



Nishnawbe Aski Nation

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Framework for Decision Making on Easing Restrictions in NAN Territory

Version: May 20, 2020

GUIDELINES FOR EASING RESTRICTIONS AND ACCESS IN NAN FIRST NATIONS

PHASES	Protect and Support	Phase 1: Limited Renewal	Phase 2: Broader Renewal	Phase 3: Recovery
Easing Community Restrictions				
Key Criteria				
Community Virus Containment	Risk of cases in the community.	No community cases for 4-8 weeks.	No community cases for 2-4 months.	No community cases for 4-6 months.
Health System Capacity	Nursing station/health clinic has limited capacity, limited PPE, and no surge capacity oxygen therapy equipment.	Nursing station/health clinic has some capacity, 14-day supply of PPE, and no surge capacity oxygen therapy equipment.	Nursing station/health clinic has full capacity, 14-day supply of PPE, and no surge capacity oxygen therapy equipment.	Nursing station/health clinic has full capacity, 14-day supply of PPE, and surge capacity oxygen therapy equipment.
Public Health Capacity	Limited test kits, delays in test results, contact tracing process not in place.	Adequate supply of test kits, some delays in test results, contact tracing process developed.	Adequate supply of test kits, no delays in test results, contact tracing process developed and in place.	Adequate supply of test kits, no delays in test results, contact tracing process developed and in place.
Community Readiness	Community pandemic planning and preparation ongoing. A pandemic plan should be finalized before moving to the next stage.	Pandemic plan in place. Minimum one location alternative to the nursing station reserved and set up strictly for COVID-19 response, priority community infrastructure projects identified, organizations involved are informed of community protocols.	Alternative COVID-19 location maintained, essential supplies moving into community, boarding location and contactless food service available to essential workers from outside community, schedule for resuming projects developed.	Alternative COVID-19 location maintained, essential supplies moving into community, boarding location and food service available to all workers from outside community, community projects resume with precautions such as self monitoring or physical distancing.
Easing Community Access				
Key Criteria				
External Virus Containment	Ongoing new cases in urban hubs.	No new cases in urban hubs for 2-4 weeks.	No new cases in ON, MB, or QC for 2-4 weeks.	No new cases in ON, MB, or QC for 2-4 months.
Health System Capacity	Hospitals in urban hubs have limited capacity to effectively respond to potential surges.	Hospitals in urban hubs have sufficient capacity, including access to ventilators, to effectively respond to potential surges.	Hospitals in urban hubs have sufficient capacity, including access to ventilators, to effectively respond to potential surges.	Hospitals in urban hubs have sufficient capacity, including access to ventilators, to effectively respond to potential surges.
Public Health Capacity	Testing backlogs in ON; indications that ON, MB, QC are struggling to track cases (many new daily cases, outbreaks, and/or community spread).	Limited testing backlogs in ON; indications most cases in ON, MB, QC are tracked (no or limited community spread, new daily cases declining).	No testing backlogs in ON; indications most cases in ON, MB, QC are tracked (no new cases or outbreaks).	No testing backlogs in ON; virtually all cases in ON, MB, QC are tracked (no new cases or outbreaks).
Community Readiness	Community pandemic planning and preparation ongoing. A pandemic plan should be finalized before moving to the next stage.	Pandemic plan in place. Minimum one alternative location to the nursing station reserved for COVID-19 response, priority community infrastructure projects identified, organizations involved are informed of community protocols.	Alternative COVID-19 location maintained, essential supplies moving into community, boarding location and contactless food service available to essential outside workers, schedule for resuming projects developed.	Alternative COVID-19 location maintained, essential supplies moving into community, boarding location and food service available to all outside workers, community projects resume with precautions.

A PHASED APPROACH TO REOPENING COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, SERVICES, OPERATIONS and PROJECTS

