

May 05 2020

Hope this update finds everyone healthy and enjoying some of the nicer weather, Charlene and I wanted to take some time to update everyone as our last post was just over 2 weeks ago. There are last bits of snow left on the North side of the property but it will not be gone shortly. Our water levels are slightly low for this time of year but with the recent 2 days of rain it is surely rising and will most likely be at a close to normal level for May opener.

Again, here are some local numbers to update as of Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> locally and provincially.

Greater Sudbury District with a population of just over 185,000 has 59 confirmed cases of which 46 are resolved and 2 deaths. Here is the link with detailed statistics if anyone is interested. <https://www.phsd.ca/health-topics-programs/diseases-infections/coronavirus/current-status-covid-19>

North Bay / Parry Sound District with a population of just over 120,000 has 17 confirmed cases of which 16 are resolved and 0 deaths. here is the link for anyone interested in the numbers. <https://www.myhealthunit.ca/en/health-topics/nipissing-parry-sound-covid-19-dashboard.asp>

Provincially with a population of over 14 million, we have 17,119 confirmed cases with 11,390 resolved and 1176 deaths. According to the Health Experts our efforts to social distance and all steps taken so far have helped flatten the curve.

So again, I am repeating myself from April 19<sup>th</sup> update. Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup>, our Provincial Government had extended the state of emergency for Ontario and its expansion on non-essential business for an additional 28 days which will bring us to May 12<sup>th</sup>. They must re-evaluate the details every 14 days which would make possible changes to the list of non-essential businesses on April 30<sup>th</sup>. (That did not happen for our industry)

This Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> our Premier Doug Ford announced that some restrictions would lift to some business as of this Monday May 4<sup>th</sup> but again we are not on this list. We expect that this could be the same notice we will get for tourism, a 3 to 7 days' notice leading to the May 18<sup>th</sup> long weekend.

So, what does this mean for the Memquisit Lodge as of today May 5th?

- Accommodations: we are legally closed by the province until May 12<sup>th</sup>. do not open until May 15<sup>th</sup>, so, if we are taken off the non-essential list on or before May 12th, a regular opening would be possible
- Restaurant: we are legally closed to May 12<sup>th</sup>. We do not open until May 15<sup>th</sup>, so, if we are taken off the non-essential list on or before May 12th, a regular opening would be possible
- Marina: we are legally closed by the province to May 12<sup>th</sup>. We do not open until May 15<sup>th</sup>, so, if we are taken off the non-essential list on or before May 12th, a regular opening would be possible

So, for all of our guests from the Province of Ontario and neighboring Provinces, the lodge will update and look to open as soon as advised that we can legally do so from our Provincial Government. Now as we are a glass ½ full kind of people, this may come with short notice as early as May 12<sup>th</sup> with strings attached for sure. We are in the process of opening as we would normally for May 15<sup>th</sup>. Now to err on the side of caution which some have done, we are still proposing postponing at this time for any reservation for May 2020 to a later time in this year. Again, no cancellation fees will apply

if you need to move your reservation and charges will remain the same. ie if you had to move to an in-season date range from an off-season date range, the charges will remain off-season as your original booking.

Now for all our guests from the U.S, our Federal Government in conjunction with U.S counterparts have the border closed for tourism and recreational to May 20<sup>th</sup> which is just before Memorial Day weekend, so, we are asking to err on the side of caution and move reservations if you are booked in May to a later date in the season. Again, no cancellation fees will apply if you need to move your reservation and charges will remain the same. ie if you had to move to an in-season date range from an off-season date range, the charges will remain off-season as your original booking.

Rest assured, that we will update as we get information and direction pertaining to our industry and we will reach out directly to our reservations if there is possible impact. As we get closer to our opening weekend, we are sure that the tourism industry will get the necessary attention and answers it needs

Until we see each other, take Care

Frank and Charlene