



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 5, 2020

AMC Working with First Nations, Federal and Provincial government and public health agencies to initiate community preparedness plans for Coronavirus

Treaty One Territory, Winnipeg, Manitoba - The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs are gathering this week to address health concerns and an emergency preparedness plan for First Nation citizens in response to the global concern surrounding an outbreak of coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

Grand Chief Arlen Dumas commented today stating, "AMC is working with First Nations, Federal and Provincial governments and public health agencies to initiate appropriate community preparedness plans. First Nations have an increased susceptibility to outbreaks due to social determinants of health, poverty factors, and overcrowding housing conditions that make it easier to spread community-wide. We will be thorough in our action plans and provide more detailed information in the upcoming days."

Currently, the Public Health Agency of Canada has reported that there have not been any confirmed cases of the virus in Manitoba, and that "the risk to Canadians remains low at this time."

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs encourages First Nations leaders, their citizens, and general public to stay informed with the Manitoba Minister of Health's Public Health web page as the provincial, national and global communities continue to gather critical information on the activity of the virus, and continue to monitor the confirmed cases.

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For more information, please contact:

Teena Legris

Communications & Social Media Coordinator

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

Email: tlegris@manitobachiefs.com

Phone: (204) 391-5830

About the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

The AMC was formed in 1988 by the Chiefs in Manitoba to advocate on issues that commonly affect First Nations in Manitoba. AMC is an authorized representative of 62 of the 63 First Nations in Manitoba with a total of more than 151,000 First Nation citizens in the province, accounting for approximately 12 percent of the provincial population. AMC represents a diversity of Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Nehetho / Ininew (Cree), Anishinew (Ojibwe-Cree), Denesuline (Dene) and Dakota Oyate (Dakota) people.