

Siksika Health Services COVID-19 Update

April 30, 2020



Updates

Siksika Clinical Services established a satellite clinic at the Support center for patients who may be at higher risk of potential infectious conditions to be seen. The majority of patients seen at this clinic receive COVID-19 testing. Staff have received training to determine if patients need to be seen at the satellite clinic. All staff wear masks for prevention and the safety of clients entering the building.

Dr. Thomas Fung is the physician on record for all swabs that are being sent out from the CRU. The Communicable Disease Control (CDC) team have developed pathways for follow up with those being investigated. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is being ordered through Alberta Health Services for SHS programs and services only.

The Health IT department have done incredible work in providing technical support for our programs and services during COVID-19 and situating those who will need to work virtually from home. They have also supported the community by providing assistance with livestreaming funerals for those who have lost loved ones.

The Siksika Recreation and SN7 teams have taken on roles including support food packaging and distribution, call centre, facility screening, door handlers and escorts. As well, they helped communications with distributing COVID-19 information to vulnerable populations.



During COVID-19, Recreation and Awahkiyapsopokiyiiks have established on-line support, and programming via internet (Warriors to Leaders Program for Jr and Sr High Youth.)

Siksika Community Wellness distributed family activity kits and are working towards creating a substance abuse strategy in collaboration with Siksika Mental Health Psychologists and Siksika Crisis.

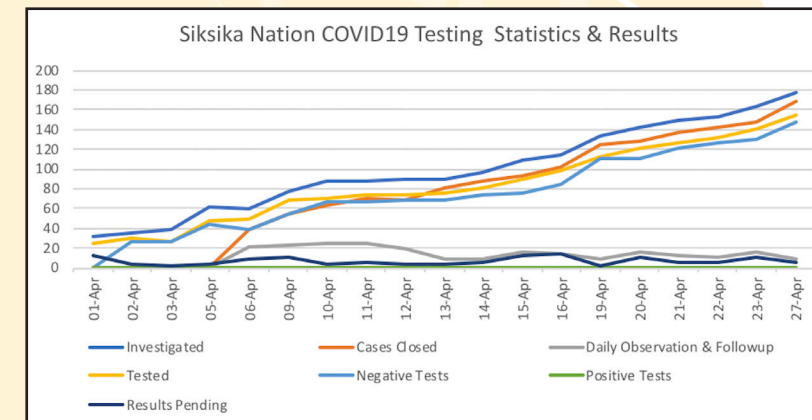
The Opioid Response Team have completed 248 home visits, and 76 street visits while taking COVID-19 precautions. 254 naloxone kits have been distributed and have made dozens of referrals for mental health, addictions and COVID-19 supports.

Testing Update

As of April 30, 2020, Community Health has followed-up 190 individuals with COVID19-like symptoms.

182 of those cases have been closed with 8 individuals still receiving daily follow-up. 168 individuals have been tested for COVID19. There have been 165 negative tests with 3 results still pending and 1 new individuals who still require testing.

To date, there have been no positive COVID-19 cases identified in Siksika.



To view data and information regarding number of COVID-19 cases in Alberta, please visit: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

Bison Meat Distribution

Siksika Nation Chief and Council organized a bison meat distribution for Siksika Nation members during COVID-19. Our Siksika Recreation and SN7 organized a drive thru process to keep members and staff safe. Between April 18 and April 26, there were 871 pickups and more than 5,350lbs of bison meat distributed!



Screening at SHWC

Frontline staff are following proper standard protocol in daily screening of the staff and clients at the east entrance and public entrance. Staff /Public are asked a series of questions to ensure the safety of the building as well the safety of others.



Services for Vulnerable

A Siksika Vulnerable Task Force Team was established and is comprised of Siksika Health Services and local community agencies. The main objective of this group is to ensure that the needs of vulnerable residents are met, as well, to identify new and emerging issues affecting vulnerable Siksikaakwans during the COVID-19.

They developed a strategy to enhance communications with Elders and the most vulnerable families that do not receive Nation information through regular channels like social media or online.

