Onion Lake Cree Nation
TREATY NO.6 TERRITORY

OLCN MEMBERSHIP RELEASE

December 22, 2021 for Immediate Release

COVID19 UPDATE – IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

COVID-19 Onion Lake Cree Nation Update:

The Omicron Virus has now been confirmed in Canada as of November 28, 2021 in Ontario. New restrictions are being implemented in jurisdictions where it is now present, as the COVID Omicron Variant is more highly transmissible than the previous variants. We encourage all of our community members to keep up with the COVID protocols to prevent the spread of the virus.

If symptoms develop immediately self-isolate and arrange for testing. Reminder that vaccination is an important way to reduce the chance of getting COVID. Close contacts will be notified to self-isolate. You can call **306-500-7260** to book a test or schedule a vaccination.

Holiday pop up clinics hours have been scheduled for vaccinations and testing at the Onion Lake Health Centre as follows:

- December 28, 2021 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- January 4, 2021 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Vaccinations are available for those that are **5 years old and up**, and the **3rd dose** is available for those 18 years and up and it **has been 3 months since their 2nd dose of COVID vaccine**.

The **OLCN Covid-19 non-compliance monitor - phone number is (639) 343-7313. If you see people breaking the COVID 19 provincial laws, you can call this number, so proper authorities including RCMP are notified.** **Keep our community safe is the goal!** Thank you to all the people who are working with us to help control the spread. Thank you to all the members who are listening and respecting the preventative measures and guidelines that are given. Let's have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season!

Onion Lake Health Critical Messages:

Keeping our community safe and protocols provided by Medical Health Officer, Dr. Khan, First Nations Inuit Health Branch as follows:

If you are not vaccinated, do not gather with friends and family this holiday season. Get vaccinated as soon as possible to protect your loved ones and community.

- Keep gatherings small, with only two or three other households, where everyone is vaccinated.

- Wear a well-fit, non-medical mask indoors. For those that are at high risk, medical masks are recommended.
- Do not host or attend gatherings if you feel unwell. Even if you have mild symptoms, seek testing as soon as possible, regardless of your vaccination status.
- Meet and greet outdoors as much as possible. The risk of transmission is not zero, but it is much lower than meeting inside. If meeting inside, physically distance and ensure good ventilation.
- Avoid all non-essential travel wherever possible; international travel remains risky.
- Currently, there is high COVID-19 transmission among children under 12.

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.

TESTING AND BOOKING YOUR VACCINE

- call HealthLine 811 to arrange for testing.
- Use the link www.olcncovidtracker.com to book online
- You can call 306-500-7260 to book a test or schedule a vaccination.
- Please call the COVID Tip Line 639-343-7313 if you know of anyone who is not following self-isolation or quarantine requirements