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AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO OUR CITIZENS FROM GIMAA KWE AND COUNCIL

Ahniin;

The ongoing pandemic conditions and the many new stresses that the recent lockdown caused, have reminded us of the long and deep struggle that our community has faced with addictions and the violence and disease that too often accompany these. As leaders, we feel your pain very deeply and are always looking for and investing in opportunities to support your healing journey.

We know that some of you are working very hard to make a better life for yourself and your family, and we are grateful when we can celebrate your progress and successes. But the reality is that many of our citizens and families are continuing to struggle. There is too much suffering. And its time to change the direction so that we begin to win this battle that continues to harm our children, our youth, our Elders, our families and all of our citizens.

So effective on July 1, 2020, the Council, working closely with management and the Drug Committee, will be implementing a multi-point plan to improve the health, safety and well-being of our community and citizens:

1. The Council will move forward with implementation of the Comprehensive Community Plan and the Healing Strategy Reports. These plans were the result of extensive engagement and consultation with our members and we will secure and allocate the resources needed to implement them.
2. Due to the very extensive demands on our Health and Social Department, we will be splitting the department into two and adding one manager – going forward, Rosalyn Andrews will be Manager of Social Programs, and we will be recruiting for a new Manager of Health Programs. This will allow our Social Manager to focus exclusively on building out the team and programs in support of healing individuals and families.
3. Effective on July 1, 2020, we will be implementing new strong measures to hold those who live in our community and prey on our citizens by selling drugs as follows:
 - Any resident Band member who is convicted of a drug-trafficking offense while residing on the Pic Mobert reserve will be deemed a trespasser and banished and evicted from the community for a period of no less than 5 years. This shall include immediate eviction from a Band-owned home, if applicable;
 - Any non-Band member who is convicted of a drug-trafficking offense while residing on the Pic Mobert Reserve shall be banished and evicted from the community for life;
 - Any non-resident member or other person who is convicted of a drug-trafficking offense shall not be permitted to enter or reside on the Pic Mobert reserve;
 - Any person that sells drugs from a Band-owned home shall be evicted and banned from residing in a band-owned home for life;

- Any non-band member residing or boarding in a band own home with someone that is convicted of drug trafficking, will be evicted and banned from community for life.

We will be communicating with our citizens in the coming weeks and months on our activities and results on this important work.

We believe that you deserve a healthy, happy and prosperous life and we will do all that we can as your leadership to accomplish this.

But we need you to participate in this process. We need your support, your encouragement and your participation in your healing and wellness.

Our future is bright. We are advancing on restoring our lands, expanding our reserve, creating many opportunities for meaningful work and a good life.

Please join us in making a good life for our citizens and our future generations.

Miigwetch

Gimaa Kwe and Council