

**CREE NATION OF CHISASIBI**

**LAW NO. 2020-004**

**RESPECTING MEASURES TO CONTAIN THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 THROUGH  
MANDATORY SELF-ISOLATION**

**WHEREAS** on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) to be a pandemic;

**WHEREAS** the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a serious and ongoing threat to the life, health and welfare of our community members and residents and requires the immediate application of appropriate measures by all levels of government, particularly our local government;

**WHEREAS** the Cree Nation of Chisasibi has a higher proportion than elsewhere in Québec of community members with pre-existing medical conditions, such as diabetes, cardio-vascular diseases and respiratory diseases, making them highly vulnerable to COVID-19, particularly in the context of severely overcrowded housing conditions in the community;

**WHEREAS** the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (“Cree Health Board”) considers COVID-19 to remain a serious and ongoing threat within Eeyou Istchee, and a COVID-19 outbreak in the community would pose a very serious challenge to the health and public authorities and would have severe negative impacts on the life, health and welfare of many of our members and residents;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 5.6 of the *Cree Nation Governance Agreement*, the Cree Nation of Chisasibi shall act as the local government authority on its Category IA land and shall promote the general welfare of its members;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 6.2 of the *Cree Nation Governance Agreement*, the Cree Nation of Chisasibi shall have the power to make laws of a local nature for the good government of its Category IA land and of the inhabitants of such land, and for the general welfare of its members, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall have the power to make laws respecting

- (1) Health and hygiene, including the sanitary condition of public and private property and the control or prohibition of activities or undertakings that constitute a danger to public health; and
- (2) Public order and safety, including curfews;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to subsection 9.2(2) of the *Cree Nation Governance Agreement*, the Cree Nation of Chisasibi shall have the power to make a law for the purpose of regulating, on its Category IA land, the exercise of residence or access rights conferred by sections 9.3 to 9.6 of the said Agreement;

**WHEREAS** community transmission of COVID-19 remains widespread outside the community, and the travel of members and residents outside the community represents a serious and ongoing threat of COVID-19 transmission within Eeyou Istchee and in our community;

**WHEREAS** the Cree Nation of Chisasibi has implemented an Emergency Measures Plan and is currently managing, restricting and monitoring access to the Cree Nation of Chisasibi through a Checkpoint providing travel advisories to those leaving and entering the community;

**WHEREAS** it is essential to enact measures to protect the life, health and welfare of our community members and residents and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Cree Nation of Chisasibi;

**NOW THEREFORE:**

**PURSUANT** to subsection 6.2(1) and paragraphs 6.2(1)(f) and (g) of the *Cree Nation Governance Agreement*, the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, acting through its council at a meeting of the council

held in Chisasibi on the 19 of May, 2020, hereby enacts the present Law respecting Measures to Contain the Spread of COVID-19 Through Mandatory Self-Isolation

#### **PART I. MANDATORY SELF-ISOLATION**

1. Any person entering the Category IA lands of Chisasibi from areas designated as areas of potential risk for COVID-19 by the Cree Leadership of Eeyou Istchee or by the Council of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi through Public Notice shall undertake and complete a mandatory self-isolation of fourteen (14) days from the date of entry (“**Mandatory Self-Isolation**”), as provided for herein.
2. For the purposes of section 1, the Cree Leadership shall be defined as the COVID-19 Briefings composed of the representatives of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, the other Cree Nations of Eeyou Istchee, Cree Nation Government, the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and the Cree School Board.
3. For the purposes of section 1, a person in Mandatory Self-Isolation shall comply with the guidelines on self-isolation of the Cree Health Board, appended hereto as **Schedule “A”**.
4. Notwithstanding section 1, a person shall be exempt from the requirement to complete the Mandatory Self-Isolation upon entering the Category IA lands of the community if:
  - (a) After entering the Category IA lands of the community, they have been examined by a physician of the Cree Health Board and have been designated as COVID-19 free through testing or some other process by the Cree Health Board, as from the date and time of examination; or
  - (b) Upon entering the Category IA lands of the community, they have a specific written authorization from the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, the Cree Nation Government, the Cree Health Board or the Government of Québec exempting them from the requirements as set out in section 1, provided that they comply with the terms and conditions set out in the said authorization.

#### **PART II. REGISTRATION**

5. The Director of Public Security of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi shall maintain a public registry of individuals subject to Mandatory Self-Isolation, indicating the names of the individuals and the date of expiration of their Mandatory Self-Isolation.

#### **PART III. TERRITORIAL APPLICATION**

6. This Law shall apply to the area situated within the perimeter of the Category IA lands of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi. For greater certainty, this Law shall apply to, on and in respect of the Category III lands of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi situated within such perimeter.

#### **PART IV. PENALTIES**

7. Every person who contravenes this Law is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to:
  - (a) a maximum fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for a first offence;
  - (b) a maximum fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for a second offence; or
  - (c) a maximum fine of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) or a maximum term of six (6) months of imprisonment, or both, for a third or subsequent offence.

#### **PART V. EFFECTIVE PERIOD**

8. This Law shall take immediate effect, and shall remain in effect for a period of forty-five (45) days, unless extended for subsequent periods of forty-five (45) days, each extension by way of a resolution adopted by the Council.

Signed this 19 day of May 2020, in the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, Québec.



Chairperson – Davey Bobbish



Secretary – Christina Kitty

## SCHEDULE "A"

### GUIDELINES ON SELF-ISOLATION OF THE CREE HEALTH BOARD

COVID-19 / ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ

AS OF MAY 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020



## GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS RETURNING HOME FROM THE SOUTH



EVERYONE IS ADVISED TO SELF-ISOLATE FOR  
**14 DAYS**



To protect all community members from COVID-19, certain measures have been put in place by the CBHSSJB Public Health Department in collaboration with Public Safety Officers (PSO) and First Nation Councils. We must work together to protect our communities from COVID-19.

*Before travelling to your home community, please check [eeyouistcheecovid19.org](http://eeyouistcheecovid19.org) for the latest information about COVID-19 in our region or call your local First Nation Council.*

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, please call your local Community Miyupimaatisiun Clinic (CMC) and wait to be cleared for travel.

#### WHO NEEDS TO SELF-ISOLATE?

- Anyone returning from outside Eeyou Istchee must **self-isolate for a total of 14 days**:
  - There is no need to self-isolate if:
    - You are travelling **between communities**. Inter-community travel, even within Eeyou Istchee, is strongly discouraged.
    - You are returning from a bush camp **on the territory**.
  - People travelling to Whapmagoostui from outside of Eeyou Istchee **will have to plan ahead**. See the bottom of this document for more instructions.

#### INTER-COMMUNITY TRAVEL IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED.

\* Please note that some communities may have different guidelines for intercommunity travel. Check with your local First Nation Council or Public Safety Officer before travelling.

PLEASE RESPECT THE RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS.