Elder Services remain in continuous contact with Elders by phone to provide information and moral support. Their priority is to maintain essential services such as tax return preparation.

Disability Services staff have been reassigned to work in shifts and have assisted in the distribution of COVID-19 information to disability clients and to the community. They have been busy, keeping in contact with clients and providing local transportation for grocery shopping, the delivery of medical supplies and prescription refills. All staff have received IPC, PPE and COVID-19 training.

Two iPads were given to school children who are clients of Disabilities Services, and we are hoping more will be purchased for children with learning disabilities.

Although the Disability Services office is closed, essential administrative work such as applying for Guardianship, Legal matters, AISH and respite care (FSCD) continue.

COVID Testing

Testing everyone who has symptoms will help identify when COVID19 reaches Siksika. Testing is important in limiting the spread. Siksika is testing more than any First Nations community in Alberta. Siksika provides both drive thru and in-home testing in the community 7 days per week - call 403-734-3829.

Those who are tested receive follow-up and guidance by a community health nurse, who will also inform them of their results within 1-2 days. The identity of those who get tested and their household is confidential information that is protected by Community Health.



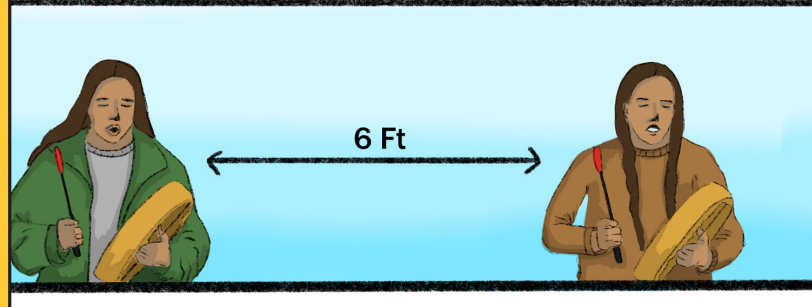
PPE Notice

Because of the COVID19 virus, Siksika Health Services is taking precautions to prevent the spread of the virus. This includes wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) when necessary; this might include a face mask, eye protection, gloves, and a gown like the kind you might see at a doctor's office.

So if you see these guys, or people dressed like them in the community, don't be alarmed; they're the same care providers that they've always been, but at times with a new (temporary) look.

