



## WEENEEBAYKO AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY

19 Hospital Drive, P.O. Box 664, Moose Factory, ON P0L 1W0  
Tel: 705-658-4544 Fax: 705-658-4917  
www.waha.ca

December 3, 2020

### **RE: Five Active Cases of Covid-19 in the James and Hudson Bay Region**

To our community members:

The Weeneebayko Area Health Authority is confirming five new active cases of COVID-19 in the James and Hudson Bay region. WAHA is working with Porcupine Health Unit and the community public health department/FNIHB to ensure that the individual is isolated, and that the contact tracing investigation is ongoing.

WAHA has received authorization from Attawapiskat First Nation leadership to confirm that the active case is in Attawapiskat, Ontario.

Local public health is currently following up with anyone identified as close contacts. In general, for COVID-19, a close contact is anyone who was within 2 metres or 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes during the time of infectivity. An infected person can spread COVID-19 starting 48 hours (or 2 days) before the person had any symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19. Passing a person in the hallway or in a store is generally not considered close contact and has an extremely low risk of spreading the virus. Public Health will contact you if you are considered a close contact.

At this time, we recommend that everyone continue to monitor for symptoms. If ANY symptoms develop, isolate immediately and call your local assessment centre or your health care provider to arrange testing.

Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Sore throat/hoarse voice
- New or worsening cough
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea, vomiting
- Runny nose/nasal congestion
- Diarrhea

In some cases, atypical symptoms could develop, such as, unexplained fatigue or malaise, muscle aches, delirium, unexplained or increased number of falls, acute functional decline, exacerbation of current chronic conditions, chills, headaches, croup, conjunctivitis.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact WAHA or the Porcupine Health Unit for more information.

To reduce the risk of exposure, please continue to follow public health measures:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- Stay home and isolate for 14 days if you have any symptoms
- Practice 2 m physical distancing
- Wear a mask in indoor public spaces and outdoors when physical distancing of 2 metres/6 feet cannot be maintained.

Should you have questions, please contact WAHA at 705-658-4544 or check our website for continued updates.

Thank you,

Dr Elaine Innes, Chief of Staff, WAHA  
Lynne Innes, President & Chief Executive Officer, WAHA