



BIIGTIGONG
NISHNAABEG

MEMO TO COMMUNITY MARCH 23, 2020

BIIGTIGONG NISHNAABEG DECLARES A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND WILL RESTRICT ACCESS TO THE COMMUNITY

In on-going efforts to protect the community of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, Chief and Council have declared a State of Emergency and will be implementing a 24-hour checkpoint at a singular point of entry to the community, located at the northern corner of Highway 627 and Pic River Road, to limit the access. These preventative measures are necessary to protect the health and well-being of our members during this COVID19 pandemic.

Band Council Resolutions (19.20.39), (19.20.40) and (19.20.41) were passed tonight at the Council meeting that supports this decision. As such, Kimberley McWatch and Lisa Michano-Courchene were appointed as the Incident Commanders and Kimberley McWatch and Daniel Michano were appointed as the Emergency Response Coordinators to enact the Pandemic Response as per the community's Emergency Response Plan. The Pandemic Response team have been meeting daily to determine next steps and continue to monitor COVID19 developments provided by Ontario and Canada. They will continue to do so and provide updates to our members, where needed.

The restricted access point to the community will be set up as of **6:00 pm on March 24, 2020**, only people residing within the boundaries of the reserve land, essential service providers, goods & services deliveries and emergency response personnel will be granted access to the community until further notice. Staff will be stationed at the access point to complete mandatory screening procedures.

Residents that need to obtain essential supplies in Marathon, will be able to do so. However, we recommend that only one member of your household go and most importantly, to practice social distancing while out in the general public.

These are unprecedented times for our community, our country and the world. We must each do our part in ensuring we protect everyone we love especially our vulnerable population.

Miigwetch for your understanding and cooperation!

Chief Duncan Michano

BIIGTIGONG NISHNAABEG