



Information Bulletin – Update RE: COVID-19

March 20, 2020

The Alexander First Nation Chief and Council (“Leadership”) would like to commend each of you for the diligence you are taking to help all of us lessen the spread of the COVID-19/Corona Virus pandemic.

Effective as of today's date, the Alexander First Nation (“AFN”) is continuing to implement its **Emergency Precautionary Measures Plan** (“EPM”), including the deployment of the AFN COVID-19 Response Team (“Response Team”).

The EPM plan contains processes for:

1. Identifying necessary (on- and off-reserve) resources and supports required for the interim and in the event that the Alexander First Nation requires to execute its Emergency Response Plan.

Please be advised that at this time, Leadership have not “declared” a state of emergency for the Nation, this does not mean that the Leadership is not taking the pandemic seriously. Any and all available resources are being considered and sustained based on community need and availability.

2. Identifying applicable processes for ensuring that elder and band members who are medically vulnerable, have immunodeficiencies and or limited mobility will continue to be treated as a priority. The Response Team has been identified to contact all noted individuals and ensure that their needs are noted and resourced.
3. Identifying that appropriate security measures and practices, to be enforced to protect the general public and facilities on AFN.
4. Maintaining the provision of essential services for the Nation, including the continued access to Social and Health services.
5. Identifying and modifying hours and shelving stock (increased inventory and purchases) at the Alexander Gas Bar (under management of the ABC).

The Response Team has been identified and noted that they are the “**on the ground**” team to ensure that all options, measures and resources are sustained, administered, managed and tracked accordingly. They are on standby 24 hours a day.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, as Leadership we assure you that as a Nation and along with the expertise of the Response Team, we are diligently, continuously and cautiously identifying any and all applicable measures possible to ensure the safety of our people and community. **It is imperative that we all continue to stay home and encourage our families and friends to do the same.**

We can all agree that the health, safety and well-being is our primary concern and the steps that are being taken to encourage our members to stay home will help in reducing the transmission rate of this highly contagious virus.



We ask for your continued support during this time, and would like to reiterate that it is understandable that many other nations are taking those necessary precautions they feel may be required for their nation, however, please note that we are all resilient peoples, the first peoples of the land, and as such we are **our own Nation** and we have made the commitment and priority to assure you we are sustaining the best resources we have available. Please be mindful of this during this time.

Please note that as stated in previous information sharing, we will continue to communicate information updates as we have them. Please refrain from paying attention to unofficial Facebook posts, there is nothing more unprecedented than having to deal with rumors stemming from social media. We have identified the Urban off Reserve Liaison and as well the Response Team for direct supports (names and numbers have been listed below).

At this time, we would like to also note that our Health team lead is our Health Director, Marlene Arcand she can be contacted at **780.288.8155** for any health-related services and or concerns. We have also committed to providing access to the on-call nurse at the Elders Lodge for any after-hours concerns and or clarifications regarding health care and information pertaining to the COVID 19 pandemic. Elders Lodge Number: **780.939.5573**.

Further, please note that the resources and supports that have been established and implemented are for you, the members. It is unethical and unacceptable that our team members are subject to acts of violence and or unkindness. We all need to be compassionate at this time and have consideration for each other, please respect the Response Team's efforts in the work they are coordinating for you.

On behalf of the AFN Leadership we want to thank our members for their continued patience, support and understanding during these challenged times.

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The AFN Executive Management Team

Response Team (on-reserve)

Marlene Arcand (780) 288.8155
Loiselle Arcand (780) 974.2543
Loriann Paul (780) 983.5240
Bill Paul (780) 237.0397
Kevin Arcand (780) 906.9910
James Arcand (780) 977.9828
Wyatt Arcand (780) 914.6597
Crystal Kootenay-Thompson (780) 802.4055 (Urban Liaison)

If there any band members who are wanting to add their names as volunteers, please contact Loriann Paul and or Kevin Arcand.