

COMMUNITY NOTICE

For Immediate Release: Tsiothóhrko:wa/January 5, 2021

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## UPDATE ON COVID-19 OUTBREAK AT TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE LTC FACILITY

In our ongoing effort to keep the community up-to-date with regard to COVID-19, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne provides you with the following information:

We have received confirmation from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) that nine (9) of our residents at the Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility have tested positive for COVID-19, as well as 10 of our staff. Of these cases, two (2) residents and three (3) staff have been resolved and weekly testing for COVID-19 remains ongoing. In the northern portion of Akwesasne, including the residents of Tsiionkwanonhso:te, there have been a total of 63 cases to-date with 19 cases still active. Regrettably, one of these cases has resulted in a COVID-related death. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne offers its sincere condolences to the family.

Please be assured that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Community Health Program is working closely with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit and the Ontario Ministry of Long-Term Care to safeguard the health of our community. Infection prevention and control policies are being followed including enhanced measures such as symptom screening our residents and team members a minimum of twice daily, cleaning of high touch surfaces four times a day, ensuring that all our staff wear masks, face shields, and other personal protective equipment, and revisiting our infection prevention and control protocols regularly to ensure they are being strictly followed.

Because the health and safety of our elders is paramount, visitor restrictions will remain in place at Tsiionkwanonhso:te for the time being.

On a positive note, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will be made available in the next two weeks and will be offered to the residents and health care workers in both of our long-term care homes.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long Term Care Facility at 613-932-1409.