



March 26, 2020

Bulletin 2:

SFN COVID-19 Planning and Response

Selkirk First Nation (SFN) is taking a proactive approach to slow the spread of COVID-19 to our communities. **WE NOW HAVE CONFIRMED CASES IN THE YUKON.** We all have the responsibility to limit the spread and save lives by acting now.

Message from the Chief and Council

"All across Canada and throughout the Yukon Territory, Canadians and Yukoners are being urged to 'Stay Home'. There is no vaccine for this virus and the only way to prevent getting it is to distance yourself from others. We implore you to take the health advisories seriously. Our actions can potentially harm our whole community. Any one of us can get this virus, no one is safe from it.

Together with the governments of Yukon and Canada, Selkirk is doing all that we can to reduce the risks of COVID-19, as we prepare to weather this.

We all have a role to play. What we do now will help save lives. We ask each and every one of you to follow all health guidelines by the Yukon Government and Canada.

Being responsible family and community members is Dän Ki – "The First Nation Way".
Chief Sharon Nelson and Council

What should SFN Citizens do?

You must do your part to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in the territory by:

- **STAYING HOME**
 - Do not leave your house to visit others face to face. Instead call, text, email or facetime friends and family.
- **SOCIAL DISTANCING**
 - Do not leave your house unless you have to pick up essential supplies that include groceries or medications. When you do so, practice social distancing, which is maintain a minimum distance of two metres (or six feet) between you and others.
- **SELF-ISOLATE**
 - If you have been outside the territory (or the country) you must self-isolate for 14 days and have others pick up your essentials for you and drop them off outside your door.

We urge all community members to strictly follow all health guidelines by the governments of Yukon and Canada.

With the confirmation of three cases of COVID-19 in the Yukon on March 25, following with the public health actions is critical. These are:

- ✓ **Prevention** is the only medical treatment for COVID-19 at this time. We all must act to prevent infection of ourselves and others that means staying home, not visiting
- ✓ **Monitor** yourself and household members for symptoms.
- ✓ **Report COVID-19 symptoms:** If you or your immediate family have symptoms of fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, phone 811 and stay home. Use the COVID-19 online assessment tool at [Yukon.ca](https://yukon.ca) to help.
- ✓ **Restrict travel** - stay home except for travel that is absolutely necessary. If you are returning or know someone who is returning to Pelly Crossing that has been out of the Yukon please have them **contact Kim Henney at 867-334-4378 or by email at ksjohsconsulting@gmail.com**
- ✓ **Space yourself 2 meters (6 feet)** away from people outside your household with someone who is infected (social distancing).
- ✓ **Self-isolate** 14 days if you or immediate household have traveled outside the Yukon or Canada.
- ✓ **Wash your hands** frequently for 20 seconds with warm water and dry with a clean, dry towel or paper towel.
- ✓ **Disinfect** frequently-touched home surfaces like counters, door knobs, light switches, water taps, etc.
- ✓ **Prepare a space to isolate** in case you or a family member becomes ill.
- ✓ **Talk with your family.** Ensure your children, Elder family members and others understand and are practicing safety measures.
- ✓ **Support** at-risk family members by delivering groceries and supplies to the doorsteps of high-risk family and friends so they don't need to go out.
- ✓ **Be kind:** Have patience and compassion for yourself and others. This is a difficult time and how you behave will set an example for others.
- ✓ **Notify the RCMP** If you have concerns about someone's actions because they might be putting the community at risk. Call 867-537-2677 or 867-537-5555

What is the Government of Yukon doing?

The Chief Medical Officer has announced new measures to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the Yukon. New measures include:

- ✓ No travel in or out of the Yukon Territory (returning travelers must self-isolate 14 days).
- ✓ No non-essential travel in or out of rural Yukon communities.
- ✓ All restaurant dining rooms will be closed effective March 26. Take-out and delivery services only going forward.
- ✓ All bars are closed.
- ✓ All personal services are closed, like hair salons, massage therapists, etc.
- ✓ All social gatherings of 10 or more people are banned. People should not join ANY social gathering if they: have any flu-like symptoms, are 65 or older, provide healthcare or an essential service.

