosonee, Ontario.

WHEREAS, there is also a significant risk to the community by the rising threat in the region of COVID-19 variants, which is of concern.

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 implement the strictest measures.

WHEREAS the community needs to limit social gatherings and limit non-essential travel to ensure the risk of the virus circulating in the community decreases. All community members need to assist in ensuring these measures are followed.

WHERAS 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 Chief & Council and the PEOT support the continued restriction of non-essential activities within the entire community of Moose Factory Island to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and in consideration of the high number of new cases which are much higher than new infection rates in Spring 2020.

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. With the increase of COVID-19 cases within the Town of Moosonee the community of Moose Factory Island has gone into Lockdown effective 9:00 pm February 22, 2021. There is only one entrance point into the community which will be at the Barge Landing (McLeod's Hill), the EPR Road is blocked until further notice.
- 2. Only residents of Moose Factory Island or those deemed as essential workers, or residents of other communities that must travel to Moose Factory Island to receive medical care, as per the attached list compiled by PEOT, will be permitted to Moose Factory Island after 9:00 pm on February 22, 2021.

This is being done to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community of Moose Factory Island.

- A mandatory 9:00 pm to 6:00 am curfew for all residents of Moose Factory Island will remain in effect. Exemptions will be made only for those attending work, in need of medical care and for those participating in traditional harvesting.
- No vehicle traffic will be permitted to enter or leave Moose Factory Island from 9:00 pm to 6:00 am effective February 26, 2021. The only exemption will be for emergency vehicles and for those providing essential services.
- All those walking or travelling on snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles to and from Moose Factory Island must stop at the screening checkpoint at the barge landing.
- 6. Double-masking is mandatory for all Moose Factory Island residents and non-residents in all public spaces and where physical distancing of 6 feet is not possible.
- 7. Do not visit any other household, including those of relatives.
- 8. All gatherings in the community remain banned until further notice, unless deemed essential by the PEOT.
- 9. Exemptions to #3 include family medical emergencies, when in contact with family members from another household ensure masks or face coverings and physical distancing is practiced.
- 10. Exemptions to the ban on gatherings include funerals.
- 11. Masks or face coverings and physical distancing is mandatory at funerals.
- 12. Funerals in Moose Factory shall be coordinated with Rose Blackned, Community Liaison Worker at Moose Cree First Nation or with Marilyn McLeod, Director of Health Services at MoCreebec.
- 13. The attendance at funerals shall not exceed 30% of the capacity of the venue in which the funeral is being held. The family shall decide which immediate/extended family members and friends attend.
- 14. No person shall come within two meters of any other person who does not reside in the same household.
- 15. Any resident or non-resident with symptoms of COVID-19, including fever and cough, must arrange for COVID-19 testing with the Moose Factory Health Centre; must self-isolate inside his or her residence and strictly avoid contact with others for fourteen (14) days or, if symptoms have not resolved after fourteen (14) days, until twenty-four (24) hours after symptoms have fully and completely resolved.
- 16. Non-residents of Moose Factory that travel to Moose Factory, from communities other than Moosonee, Ontario shall quarantine for fourteen (14) days upon arrival in Moose Factory. Nonresidents shall adhere to the Pandemic safety measures and avoid public areas and interaction.
- 17. Upon arrival in Moose Factory Island, non-residents shall report to screening checkpoints in Moose Factory Island or contact Moose Factory Public Health at 705.658.4220.
- 18. 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.
- 19. 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.
- 20. Anyone travelling to Moose Factory from destinations outside of Canada must quarantine for fourteen (14) days at their point of entry into Canada at the quarantine sites designated and funded by the federal government.
- 21. Residents of Moose Factory that travel away from the community, beyond Moosonee, Ontario must quarantine for fourteen (14) days upon returning to Moose Factory.

- 22. Visits to Elders or individuals with underlying health issues shall be avoided where reasonably possible and groceries and supplies shall be delivered to such persons without direct contact or entry to their residences where reasonably possible.
- 23. Until further notice, all schools in Moose Factory Island must close.
- 24. Until further notice, all spiritual services including traditional ceremonies and churches in Moose Factory Island are not permitted.
- Until further notice, all sports and recreation programming in Moose Factory Island are not permitted.
- 26. Day Cares are an essential service and shall remain open in Moose Factory Island until further notice.

Restorative Justice

- 27. 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. 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 <u>sara.wesley@moosecree.com</u> or mobile 705.288.1217.

Temporary Effectiveness

30. As per Council Motion #2021-11-422 passed on February 26, 2021, this bylaw will remain in force for an additional fourteen days (14) days to March 12, 2021, unless that time period is extended or abridged by resolution of Council.

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