

## PUBLIC NOTICE

## FNFN buildings will remain closed to the public until further notice

September 03, 2021

Until further notice, the FNFN Employer will continue to keep its doors closed to the public, and attendance at our buildings is limited to scheduled employees, and clients and service providers with scheduled appointments.

We will continue to follow the COVID-19 protocols that we implemented in 2020, as such, all employees and clients must adhere to: physical distancing in the workplace, wearing masks in all shared and common spaces, regular hand cleaning/sanitization practices, physical barriers, directional traffic flow, clients by appointment only, scheduled meetings that follow all protocols, and zoom meetings when necessary. For more information about FNFN's Communicable Disease Prevention Plan, check out the following link:

http://www.fortnelsonfirstnation.org/communicable-disease-prevention-plan.html

All employees, and any person attending appointments or providing services, at any FNFN building is required to follow all COVID-19 protocols and wear a mask. Mask exemptions are available for:

- People with health conditions or with physical, cognitive or mental impairments who cannot wear one
- People who cannot remove a mask on their own
- Children under the age of 12
- People who need to remove their masks to communicate due to another person's hearing impairment
- A face shield is not a substitute for a mask as it has an opening below the mouth.

The recent explosion of COVID-19 cases in northern communities, combined with rapid transmission which is six times increased over the previous rate of transmission, is resulting in ICU units filling up in the north. The delta variant spreads rapidly and high case numbers stretch our health care system.

While nearly 77% of British Columbians, aged 12 and older, are fully vaccinated, a recent report by Keith Baldry, on Global News Hour at 6 BC (<u>https://globalnews.ca/video/8163634/new-public-health-restrictions-for-b-c-s-northern-health-region-as-covid-19-cases-continue-to-grow</u>) reports the numbers are lower for several northern communities and are well below the provincial average. Over 20 communities in northern British Columbia have vaccination rates below 70%. As of August 09, 2021 only 55% of the eligible population of Fort Nelson were fully vaccinated (<u>https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/bc-map-covid-19-cases-positivity-and-vaccination-rates-by-neighbourhood</u>).

To ensure the safety of our employees, and the people we serve, our offices will remained closed until further notice, and attendance is by appointment only.

We thank you in advance for your understanding and we encourage you to stay home when you are sick.

Yours truly, FORT NELSON FIRST NATION per

Liz Logan

Executive Director

Enclosed: Northern Health, Information Bulletin, September 02, 2021

C.C. Council Directors Staff Bulletin FNFN Facebook Page