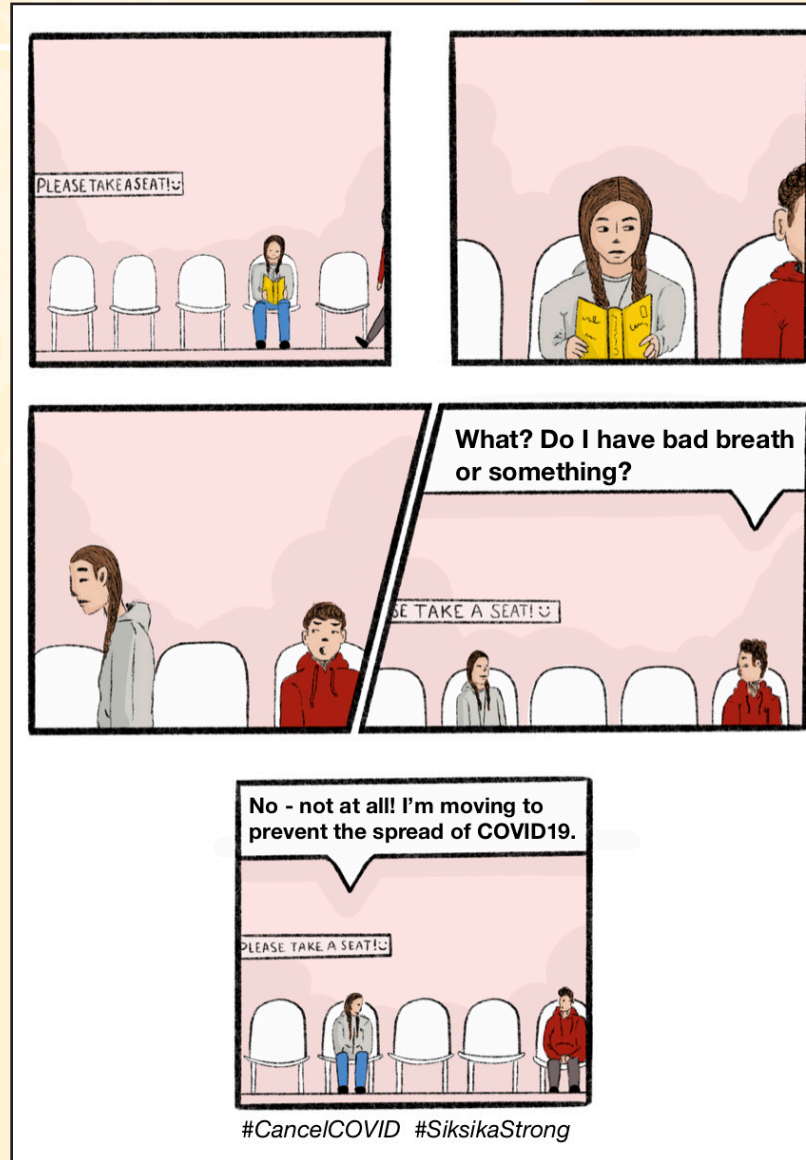


Practice Social Distancing

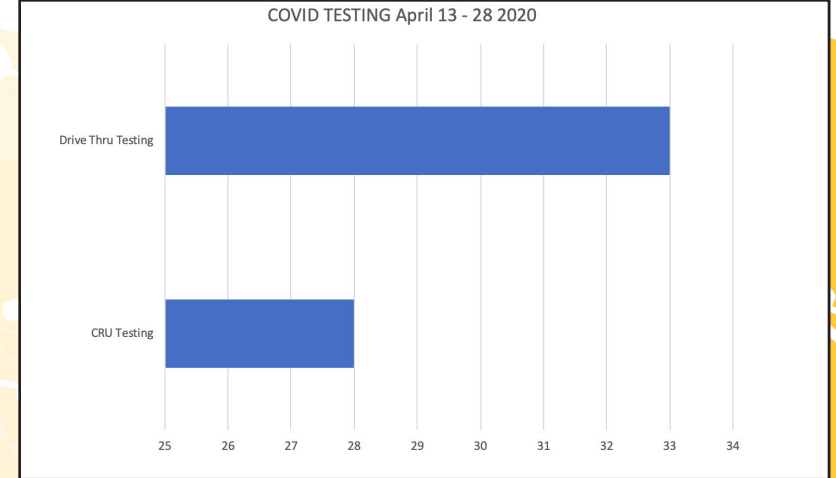


COVID Illustrations

Our in-house artist, Siksika youth Alyssa Duck Chief has done incredible work in creating illustrations to get our message of social distancing across. Thank you Alyssa!



CRU and Drive Through



ABOVE: From April 13-28, 2020, 33 individuals have been tested via the drive thru testing that is located near the Siksika Ball Diamonds. 28 individuals have been tested in their homes.

Like MH on Facebook



Medical Care at Home

Siksika Home Care is continuing essential home nursing visits for dressings, injections etc., medication delivery and Meals on Wheels. Our Blackfoot speaking nurses call clients to ensure their health. Total telephone calls to Home Care clients for April is 445. Majority of the clients state they are coping well.

A Case Manager has been added to the team to contact elder clients and vulnerable members to discuss their concerns and provide information for Siksika COVID-19 supports available in the community.

