



April 24, 2020

Bulletin # 4: **SFN COVID-19 Planning and Response**

Thank you, Citizens and community members, for respecting and following the recommendations of the Chief Medical Officer. Our actions now will determine what happens in the future.

Message from the Chief and Council

*"We, as a government, need to be able to guide Citizens and staff during this difficult time. We have put a Community Emergency Response Team together to help us through this pandemic. Presently, there is no cure for COVID-19. There is currently no vaccine. **PREVENTION** is the only way to flatten the curve. However, SFN has put in place safeguards to keep you and our community healthy. **We are in this together and together we will get through this!**"*

Chief Sharon Nelson and Council

SFN COVID-19 Response

Presently, SFN is developing a COVID-19 response plan. This work is led and will be implemented by the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) established on March 23. The CERT includes Selkirk's Senior Management Team, our occupational health and safety, communications, community safety officer and human resource advisors. Consultation will occur with SDC re: Selkirk Centre operations, the Pelly Crossing Health Station and, as needed, the School and Yukon University. SFN is recording incoming COVID-related funding and also the costs associated with the COVID outbreak.

To keep our community safe, we ask residents to avoid non-essential travel. We also ask visitors not to come to Pelly Crossing in order to avoid the spread of COVID-19. Non-residents that do come into our community will go through a screening process and will have to follow SFN directives regarding accommodations and interaction with community members.

As you all know, SFN offices are closed to the public, however some of our staff are working from home and those who are unable to work from home may work in the office. Rest assured, the common areas are sanitized often, and social distancing is respected. The measures that SFN has put in place will remain until further notice. The measures to be taken may change as the circumstances change and will be reviewed by Council regularly.

Currently there are no known confirmed cases in the community of Pelly Crossing. If a community resident tests positive for the virus, we will follow the direction of the Yukon Chief Medical Officer. There are COVID-19 tests available in Pelly Crossing. Please note that the Health Centre determines who should get tested. Since there is a limited number of tests available, certain criteria must be filled before a test is given to an individual. **If you think you have COVID-19 DO**

NOT GO to the Health Centre but call the Centre at 867-537-4444. For those who require self-isolation, SFN has secured an agreement to use Selkirk Development Corporation's ATCO trailers if needed.

SFN will continue to follow the Governments of Canada and Yukon recommendations. SFN encourages all Citizens to do so as well and will ask the RCMP to enforce Yukon's health protection orders in our community. SFN's community safety officers will continue to monitor whether Citizens and residents are following the directives. You will see the SFN community safety officers at a check point in Jon Ra and Willow Creek. They are monitoring travel to and from our community. This is to keep our community safe and healthy and also inform Citizens and residents about COVID-19.

We will continue to update Citizens through SFN's Facebook page, its website and by distributing a weekly bulletin like this one. Also, Elders and vulnerable people will be contacted by phone on a regular basis by SFN employees.

We know this is a difficult time for Selkirk Citizens, residents and their families. It has had a financial impact on many of us. SFN is developing economic support measures for Citizens. These will include:

- a) Continue to provide income assistance and Elders income support programs (also known as Social Assistance and Elders Pension) to eligible Citizens on all the usual terms.
- b) Provide one-time food support (\$300 in kind) to all Citizen households in the Yukon and (\$300 in cash) to Citizen households elsewhere in Canada, and stand by to provide additional food support as needed.
- c) Provide one-time emergency assistance within the scope of Selkirk's income assistance policy to eligible Citizens who reside in Canada, where urgently needed to maintain their economic security, and if such assistance is not available to them from another Government.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

If you have applied and received the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, be aware that this is a taxable income which means you will have to put it in your tax return next year as an income.

Selkirk Center has RE-OPENED
Store hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Please follow the instructions posted at the store when
you go shopping

Please take care and watch out for each other. Please follow the health recommendations and orders. Please practice our Northern Tutchone values of respect, caring, sharing and teaching.

MUSSI!