

## **NFN BUSINESSES TO RE-OPEN ON APRIL 22**

### **Audit Process in Place to Protect Community Safety**

---

**April 20, 2020 (Garden Village, ON)** – On Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, NFN’s Chief and Council made the decision to **allow on-reserve businesses that meet Ontario’s criteria for essential services to re-open on April 22<sup>nd</sup>**, following a rigorous process that demonstrates they meet all public health requirements and emphasizes the safety of the community. We ask all NFN businesses to work collaboratively and cooperatively with us through this process, which includes ensuring the following conditions are satisfactorily met:

1. Each business must submit a plan for review by NFN that demonstrates current COVID-19 public health measures are in place at all times during business operations, and until further notice.
2. Upon receipt of the plan, NFN Health Services and Economic Development staff will schedule a site audit to validate that safety protocols are in place.
3. Recommendations will then be made to Chief and Council to allow the business to re-open, or to identify if more time is needed to put necessary public health measures in place.
  - Businesses permitted to re-open will receive a notice to be posted for the public.
  - Businesses that require further public measures to be put in place will be offered assistance through NFN Health Services in partnership with NFN Economic Development.
4. A listing of the validated public health measures identified in approved plans for each business will be made available to the public.
5. Ongoing monitoring of the business operations will be in effect and any public complaints about non-compliance will be investigated. Failure to maintain compliance with safe business practices will result in the business being required to close until it becomes compliant.
6. Businesses are expected to comply with any new or revised public health measures for COVID-19.

**Businesses may opt into this process at any time, or remain in closure.** We also ask business owners to do their part to minimize traffic to the community and to help however they can to continue to keep the community safe. We want to express our sincere gratitude and respect to everyone who put the safety of the community first for the past two weeks and we look forward to working with you on this process.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

**Michael Harney, Economic Development Manager**

705-753-2050 ext. 1264 | 705-840-8296 (cell)

[michaelh@nfn.ca](mailto:michaelh@nfn.ca)