



Nishnawbe Aski Nation
ᐱᓄᓂᓂᓂ ᐱᓂᓂ ᐅᓂᓂᓂᓂ

**DECLARATION OF A HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
IN NISHNAWBE ASKI NATION (NAN) TERRITORY and THE SIOUX LOOKOUT REGION
*CODE BLUE***

ORDER

WE

The Sioux Lookout Area Chiefs Committee on Health (CCOH) and Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN),

In accordance with the following directives:

Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority Chiefs Resolution #15-23 *Call for Declaration of Public Health Emergency.*

Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs Resolution #16-04 *Call for Declaration of Public Health Emergency.*

Hereby declare

That effective, this 24th day of February 2016, the remote First Nation Communities in northern Ontario and the broader NAN Territory are in a state of Health and Public Health Emergency.

There are needless deaths and suffering caused by profoundly poor determinants of health. The people have experienced poor health outcomes and a substandard state of health and well-being as a result of inadequate medical diagnosis and treatment of preventable diseases, including:

- Diabetes
- Hepatitis C
- Rheumatic fever and
- Invasive bacterial diseases (group A strep and methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA))

Communities suffer multigenerational trauma from residential schools, social conditions including the suicide epidemic and high rates of prescription drug abuse.

Health Canada has failed to adequately respond to the *Spring 2015 Auditor General's Report on Access to Health Services for Remote First Nation Communities.*

People continually encounter the effects of federal and provincial jurisdictional squabbling leading to inequitable access to health care. The First Nations people experience a level of health care that would be intolerable to the mainstream population of Ontario.

