



LITTLE RED RIVER CREE NATION

July 31st, 2020.

MEMO: LRRCN RESIDENTS

RE: COVID-19 Measures SURVEY

Tansi Netotemmak,

It has been just over two weeks since the Emergency Management Team, and Chief and Council put more strict measures into place at the checkpoint in LRRCN. This was in response to rising numbers of COVID-19 cases in the county. We said we would review our situation once two weeks had passed and make adjustments as needed. We met yesterday to discuss this, and what options are best available in these uncertain times.

It has become increasingly clear that the Nation is divided about COVID-19 measures in LRRCN. We have had some time since this pandemic started, and we have learned a lot about how we can lower the risk of getting and spreading this virus. But this risk will never be zero.

Our EMT team and Chief and Council struggle day-to-day to find the right balance between lowering the risk of COVID-19 transmission in our communities and asking our residents to give up some of their freedoms. This road we are all on is not easy. Everyone in this Nation has a different opinion on what this balance is or how it should look like.

We are now just over four months since this global pandemic started, our Nation quickly learned that there are certain items and services we need that aren't food, water, or medicine. Our residents are quickly learning in how to cope with the threat of COVID-19 and we need to find ways as a Nation to move forward with Alberta.

The following are some of the reasons LRRCN Residents have asked for passes as they feel they are essential:

- **Hunting, Gathering, Camping and other Traditional Activities**
- **Travelling back and forth from LRRCN to town for work to provide for their families**
- **Attending Funerals and Family Emergencies**
- **Vehicle Maintenance, Repairs, Registration, tow trucks**
- **Driver's license renewal, driver's road tests**
- **Appliances /Furniture, lumber and other supply delivery and pick up for Nation Agencies and individuals**
- **Training, licensing and registrations for employment**
- **School shopping, Banking, Baby Supplies**

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Other important issues that are coming in the near future are:

- Schools are opening in the fall
- Work needs to be completed on our Elder's homes, renovations and new home construction
- Road work and other critical infrastructure needs to be completed (ex. Fibre Optic Internet)

None of these things can happen with a locked down checkpoint. We also have to consider the Mental Health for all our residents who may feel isolated or unsure because of COVID-19 and the closed checkpoint.

This situation is very complicated and very unpredictable, and we are asking our residents of LRRCN to share what they think about some of the COVID-19 measures that are currently in place.

We will be sending out a SURVEY with the help of OneFeather to our Members and Residents 18 and over. The survey will be open from Saturday August 1st, 2020 at 12pm and close on Tuesday August 4th, 2020 at 5pm.

- Elders will be contacted by phone or home visit to complete a paper survey
- Residents who are teachers, nurses and other non member residents can contact Darryel Sowan at darryels@lrrgroup.ca to sign up for the email survey. You must contact Darryel by Saturday August 1st, 2020 at 12pm to sign up.
- For any residents who cannot do the survey from home, you will have the opportunity to do it at your local Nation Office, from 9am to 5pm on Tuesday August 4th, 2020. (Please be aware the Nation Offices will be CLOSED Monday August 3rd, 2020 for Civic Holiday.)

The purpose of this survey is to find out how our Residents and members feel about the current measures in place to protect against COVID-19. The answers will help **GUIDE** the Emergency Management Team and Chief and Council on future decisions to move forward through this pandemic. **This is not a VOTE.**

Please share, Thank you.

LRRCN Emergency Management Team

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