



# Suggested Media Instructions:

Please run at your discretion.

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## COMMUNIQUÉ

# Kahnawake moves to Red Alert status as active COVID-19 cases hits 31

#### For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 1, Seskehkó:wa/September 2021) The Public Safety Commission and the Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre's Public Health team wish to advise the community that, due to the significant increase in active cases of COVID-19 within the Territory, Kahnawà:ke's alert status has now been declared as RED.

These alert levels are part of the new plan allowing us to move towards recovery and allow Kahnawa'kehró:non to make safe choices for themselves and their loved ones. The new Color Alert System and its explanation can be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.kahnawake911.com/4thwave">www.kahnawake911.com/4thwave</a>.

At the time this release is being issued, the number of active COVID-19 cases has risen to 31, more than doubling in just two days. We can confirm that these outbreaks are related to the DELTA strain which is greatly impacting level of risk in the community. We each have the responsibility to decrease risk of transmission at this particular time.

While in RED level of alert, we strongly recommend:

- 1. limiting private gatherings to small groups (recommended two households)
- 2. avoiding public indoor and outdoor gatherings
- 3. wearing a mask whenever you are with people outside of your household, both indoors and out
- 4. Keeping more than 2 meter distance between people who are outside of your household

Now is the time for each individual to make safe decisions to protect all community members. The numbers of cases in the Fourth Wave, now at 71, is almost half of the total of positive cases in Kahnawà:ke from the first three (3) waves combined. Currently high risk areas exist in organized sports, travel to Kanehsatà:ke and Tioweró:ton, which is the source of many cases. Please be careful in these areas.

Please note that Public Safety and Public Health will continue to monitor any and all developments regarding COVID-19. <u>Any decisions/directives related to COVID-19 are considered temporary measures</u> and will be reviewed on an on-going basis.