

**NOGDAWINDAMIN**  
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
**Toll Free: 1 (800) 465 0999**

Contact Kerry Francis  
Telephone 1-800-465-0999  
Fax 705-946-3717  
Email [Kfrancis@nog.ca](mailto:Kfrancis@nog.ca)  
Website [www.nog.ca](http://www.nog.ca)

## CHILD WELFARE COMMUNIQUE

April 8, 2020

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SERVICES DURING PANDEMIC

Batchewana First Nation | Garden River First Nation | Thessalon First Nation | Mississauga First Nation  
Serpent River First Nation | Sagamok Anishnawbek | Atikameksheng Anishnawbek

Nogdawindamin Family and Community Services (NFCS) in accordance with the agency's mandate, is continuing to work to ensure everyone's safe during this crisis. Along with the support of communities, we are taking proactive steps to limit and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Here are the services we are providing:

#### **IN-PERSON (Child Welfare and Protection Concerns only):**

Nogdawindamin continues to respond to all child welfare (protection) matters including referrals and emergencies at:

**1 (800) 465-0999**

In-person services means we have to conduct investigations and high-risk child protection concerns in-person as part of our mandate. We will do this in conjunction with our health screening tools for COVID-19, in order to minimize risk.

#### **Virtual Delivery/ Indirect Contact:**

Methods of communication include; email, FaceTime, texts, phone calls, and Skype. All regular follow-ups, appointments and service dates will be maintained through indirect contact. All front-line service staff are working from home and are performing the following work under each team. Call Toll Free: 1-(800)-465-0999, unless otherwise noted or local Phone: 1-(705)-946-3700

#### **Family Wellbeing (FWB) Team**

##### **Current Service:**

- Referrals continue to be accepted.
- Online Resources are available for families such as; Online AA, Education Applications, Budgeting, Housing, Parenting Strategies, etc)
  - Daily check in's with families.
  - Staff are providing curb-side deliveries for essential items.
- Group Programming will resume once a platform has been identified.

Email: [FWB@nog.ca](mailto:FWB@nog.ca)

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**Wellness Centre**

**Current Service:**

- Referrals continue to be accepted.
- Online Resources are available for families such as; Online AA, Education Applications, Budgeting, Housing, Parenting Strategies, etc)
  - Daily check in's with families.
- Staff are providing curb-side deliveries for essential items.
- Group Programming will resume once a platform has been identified.

Contact: Kim Aelick [kaelick@nog.ca](mailto:kaelick@nog.ca)

**Jordan's Principle Team**

**Current Service**

**Jordan's Principle**

- Ongoing intakes via teleconference/email
- Teleconference/email communication with service providers
  - Mobilizing approvals through online purchases
- Submissions made through [chrtjp@nog.ca](mailto:chrtjp@nog.ca) (Team Email box)

**Prevention Services Programs**

**Current Service:**

**Youth in Transition Program:**

- Day to day communication with clients via text, email for routine check ins
- Develop life skills resource tools for clients to cope during the pandemic crisis

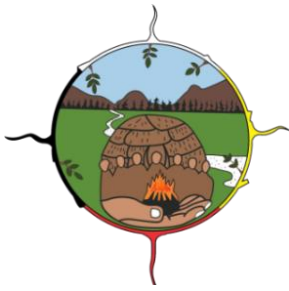
**Education Liaison Program:**

- Day to day communication with clients/families via text, email for routine check ins
- Researching and developing educational resources for students/families to assist in meeting the Ministry proposed teacher-led learning models.
- Provide educational support to all Children in Care by working with Child Welfare and Alternative Care Workers

**Mino Madzwin Youth Justice**

- Day to day communication with clients via text, email for routine check ins
  - Court appearances are currently on hold

Contact Lisa Reid, Prevention Manager [lreid@nog.ca](mailto:lreid@nog.ca)



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### *Children's and Adult Mental Health Team*

#### **Current Service:**

- Continuation of counselling and case management services via telephone/videoconferencing
- Supportive Counselling available without referral to all community members during business hours Monday – Friday
- Distribution of supportive resources for care-givers and children
  - Contact 705-946-3700 or 1-800-465-0999

### *Cultural Services Team*

#### **Current Service:**

- Collect and gather medicine and stockpile for staff and communities, as well as replenishing medicines when needed to Doorstop-Dropoff when requested
- Offer openings/teachings/meetings via electronic videos, phone calls, emails and new Nogdawindamin Platform for Teams
  - Available for debriefing and support
    - Receive and review new referrals

### *Intervention Programming*

#### **Current Service:**

- Continuation of supportive and case management services via telephone/videoconferencing
  - Training refreshers for AC providers via teleconference
- Distribution of supportive resources for care-givers and children

### *Access Visits*

#### **Current Service:**

- Ongoing acceptance of referrals
  - Access visits are still occurring via Indirect contact, telephone, facetime, skype.
- Alternative options are explored to ensure connection continues between family members

For further information please contact Kerry Francis, Executive Director at **1-800-465-0999** or email at [kfrancis@nog.ca](mailto:kfrancis@nog.ca).