



For Immediate Release: August 26th 2020

Emergency Control Group Recommends to Elected Council the Creation and Implementation of Stage 2.5 in Pandemic Recovery Response

Six Nations of the Grand River Emergency Control Group (ECG) recommends to Elected Council to create and implement Stage 2.5 as a transition to readiness to move to Stage 3 as the ECG continues to monitor what is happening locally, nationally and globally.

The Emergency Control Group decided to develop Stage 2.5 within the Health and Safety Guidelines. The safety of our community continues to be top of mind. Professionals within this group felt it was too soon to move to Stage 3, which is why Stage 2.5 was developed.

“Recommendations of increased levels of caution to limit the spread continue to be stressed to the community,” said Director of Health Services Lori Davis Hill, “Please be reminded that we are still in a Pandemic and with schools resuming we must remain on guard with our good health practices, and continue to protect our people.”

The revised and updated COVID-19 Six Nations Health and Safety Guidelines document being circulated outlines additional businesses/facilities that will be permitted to open, while modeling the core personal public health practices:

- Practicing good hygiene;
- Staying home and away from others if symptomatic/feeling ill,
- Maintaining physical distancing as much as possible when outside of the home;
- Cleaning and disinfecting high touch point surfaces regularly;
- Staying at home as much as possible if at high risk of severe illness (impacts of Covid-19);
- Wearing cloth face coverings when in public settings as recommended;
- Wearing a medical mask or cloth face covering, if experiencing symptoms of any communicable disease, and if will be in close contact with others or going out to access medical care;
- Reducing personal non-essential travel.

Effective September 1st 2020 Six Nations of the Grand River will enter Stage 2.5 of its recovery plan. In this stage, the following are permitted with all recommended Public Health measures in place such as physical distancing, masking, screening, hand hygiene, etc.:

- 1) Indoor gatherings will increase from 10 to 25 people;
- 2) Outdoor gatherings will increase from 10 to 40 people;
- 3) Gyms and Fitness Centers may resume service;

- a. Each facility must first submit a re-opening plan to Ohsweken Public Health and/or Emergency Control Group for approval;
- 4) Outdoor playgrounds, inflatables and other outdoor facilities;
- 5) Sports and Cultural Memorial Center Grounds including some Parks and Recreation facilities;
 - a. Some Parks and Recreation Facilities will be re-opening, though not all at once and will not be immediately available as of September 1st. Please wait for a subsequent press release indicating what amenities will be re-opening and the anticipated timeline. This is because special consideration needs to be taken due to the current COVID-19 Assessment Centre on the grounds;
- 6) Post-secondary institutions and high schools; Elementary schools will continue with remote learning for the time being
 - a. Each facility must first submit a re-opening plan to Ohsweken Public Health and/or Emergency Control Group for approval;
- 7) Parents with children going to school off-reserve should weigh the risks and benefits to their family when deciding if the child will continue with remote or in-person learning;
- 8) Restaurants are recommended to continue with patio, curbside pickup or delivery only for now (no dine-in service).
- 9) Childcare facilities will not be re-opening at this time and will be considered in a later stage

As responsible business owners, Elected Council strongly encourages each establishment to conduct their own risk assessments. To schedule a free health and environmental inspection contact the **Six Nations COVID-19 Guidance Hotline for Businesses at 519-750-4908** during business hours Monday to Friday from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. Site visits can be requested even if your business has been operating for a while.

A special note to our gas station and retail owners. Status cards, other personal identification cards and bankcards can be carriers of a wide range of germs. In efforts to protect your staff and community it is strongly encouraged to continue contactless transactions (i.e. not handling customer's personal cards) and to continue frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing. As well, it is encouraged that everyone follow the *Core Personal Public Health Practices*, located on page 18 of the Updated Health and Safety Guidelines.

Updated electronic copies of the COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines are available online at www.sixnations.ca, and www.sixnationscovid19.ca, as well on the SNGR Facebook page @Six.Nations.Grand.River.

Updated hard copies of the COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines are available at the Central Administration Office located at 1695 Chiefswood Road, Ohsweken Ontario N0A1M0.

If you would like a copy mailed to your address, please email the SNGR Communications Officer at clickers@sixnations.ca or call 519-445-2205 extension 3238 with your request and complete mailing address.

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