As well, all drivers under medical transportation have taken the PPE donning / doffing and disinfection of medical vehicles training

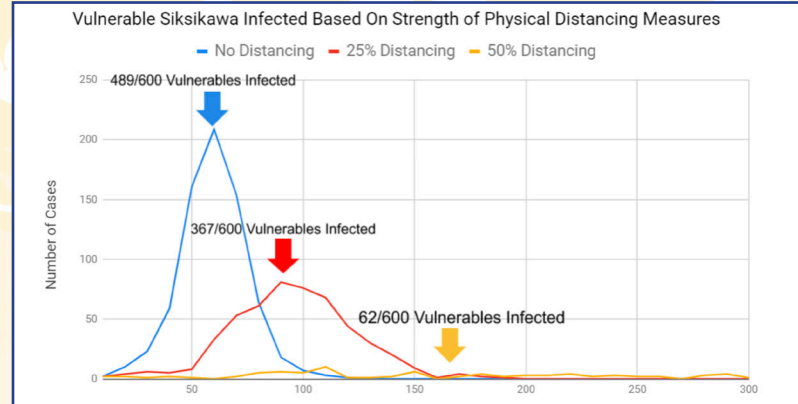
COVID Survey

Siksika Health Services has teamed up with researchers from University of Alberta, to learn about members experiences and circumstances related to public health advice regarding COVID-19. The information collected will allow Siksika Health Services to make better informed decisions on how to support Siksika as the COVID-19 pandemic progresses over time, and potentially for future planning purposes.

The first 500 Siksika Nation members to complete a survey will receive a \$5 gift certificate to Siksika Trail Market.

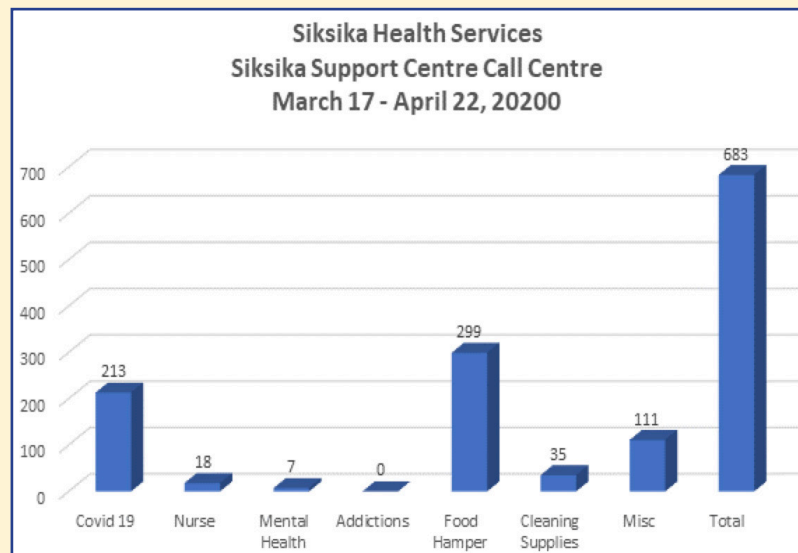
Take the the survey here: https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_enBMKqda85SXlrv

Our Response



ABOVE: There are over 600 vulnerable individuals in Siksika. If we do not follow self-isolation and physical distancing measures, then close to 500 vulnerable Siksikawa may be infected, many of whom will become seriously ill and need to be hospitalized. If our physical distancing is 50% effective, this number will drop to 50!

COVID Call Line



SHS Resources

COVID-19 Information Line

Call 403-734-5706 9am - 9pm, 7days/week.

Siksika Health Services Mental Health Therapist

Call 403-734-5660, 9am-9pm, 7days/week. This is a safe and confidential service.

Siksika Addictions Support Line

Call 403-734-5645, 9am-9pm, Monday-Saturday

SN7 Youth Support Line

Call 403-734-5705, 9am - 9pm, Monday-Friday

Siksika Clinic

Call 403-734-5690/91, 9am - 4pm, Monday-Friday (closed over lunch). If you are ill and need immediate medical attention, call 911.

COVID-19 Response Unit

Call 403-734-3829, 24/7. Siksika is providing both drive through and home testing in the community

Social Media:

Facebook: @SHWCSiksika

Facebook: @Siksika-Community-Wellness

Facebook: @SHSMentalHealth

Instagram: @siksikarecreation

Twitter: @Siksika_Nation

Youtube: Siksika Health Services

Youtube: Siksika Entertainment & Education

If you have any questions regarding this update, please email siksikacoms@okaki.com