PHASES	Protect and Support	Phase 1: Limited Renewal	Phase 2: Broader Renewal	Phase 3: Recovery
COMMUNITY SECTORS	ACTION ITEMS			
Essential Services	All non-essential services closed. Essential services open with limited staffing. Services provided remotely if possible. Enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices in place.	Continue enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Staff return to work provided physical distancing can be maintained and they are not at increased risk of complications from COVID-19. Vulnerable staff continue to work remotely. Develop schedule for non-essential outside services to return to community.	Continue enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Most staff back at work, with physical distancing measures in place. Vulnerable staff start returning to work. Some non-essential outside services return to community; outside staff must self-monitor.	Begin easing back on cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Physical distancing measures can be relaxed. All staff back to work. All non-essential outside services return to community; outside staff continue to self-monitor.
Public Health	Mandatory physical distancing. Recommend/require use of non-medical masks when physical distancing is impossible. Frequent communication about COVID-19 risks and measures on radio and social media.	Mandatory physical distancing. Recommend use of non-medical masks when physical distancing is impossible. Daily communication about COVID-19 risks and measures on radio and social media.	Recommend physical distancing. Recommend use of non-medical masks when physical distancing is impossible. Communication every 2-3 days about COVID-19 risks and measures on radio and social media.	Recommend physical distancing. Ease back on non-medical mask recommendations. Weekly communication about COVID-19 risks and measures on radio and social media.
Social Events and Gatherings	Social events and gatherings restricted to <5 individuals.	The number of people at social events and gatherings can be further increased, in line with government guidance.	The number of people at social events and gatherings can be further increased, in line with government guidance.	Regular community social programming resumes.
Infrastructure Projects	Construction of infrastructure projects on hold. Project team meetings may occur through tele/videoconference.	Construction of infrastructure projects on hold. Communicate with project teams regarding community protocols on returning to work, contractors/consultants provide COVID-19 Health and Safety policies.	Materials for infrastructure projects resume delivery to community. Project teams develop schedules for returning to work. Site preparation and other work begins by community members.	Outside contractors return to community adhering to precautions (such as self-monitoring or appropriate PPE use) as outlined in community protocols and Health and Safety policies.
Education	Schools remain closed. Teachers available through remote platforms. Home schooling activities available. High school students who normally attend school off-reserve remain home.	Schools remain closed. High school students who normally attend school off-reserve remain home.	Schools may open. Students must maintain physical distancing. Home school activities available for parents who do not want their children in school. High school students who normally attend school off-reserve may leave the community if assurances of safe accommodation are provided.	Schools are open. Students must maintain physical distancing. Schools may operate in shifts to accommodate all students and maintain safety guidelines. On the Land learning activities permitted.

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COMMUNITY SECTORS	ACTION ITEMS			
Non-Essential Health Services (Physical Therapy, Kinesiology, Foot Care, non-emergency Oral Health, etc.)	All non-essential services closed. All appointments are cancelled; the process for rebooking appointments once it is safe to do so will be communicated to the affected patients.	Some non-essential services resume, provided physical distancing can be maintained and staff are not at increased risk of complications from COVID-19. Vulnerable staff continue to work remotely. Patients whose appointments were cancelled during Protect and Support phase are prioritized for rebooking as services resume.	All non-essential services have resumed, with most staff back at work, provided physical distancing can be maintained. All appointments cancelled during Protect and Support phase have been rescheduled. Continue enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Some non-essential outside services return to community; outside staff must self-monitor.	Begin easing back on cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Physical distancing measures can be relaxed. All staff back to work. All non-essential outside services return to community; outside staff continue to self-monitor. All appointments cancelled during previous phases have been completed and new appointments are being booked.
Child and Family Services	CFS office open with limited staffing. Services provided remotely as much as possible. Enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices in place. Refer to CFS EPT Guidelines provided by NAN. Consult with FNCFS Agency.	Continue enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Some staff return to work, vulnerable staff continue to work remotely. Develop schedule for outside services to return to community. Refer to CFS EPT Guidelines provided by NAN. Consult with FNCFS Agency.	Continue enhanced cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. Most staff back to work. Vulnerable staff start returning to work. Some outside services return to community; outside staff must self-monitor. Develop schedule for CFS to begin regular in person services. Refer to CFS EPT Guidelines provided by NAN. Consult with FNCFS Agency.	Begin easing back on cleaning, sanitization, and PPE practices. All staff back to work. Staff conduct regular services. All outside services return to community; outside staff continue to self-monitor. Consult with FNCFS Agency.
Vulnerable Populations	Enhance cleaning/sanitization procedures for locations that house/ or service vulnerable populations. Provide additional PPE for workers that are caring for or working with vulnerable populations. Develop and implement alternative delivery models for services and necessities.	Maintain enhanced cleaning/sanitization procedures for locations that house/ or service vulnerable populations. Continue to provide additional PPE for workers that are caring for or working with vulnerable populations. Maintain alternative delivery models for services and necessities.	Maintain enhanced cleaning/sanitization procedures for locations that house/ or service vulnerable populations. Continue to provide additional PPE for workers that are caring for or working with vulnerable populations. Maintain alternative delivery models for services and necessities.	Ease back on enhanced cleaning/sanitization procedures for locations that house/ or service vulnerable populations. Workers who are caring for or working with vulnerable populations no longer require additional PPE. Phase back traditional delivery models for services and necessities.
Community Centres and Sports Facilities	All community centres and sports facilities closed.	Community centres and sports facilities open with limited hours, and capacity restricted in line with government guidance and to support physical distancing measures. Enhanced cleaning practices and hand sanitizer in place.	Community centres and sports facilities open with limited hours, and capacity restricted in line with government guidance and to support physical distancing measures. Enhanced cleaning practices and hand sanitizer in place.	All community centres and sports facilities open with regular hours.

