

Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory

19 A Complex Drive, P.O. Box 112
Wikwemikong, Ontario P0P 2J0

October 26, 2021

Ogimaa and Council Approving New and Updated COVID-19 Policies and Guidelines

On October 25, 2021, the Pandemic Response Team brought forth new policies and guidelines to the Council meeting, and revisions to our current WUT Easing of Restrictions Plan. Ogimaa and Council accepted the following:

1. WUT COVID-19 Mandatory Rapid Antigen Testing Policy:

- a. This policy will come into effect November 22, 2021. This timeframe will allow WUT employees to receive the first and second dose of COVID-19 vaccine before November 22, 2021.
- b. This policy is not indefinite. All the public health guidelines, requirements of vaccination, and COVID-19 testing will be in effect until the COVID-19 global pandemic is declared over by the World Health Organization.
- c. All employees must submit a rapid antigen test, and provide the results to their supervisors, on the first day of their work week on a weekly basis if they chose not to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19.
- d. Employees who provide proof of vaccination do not require rapid antigen testing.
- e. Any employee failing to abide by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as per *WUT Personnel Policy Section 10.1: Employee Correction and Discipline*

2. WUT Easing of Restrictions revisions:

- a. Proof of vaccination is required for all individuals 12 years old and older. This is to ensure the safety and well-being of Wiikwemkoong.
- b. Children 11 years old and under are not required to provide proof of vaccination, as a vaccine for this age group is unavailable. However, parents/guardians of children 11 years old and under are required to show proof of vaccination for their child(ren) to participate in any programming/events.
- c. There will be an alternative to proof of vaccination: Rapid Antigen testing.
The Pandemic Response Team advocated for the community to ensure that everyone is included and involved in any programming or event. This alternative option will add further protection to the community.
Individuals who are not fully vaccinated or chose to not disclose their vaccination status may complete a rapid antigen test on-site if the testing is available, and if organizers of programming/events are willing to accommodate.
Nasopharyngeal COVID-19 test will be accepted as another means of COVID-19 testing, provided the results are within 72 hours of the programming/event.
- d. Revised sections:
 - i. Step 1- Outbreak details
 - ii. Step 3 and Step 4:
 1. "Travel safely" section
 2. Step 3- 50% capacity; Step 4- 75% capacity
 3. Tourism is open to non-community members

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3. WUT COVID-19 Community Programming and Events Guideline:

- a. It is a detailed guideline of the process for all Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory's community programming and events during the COVID-19 global pandemic organized by WUT departments and programs, community members, and non-community members.
- b. In addition to events and programming, this document outlines the process for individuals who are coming into the community from outside of the Robinson Huron Treaty Territory as facilitators or contractors for community programming and/or events.
 - i. Individuals will be required to show proof of vaccination in addition to a negative COVID-19 test 72 hours prior to arrival in the community
- c. Pre-registration for community programming and events is now *highly* recommended. This ensures that the number of participants can be kept to a safe and manageable number.
 - i. If a participant refuses to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination OR proof of a negative COVID-19 test result, the individual will **not** be permitted to participate in the event/programming and will be asked to leave the event grounds.
- d. The *WUT COVID-19 Community Programming and Events Guideline* runs in unison with the *WUT Easing of Restrictions Plan*. Please refer to both of these documents when planning community programming/events to ensure the safety and well-being of our community.

4. Travel Safely:

- a. We have expanded our "COVID-19 borders" from the Public Health Sudbury and Manitoulin districts to the **Robinson Huron Treaty Territory** (north of Sault Ste. Marie; south of Chapleau; up to Kirkland Lake; west of the Ottawa River, up to Pembroke; and south to Penetanguishene)
- b. If you travel outside of the Robinson Huron Treaty Territory:
 - It is strongly recommended that safety precautions are adhered to when travelling.
 - Fully vaccinated individuals will be required to self monitor and call WHC to book a COVID-19 test 7 days upon arriving back to community.
 - Non-vaccinated individuals will be required to contact WHC for assessment upon return, to self-isolate for 10 days upon return, and to get tested on day 7.

These policies, guidelines and revisions have been created, and accepted, to ensure the safety and well-being of our community. This is a reminder that the above documents will operate on the honour system, and it is trusted that all community members will implement the above guidelines to protect our community, elders, and knowledge keepers, as truth is one of our Seven Grandfather Teachings.

Miigwech for your continuous cooperation and understanding as we navigate through this pandemic. We are all in this together.

Miigwech,



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