Onion Lake Cree Nation
TREATY NO.6 TERRITORY

OLCN MEMBERSHIP RELEASE

June 11, 2021 for Immediate Release

COVID19 UPDATE – IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

COVID-19 Onion Lake Cree Nation Update – Variants of Concern:

On June 11, 2021 the Onion Lake Health Clinic has confirmed **5 active cases** of COVID-19 as of 10:00 a.m. at our community of Onion Lake and it is critical for everyone to do their part in "social distancing." COVID-19 variants are spreading quickly throughout Canada and are highly contagious. If anyone travels to major cities like Saskatoon and Edmonton they must get a test as soon as they arrive back in the community and seven days thereafter.

Possible Public Exposure Update:

Public Health officials are advising individuals if anyone was at the following:

- A person that tested positive for COVID was at the Onion Lake Post Office June 7, 8 &9 between 10am and 6pm.
- A person that tested positive for COVID attended the kindergarten graduation at Kihew on June 9, 2021.

Please self-monitor, if you develop any symptoms, stay home, and call the Onion Lake Health COVID Line for a test.

Testing is available at the Onion Lake Health Centre Monday - Friday. Call 306-500-7260 to arrange for testing in Onion Lake. Contact tracing is underway – Public Health will be contacting anyone considered a close contact and provide direction. Testing continues to be available to anyone who requests it, regardless of whether they have symptoms or not.

Vaccine Clinics:

SIGN UP ONLINE FOR YOUR COVID19 VACCINE:

- Use the link www.olcncovidtracker.com to book online
- OR call 306-344-2330 or 639-343-7010 (only for those that do not have ability to book online)

We encourage everyone to receive their vaccine that can that are 12 and older that are part of the Onion Lake Community and our Urban Membership.

It is strongly recommended by Indigenous Services Canada Medical Health Officer that First Nations also adopt similar measures to stop the transmission of COVID-19 and its

variants and avoid all non-essential travel. Medical appointments and compassionate care visits are still considered necessary. The Saskatchewan Health Authority has reminded residents that it is safe to attend medical appointments but does not recommend making other stops or visits in the city.

https://www.saskhealthauthority.ca/news/releases/Pages/2021/March/Regina-and-area-residentsreminded-essential-travel-includes-medical-appointments-and-compassionate-visitation.aspx

Isolation Requirements if tested positive with a variant of COVID19:

Evidence around variants of concern suggests it is not possible to separate adequately in the home, even if there are separate rooms. Therefore, the household contacts are considered exposed. **This could result in 24-days of isolation or more.** Therefore, alternative isolation options when there is a case within a household will be sought whenever possible. If anyone travels to major cities like Saskatoon and Edmonton they must get a test as soon as they arrive back in the community and seven days thereafter.

Any person deemed a non-close contact through contact tracing is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-monitor. As long as the non-close contact has no symptoms, they do not need to self-isolate but any non-close contacts who develop symptoms need to immediately self-isolate at the earliest onset of symptoms and should seek testing.

Anyone can contract COVID-19, we are not immune, and these measures are put in place to keep our community safe. We strongly encourage anyone who is concerned they may have been exposed or have symptoms to get tested. THE SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT AND THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER HAVE LEGALLY MANDATED SELF-ISOLATION. OLCN LEADERSHIP IS IN AGREEMENT AND THERE COULD BE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES IF THIS IS NOT FOLLOWED BY THE PERSON WHO IS TO SELF-ISOLATE. SECURITY AND RCMP ARE AUTHORISED TO ENSURE THIS ORDER IS FOLLOWED ON ONION LAKE.

THANK YOU. WE ARE TRYING TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE AND HEALTHY.

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For more information, please contact:
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