Continued actions include:

- ✓ Setting up a new respiratory assessment center at the Yukon Convention Centre.
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- ✓ Providing self-isolation rooms where required.
- ✓ Offering an online COVID-19 assessment tool.
- ✓ Working to improve 811 health emergency phone service.
- ✓ Suspending classes at Yukon public schools until April 15, 2020.
- ✓ Closing public recreation centers (including the Canada Games Centre) and libraries and closing hospitals to visitors.

Watch for important information for Yukoners on COVID-19 at [Yukon.ca](https://www.yukon.ca)

What is SFN doing?

SFN continues to provide Essential Services including:

- ✓ **Municipal Services** water delivery, garbage collection, road maintenance. PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF YOUR WATER CONSUMPTION. Water delivery will continue. Call David Grennan (867) 334-6410 for emergencies ONLY.
- ✓ **Property Services** emergency repairs and property management.
- ✓ **Finance** will continue to process all payments.
- ✓ **Income Assistance.**
- ✓ **Community Wellness support** by our Case Managers and Community Care staff.
- ✓ **Chief and Council** and staff continue to carry out the important business of the SFN government, including our response to COVID-19.

Communication is key: While things continue to change rapidly, SFN is continuing to publish a bulletin to update Citizens on our response. You can find it at [Selkirkfn.com](https://www.selkirkfn.com), on our **Selkirk First Nation** Facebook page, and by email. We will also distribute the bulletin door-to-door in Pelly Crossing when needed. In order to assist in the distribution of information throughout our community, **we are requesting that a representative from each family volunteer to be inform their respective family.** If you are willing to represent your family and distribute information by email or phone to your family members and Elders, **please contact Kim Henney at 867-334-4378 or by email at ksjohsconsulting@gmail.com.**

We will continue to share new information with Citizens regularly, including resources and updates from the governments of Yukon and Canada.

Ongoing SFN Measures:

- ✓ **All SFN offices and public facilities remain closed to the public.** This includes all offices, daycare, Link Building, and all other public spaces.
 - ✓ All SFN gatherings are cancelled or postponed until further notice.
 - ✓ If you have any questions regarding Jordan's Principle, in relation to food, and are:
 - ✓ a SFN Citizen living within our traditional territory, OR
 - ✓ if you are an SFN Citizen living within Yukon
 Contact Tara Roberts at 867-335-9306
 - ✓ Vulnerable or at-risk Citizens who do not have family support may contact Health and Social Services at 867-332-5587.
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What is the Government of Canada doing?

The Government of Canada is taking new actions to respond and adapt to COVID-19. This includes new ways to help people who are unable to work. Visit Canada.ca for the best information. The Prime Minister also addresses Canadians daily between 8 and 8:30 a.m. Yukon time on radio and TV.

Hunting?

We ask everyone to be respectful and mindful of our resources the *Dän Ki (the First Nation Way)* because:

- the moose population is declining. We have to ensure that we don't overhunt in order to let the moose population grow.
- Moose are calving.
- It is our responsibility to manage our resources.
- We must think about our future generations.

Currently, there isn't a food shortage in Canada. The federal government has stated grocery stores will continue to be open and their shelves will continue to be stocked with food.

If you are in need of traditional food, we encourage responsible fishing.

Do You or someone you know need Counseling?

Due to the Chief Medical Officer's directives, counselors are not able to travel to Pelly Crossing. However, Citizens can access counseling services by phone.

- **Arlene MacIsaac** (867) 332-2339
- **Kevin Dawson** (867) 332-5468
- **Yukon Mental Health Services** (867) 456-3838

How will I get my Social Assistance cheques?

We are being careful not to spread COVID-19 therefore your Social Assistance cheques will be mailed and can be picked up in their post office boxes. SFN is looking into direct deposit and will let you know if it is possible.

Questions?

All Citizens and community members can contact Kim Henney 867-334-4378 or by email at ksjohsconsulting@gmail.com.

STAY HOME, STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

COVID-19 IS SERIOUS
