

# