



CROSS LAKE BAND OF INDIANS

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GUIDELINES FOR ATASKEWIN PROGRAM:

If death occurs in Cross Lake, the body will be escorted by an Ataskewin member to highway 6 junction to be met by Boardman Funeral Home. Upon return to community, again an Ataskewin member will meet Boardman Funeral Home at the highway 6 junction.

Normally the family and community members await the return at the Kichi Sipi bridge. We ask those who go to show support at the bridge to refrain from any contact with the grieving family and to remain in their vehicles. We can travel with the family to show support, and travel to the home, but will respect the process for immediate family only to enter the home.

If there are family members who reside in the community and were allowed to be with their loved one during the final stages of life, only those family members will be allowed to return to the community. Family members who reside elsewhere will not be allowed to return to the community for the funeral process. This is to ensure we contain/prevent Covid-19 virus from entering/spreading into our community.

The wake/funeral will be held at a church of their choice, or other public venue, based on availability, for a one-night wake service/funeral for the immediate family members only. There will be a limit of 10 family members at a time. This does not include the essential service providers (ie, Leadership, Minister/Pastor, & 2 musicians). On day of the funeral, the final viewing will be limited to 10 people at a time to offer their final farewell and sympathies, social distancing must be followed by all. It will be at the discretion of the family if they should choose to video conferencing, facetimeing, skypeing, with family members and friends who could not attend.

As stated, we request for people to refrain from any physical contact with the grieving family; no hugging, shaking hands and no physical contact with deceased body. In order to maintain social distancing of 6 feet as stated in Section 67 of the Public Health Act

The only transportation to be provided by the Ataskewin program during this time will be provided to the immediate family who do not have access to private transportation. At this time there will be light snacks provided the night of the wake and a luncheon provided to the immediate family after the funeral.

We understand this is a difficult time when we lose a loved one. To have to adjust to these changes implemented from the normal wake process will be difficult. It is for the safety of our families and community members that we all must adhere to these guidelines put in place.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY IS DEFINED AS:

Spouse, parents, children, siblings, grandparents & grandchildren

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT: section 67

- Limit public gatherings to 10 or fewer people, which affects places of worship, family events, weddings and funerals