



English River
First Nation

COVID-19 EMERGENCY MEASURES

PUBLIC NOTICE – DECEMBER 10, 2020

English River First Nation Chief and Council declared a state of emergency under the ERFN Emergency Measures Bylaw No. 2020-001, effective March 19th, 2020 because of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

As of November 30, 2020, several **legal orders** are in place for English River First Nation's Patuanak and La Plonge reserve communities as part of ERFN leadership's efforts to keep the members of our communities safe and healthy. These legal orders are set out in Band Council Resolutions that are available on the ERFN website (www.erfn.net).

This is a summary of the legal orders currently in place and the consequences for those who do not follow them:

Masks are Mandatory

- Non-medical or cloth facemasks must be worn in all indoor public places on ERFN reserves, with some limited exceptions;
- Non-medical or cloth facemasks are not required, for example, for:
 - Children under the age of 2;
 - People who have a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a mask (as determined by a health professional); or
 - When a quick removal of the mask is needed to identify someone;

Travel Restrictions

- With some exceptions, non-residents of the Patuanak and La Plonge reserves cannot enter the reserves unless:
 - They are providing an essential service or supply;

- The non-resident is a spouse or child of a resident of Patuanak or La Plonge reserves; or
- The non-resident is in law enforcement or health care. For example a doctor, nurse or paramedic, or someone providing a critical public service, like firefighters or others might be exempted from this rule. A person who is exempted will be considered on a case by case basis, with the goal of protecting the health and safety of our community.
- ERFN residents of Patuanak or La Plonge can only travel for the following reasons:
 - To get goods or services, including picking up lumber or repairing a vehicle;
 - To get medical attention;
 - To exercise traditional practices; or
 - Other situations that are pre-approved in writing by Council.
- All ERFN residents of the Patuanak or La Plonge reserves can only travel between the two reserves or outside of either reserve if:
 - There are no more than 3 people from the same home or social bubble in one car;
 - Children 12 years old or younger cannot be in the car with their family to get groceries or any other goods and services;
 - But, children 12 years old or younger can be in the car if they need medical attention, to visit the dentist, or as part of a custody and access agreement; and
 - If an elder is in the car then only one other person can be in the car with them, unless it is a special circumstance pre-approved by Council;

Restrictions on Gatherings

- There is a mandatory curfew for everyone 17 years old or younger who live on the Patuanak or La Plonge reserves. This means anyone 17 years old or younger must stay in their homes between midnight and 6:00 am;
- Public gatherings in the Patuanak and La Plonge reserves are not allowed unless:
 - It is a workplace where people are in different rooms or buildings and 2 meter distancing is possible; or

- It is a critical public service, like road work or a business, like the Northern Store, and 2 meter distancing is possible;
- Private indoor gatherings in the Patuanak and La Plonge reserves are not allowed unless:
 - The individuals live in the same home and are gathered in their house;
 - They are a caregiver, support person or tradesperson and must visit a home. They must leave immediately once their job is done; or
 - They are law enforcement, health care workers or a member of council and are visiting a private home as part of their job;

Mandatory Self-Isolation and Self-Monitoring

- All ERFN residents that are diagnosed with COVID-19 by the Northern Intertribal Health Authority must self-isolate immediately. This is mandatory, and last for as long as the Northern Intertribal Health Authority requires;
- All ERFN residents that have been identified by the Northern Intertribal Health Authority as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 must self-isolate for 14 days starting the day they are tested for COVID-19. This is mandatory;
- All ERFN residents with symptoms of COVID-19 that are told to get tested or are waiting for their test results must self-isolate for as long as the Northern Intertribal Health Authority requires;
- All ERFN residents that travel outside of Saskatchewan, including international travel, must self-isolate for 14 days, starting the day they come back to any of the ERFN reserves. One exception is if they work out of province, when they come back to any of the ERFN, they must get a COVID-19 test, and self-isolate until they get their results.
- All residents that develop COVID-19 symptoms while in isolation must call the Northern Intertribal Health Authority and follow their health directives;
- If any ERFN resident tests positive for COVID-19, then that person and anyone who lives with them must immediately go into mandatory self-isolation in their house, and must not leave their homes until they are officially permitted to do so by a health official;

Enforcement

- The Bylaw Enforcement Officers (Michael Wolverine) and/or the R.C.M.P. will be enforcing these orders;
- There will be check points at the Pataunak and La Plonge reserves to make sure the travel restrictions are being followed and to enforce the 3 person per vehicle rule;
- Anyone who violates or does not follow any of these orders may be fined up to \$1,000, imprisoned for up to 30 days, and/or evicted and removed from any or all ERFN reserves;

Key Contacts:

Bylaw Enforcement Officers:

TBA

Pandemic Planning Committee

Michael Wolverine (Patuanak) at (306) 240-6528

Candyce Paul (La Plonge) at (306) 304-1689