Six Nations Reports First COVID-19 Death

It is with great sadness that we report our first COVID-19 related death.

"Given the increased risk of mortality within First Nations communities, we've been trying to prepare for this, but you never really can, can you?" says Six Nation's of the Grand River Elected Council's Chief Mark Hill. "Our community is grieving today. Our hearts go out to the family."

The loss comes less than two weeks after the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in the community on March 28.

There are currently 8 cases of the virus in Six Nations territory.

Public Health officials are strongly urging residents to continue to practice social distancing to prevent further cases of COVID-19 in the community. We need to strengthen our efforts to slow the rate of transmission in our community and urge everyone to please STAY HOME.

"When all of this is over, we will hold each other close. But right now, we need to show unimaginable strength and do everything in our power to ensure we do not lose anymore lives," says Chief Hill.

Public Health Officials are reminding people to:
- STAY AT HOME, unless it is absolutely necessary to go into public
- While in public, practice physical distancing, staying at least 2 metres from those around you. Wash your hands often while in public and again when you return home.
- Wash your hands often, for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap or alcohol based hand rub
- DO NOT touch your face with unwashed hands
- Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces in your home and workplace setting.
- Cough or sneeze into the elbow of your arm or a tissue. Throw the tissue into the garbage and wash your hands.
- Monitor yourself daily for symptoms; fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, head ache/body aches, and:
- Report any symptoms to the Six Nations COVID-19 Information and Assessment Centre at 1-855-977-7737 or 226-446-9909

Those requiring urgent medical attention are asked to call 911.

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Media: Please direct questions to Communications Officer at clickers@sixnations.ca