



HORSE LAKE FIRST NATION

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Date: May 21, 2021

For Immediate Release;

Effective May 18, 2021, Horse Lake First Nation; we declared that our community is in a State of Emergency with the recent passings in our community. We send our deepest condolences to the family, the friends, the community of the recent passes of our community members.

Horse Lake First Nation Chief, Council, the leadership team, and the community members are taking action. We all have like-minded goals, and we are in this together.

**What the Community, Chief and Council, the Leadership Team has moved forward with;**

May 13, 2020 – Trespass law – was issued and signed by Chief and Council in collaboration with legal counsel, regarding the legalities off Trespass, Occupying First Nation Lands, Removal of Persons from First Nations Lands, Barring Entry to First Nation Lands, Forcible Removal, Injunctive Relief, Penalties and Other Remedies Preserved.

April 22, 2021 - A community wide event took place, a walk around the Nation where each household was issued a '*Notice of Warning*', whereas the letter acted as a first notice. This letter was addressed to the distribution of illicit and illegal drugs on the Nation. Horse Lake First Nation is working collaboratively with the RCMP on this matter.

April 22, 2021 – Trespass Law communicated again to community via social media and hand delivered.

April 22, 2021 – Enhanced policing BCR executed and forwarded to RCMP for action – as a follow up on prior and on going negotiation with RCMP

April 23, 2021 – HLFN Leadership team met with First Nations and Inuit Health Branch(FNIHB), the Government of Canada, regarding the significant crisis and the complexity of what our community is facing. From here, HLFN leadership team created a workplan to address the immediate matter.

May 4, 2021 – Horse Lake First Nation was successful in achieving a facility; for the Youth Treatment Center.

May 10, 2021 – State of Emergency Workplan was submitted to FNIHB, ISC and other governing bodies.

May 19, 2021 – FNIHB, ISC approved the State of Emergency Work Plan for Horse Lake First Nation



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Upcoming Items:

1. FNIHB is now deploying a Crisis and Debriefing team to Horse Lake First Nation. The crisis team will be in HLFN effective May 25, 2021 and May 26, 2021. **The Crisis Response team is available to ALL EMPLOYEES and ALL COMMUNITY members.**
2. RCMP – Horse Lake First Nation has been granted 1 full – time police officer to be stationed in Horse Lake First Nation, due to the proximity of the RCMP, this is effective in approx 4 weeks.
3. State of Emergency Workplan – the workplan was approved. We will be moving forward effective immediately. Some examples of the items on the workplan;
  - a. Outreach workers that are accessible to Horse Lake First Nation
  - b. Trauma Informed Training and Prevention, Harm Reductions Training and Prevention
  - c. Aftercare Training and Prevention, Pharmaceutical Misuse Training and Prevention
  - d. Land Based Learning Opportunities in the areas of Harm Reduction, relapse Prevention and Aftercare Teachings
  - e. Access for HLFN 1<sup>st</sup> Responders and any team members to access crisis services for items that include PTSD Counselling, Mental Wellness Services, Trauma Services
4. BCR to execute removal of individuals living in Horse Lake First Nation who are distributing the illicit and illegal drugs on the Nation.

We are asking that the community, the leadership team and Chief and Council to work together in order to collectively reduce this crisis that is currently happening on our Nation. We welcome all suggestions, ideas, any solutions from our members. Collectively we can do this as Nation.

With Respect,

Horse Lake First Nation Chief and Council

Appendices;

1. Trespass Law
2. Notice of Warning Letter
3. Youth Treatment Facility
4. RCMP policing on HLFN - BCR execution
5. State of Emergency Workplan