



March 17, 2020

COMMUNITY NOTICE RE: COVID-19

The Alexander First Nation (“AFN”) Chief and Council have authorized the Executive Management Team (“EMT”) to implement and coordinate directives of decisions made by Alexander First Nation FN Chief and Council to protect the health and safety of AFN members and employees which includes, but is not limited to, the closure of any buildings on the Nation, with the exception of care facilities and other essential services.

As a precaution, the AFN Chief and Council have issued the following directive:

All buildings on the Alexander First Nation shall be closed effective as of March 17th, 2020 and shall remain in effect until March 31st, 2020, with the exception of essential services (see below).

AFN employees are expected to work from home during this period of closure and to comply with AFN’s Human Resource standards, and ALL social distancing recommendations from public health agencies.

The following essential services shall remain open, with limited personnel and/or modified work hours:

- 1) Elders’ Lodge (*note: no visitors at this time*);
- 2) Alexander Health Services;
- 3) Social Development;
- 4) Housing;
- 5) Water Delivery;
- 6) Public works;
- 7) Emergency response (Fire Department and Security); and
- 8) Alexander Gas Bar.

This closure is to comply with recommendations from the World Health Organization (“WHO”) and Canada’s Public Health Agency **to limit transmission or the possible transmission of COVID-19** (aka, “coronavirus”). The closure is also **to ensure that AFN’S vulnerable populations** (i.e., Elders and individuals who are immunocompromised) **do not come into contact with asymptomatic individuals**, as travel history alone is not the only concern with coming into contact with COVID-19, **community transmissions are a real possibility.**

In addition, we would like to remind the community that Alberta’s Ministry of Education has **closed all schools in the province indefinitely, which includes Kipohtakaw Education Centre and the day care.**



AFN Chief and Council have worked diligently to secure care packages for **on-reserve members**. More information will soon be provided about pick-up or drop-off.

Any requirements for additional income support can be made through Social Development through the AFN Emergency Band Assistance Program, which is still available for Members who require emergency supports during the COVID-19 pandemic. For any health-related matters, please call the Alexander Health Services to speak with any employees there. **For ALL emergency health situations, please call 911.**

Please see the chart below of resources available for Members for COVID-19 related information and for contact details in non-emergency health situations:

On-Reserve	Off-Reserve
<p><u>Government of Canada</u>, online at https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html</p>	
<p><u>Alexander Health Services</u>: by phone at: 780.939.4787* (<i>non-emergencies ONLY</i>) For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Health Inquiries for COVID-19 related inquiries • Any updates on AFN's COVID-19 strategy • <u>Outside of business hours</u>, please call the Elders' Lodge at 780.939.5573 <p><u>Alexander Social Development</u> 780.939.2700 * For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Income Support for ongoing clients • Child welfare matters (<i>non-emergencies ONLY</i>) • Any updates on AFN's COVID-19 Strategy <p><u>Child Welfare</u> (crisis line) 1-800-387-5437 (KIDS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you believe a child is at risk, you must report it. 	<p><u>Alberta Health Services</u>: by phone at 811, or online at https://www.alberta.ca/COVID19</p>



Public Works, by phone at 780.939.6102*

Contact: Bill Paul

Housing, by phone at 780.939.4767*

Contact: Kevin Arcand

For: Plumbing, Heating, Water

*Please note, due to modified business hours and limited personnel, calls will be managed on a case-by-case basis

AFN Chief and Council are committed to providing the necessary updates and information made available to the Members as the need arises and as the information is received. Chief and Council shall be providing ongoing updates and shall provide any updates on any initiatives that the Nation is moving forward with in response to this COVID-19 pandemic. **At this time, a state of emergency is not being called for AFN.**

AFN is treating this pandemic very seriously and are taking every precaution to promote the safety and health of all of our members. **Please consider making healthy decisions personally to ensure the safety, health and longevity of our Nation**, we are encouraging Members to not travel or commute if it is not necessary. If you, or a loved one, suspects they may have caught coronavirus or are developing symptoms of COVID-19, please contact the AFN Health Centre and conduct a self-assessment online on the website alberta.ca/COVID19.

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Alexander First Nation Executive Management Team

CC: Alexander First Nation Chief and Council