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PHASES	Protect and Support	Phase 1: Limited Renewal	Phase 2: Broader Renewal	Phase 3: Recovery
COMMUNITY SECTORS	ACTION ITEMS			
Food Services	Food services restricted to preparing food for vulnerable populations. Enhance cleaning/sanitization procedures. All staff required to wear gloves and masks.	Food service outlets can seat the maximum number of customers allowed by government guidance or that can be accommodated while maintaining physical distancing. Maintain enhanced cleaning/sanitization procedures. All staff required to wear gloves and masks.	Food service outlets can increase the number of seated customers as outlined by government guidance or that can be accommodated while maintaining physical distancing. Maintain enhanced cleaning/sanitization procedures. All staff required to wear gloves and masks.	All food services open. No restrictions on the number of people they can serve, provided physical distancing can be maintained. Ease back on cleaning schedule. Staff required to wear gloves; masks recommended but not required.
Mental Health and Substance Use	Only tele-mental health services provided if no providers in community. Provide messaging around the risks of withdrawal and overdose. Work with nursing and other health care staff to understand care available for people going through withdrawal and whether harm reduction supplies can be offered. Assess availability of naloxone kits; order additional kits if needed and provide virtual Naloxone training if possible.	Some mental health providers allowed in community; must self-monitor. Travel outside of community allowed for some mental health appointments. Increase messaging around the risks of withdrawal and overdose. Reach out to Elders and other high-risk populations to assess Mental Health needs. Restock naloxone kits if needed; offer training on naloxone kit use.	All mental health providers allowed in community with requirements to self-monitor. Travel outside of community allowed for all mental health appointments. Maintain messaging around the risks of withdrawal and overdose. Work with Elders and other high-risk populations to address Mental Health needs. Restock naloxone kits if needed; offer refresher naloxone training.	All mental health providers allowed in community; must self-monitor. Travel outside of community allowed for all mental health appointments. Maintain messaging around the risks of withdrawal and overdose. Continue to assess and work with Elders and other high-risk populations to address Mental Health needs. Restock naloxone kits if needed; offer refresher naloxone training.
Domestic Travel	Follow community travel restrictions. All individuals in a high-risk group and/or individuals who have recently returned from travel must self-isolate. Travelers must wear mask/face covering to travel by air.	Travel permitted for medical appointments out of the community and for health care providers traveling into the community. Guidelines on physical distancing, face coverings/masks, and sanitation must be followed. All individuals must follow self-isolation guidelines when returning to community. Follow community travel restrictions and government travel regulations in place.	Travel permitted for medical appointments and/or for other reasons both in to and out of the community with support from community leadership. Individuals must follow self-isolation guidelines when returning to community. Follow government travel regulations in place.	Reinstate passenger travel to NAN communities and follow government travel regulations in place.

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COMMUNITY SECTORS	ACTION ITEMS			
Community Businesses	All non-essential businesses closed. Essential businesses opened but with reduced capacity. Hand sanitizer available at all essential businesses. Install plexiglass shields if possible. Require cashiers and stockers to wash or sanitize their hands frequently.	Allow some non-essential businesses to open with reduced capacity. Essential businesses opened but with reduced capacity. Hand sanitizer available at all businesses. Install plexiglass shields if possible. Require cashiers and stockers to wash or sanitize their hands frequently.	Allow all non-essential businesses to open with reduced capacity. Ease some capacity restrictions on essential businesses. Hand sanitizer available at all businesses. Install plexiglass shields if possible. Require cashiers and stockers to wash or sanitize their hands frequently.	All businesses open with normal capacity. Hand sanitizer available at all businesses. Install plexiglass shields if possible. Continue to emphasize the importance of frequent hand washing or sanitizing to cashiers and stockers.
Weddings, Funerals, Religious Services and Traditional Ceremonies	Services and ceremonies restricted; Elders, knowledge keepers, ministers, and priests can perform ceremonies without gatherings. Weddings postponed if possible, restricted to <5 guests if not. Funerals restricted to <10 mourners. Funeral homes may have enacted additional restrictions; mourners should call ahead to confirm.	Continue to postpone weddings if possible. Services, ceremonies, and weddings restricted in line with government guidance and to support physical distancing measures. Funerals restricted to in line with government guidance and to support physical distancing measures. Gatherings should record contact details.	Guidance to postpone weddings no longer needed. Services, ceremonies, and weddings restricted in line with government guidance and to support physical distancing measures. Funerals restricted to in line with government guidance and to support physical distancing measures. Gatherings should record contact details.	All ceremonies and services proceed as normal. Organizers encouraged to limit gathering size to what can support physical distancing. Gatherings should record contact details.
Accommodations	All accommodation facilities closed. Visitors have limited to no entry into community, private accommodations are prohibited.	Some mental health providers and other healthcare workers allowed to stay at accommodation facility. Enhanced cleaning/sanitation procedures required. All staff and guests required to wear masks and frequently wash or sanitize their hands. Visitors have limited to no entry into community, private accommodations restricted to family only and allowed only if there is adequate, separate space to accommodate the maximum number of people allowed by government guidance while maintaining physical distancing.	Additional guests allowed to stay at accommodation facility. Maintain enhanced cleaning/sanitation procedures. All staff and guests required to wear masks and wash or sanitize their hands. Visitors have limited entry into community, private accommodations allowed only if there is adequate, separate space to accommodate the maximum number of people allowed by government guidance while maintaining physical distancing.	All guests allowed to stay at accommodation facility. Regular cleaning/sanitation schedule. Staff required to frequently wash or sanitize their hands; masks recommended but not required. Visitors have regular entry into community, private accommodations allowed.

