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## COMMUNITY UPDATE RE CHANGES TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC MEASURES:

## COMING NEXT WEEK: SHOPPING TRIPS & STRANDED MEMBERS CAN START COMING HOME SOON

Although the pandemic conditions are continuing, this has been an encouraging week. There are still no cases in Mobert and the immediate surrounding communities and Ontario will begin to relax its measures commencing next week.

As a result, the Council today approved three changes to our current pandemic measures.

1. We will begin opening the community for shopping trips beginning on Monday, May 4. This will provide our members with the opportunity to go to grocery and other stores to purchase needed supplies.

Each household will be assigned to a specific zone. Please see the zone maps in this message to identify your zone.

You will only be allowed to leave the community on the date for your zone – for example, if you are in Zone 1, you can only do your shopping trip on Monday. **There will be no exceptions to this.** 

The following rules will apply to these trips, and you must follow these rules or you will not be allowed out of or back into the community:

- I. Residents will only be allowed to travel within the immediate area (i.e. not beyond Wawa, White River, Marathon or Manitouwadge).
- II. You will only be able to leave Mobert on the date for the zone that you live in.

- III. Shopping trips can only be completed between the hours of 8 a.m and 8 p.m. you cannot leave before 8 a.m. and you must return before 8 p.m.
- IV. You will be allowed a maximum of 5 hours out of the community.
- V. Only one person per household is allowed to leave. No exceptions to this.
- VI. People will be allowed to use their own vehicles.
- VII. Whenever possible, only one person will be allowed in each seating row. For example, in a car, only the driver should be in the front row, and only one person should be in the back seat.
- VIII. Drivers and passengers will be provided with available PPE and instructions on how to travel and shop safely.
  - IX. You will be required to complete our screening process when you return.
  - X. Late arrivals will only be allowed in the event of an emergency. If you are not able to return to Mobert before 8 p.m. on your scheduled day, you must call Shawn Desmoulin, Pandemic Coordinator, at (807) 228-2889.
  - XI. If you don't have a car or you can't make arrangements with someone to shop for you, please reach out to our pandemic team in Mobert for help with options.

Please remember that only grocery stores are currently open for you to go into the store. Other stores (e.g. Canadian Tire) require that you order online, in advance, and they will deliver your order to your car. It is important that you order ahead so that you can get back in time.

Also, with the opening for shopping trips, the food distribution program will be winding down this week. We will no longer be providing food to all households – you will be responsible for getting your own groceries as you did before the COVID-19 pandemic measures were put in place.

## 2. Beginning next week, we will begin to allow our residents who were caught outside of Mobert due to the lock-down to return to the community.

We will be contacting persons who have applied to return home directly to schedule a date and time for you to return. Please do not contact us. We will contact you when we are ready for you to return.

If you were living in Mobert in Mobert before March 23, 2020 and are currently outside of Mobert and want to return, please email us your details to <a href="mailto:COVIDhelp@picmobert.ca">COVIDhelp@picmobert.ca</a>

Please be aware that any person that is returning to Mobert will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days. It doesn't matter where you have been staying – this is not negotiable. If you do not agree, you will not be permitted to return in Mobert.

At this time, we are not allowing people to commute in an out of Mobert. So if you return, you will be subject to the lock down conditions.

3. Certain senior management and other essential health/social staff will be completing COVID testing early this week, and if the tests are negative, will begin to work again in the community. Council made this decision to provide for additional support in the community and relief for our small support team who have been working tirelessly over the past 6 weeks. Please be assured that all precautions will be taken with these staff, including social distancing. For those who reside in the community, they will not return until a negative test has been provided and/or they have completed a 14-day quarantine period.

We hope that these measures will provide our community with much-needed relief, while continuing o keeping us all safe. The pandemic is not over. Our hard work and sacrifices have kept us safe so far, but all of the health authorities are warning that things will not be back to normal for many months.

Miigwetch Chief and Council & Management

2 Attachments