



# Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority Inc.



September 9, 2021

To: All Chiefs and Councils in NITHA Communities

**Re: NITHA Board of Chiefs support NITHA Medical Health Officer Recommendations to Mitigate COVID-19 Surge in Positive Cases**

The Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA) Board of Chiefs, representing the Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC), Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC), Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation (PBCN) and the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) is in support of the NITHA Medical Health Officer's recommendations released today September 9, 2021.

As a Partnership and community leaders we are especially concerned with the COVID-19 situation in our First Nation communities across the north. As we head into the fall and with the fourth wave driven by the Delta variant, which is twice as transmissible as previous variants. This variant is causing higher case rates and increased hospitalizations in all age groups, including children and young people.

We continue to recognize the collective hard work and sacrifices made by community members, pandemic teams, health teams, Chief & Councils in the NITHA First Nations communities. Collectively we have managed to avoid completely overwhelming our health system; however, this work must continue to mitigate this fourth wave.

As a Board of Chiefs for the NITHA Partnership, we hope these recommendations will assist communities to make the tough decisions that are needed to ensure their communities and members remain vigilant and safe against COVID-19.

Sincerely,

**NORTHERN INTER-TRIBAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**

Grand Chief Brian Hardlotte  
Prince Albert Grand Council

Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
NITHA Chairperson  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

Chief Karen Bird  
Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation

Chief Tammy Cook- Searson  
Lac La Ronge Indian Band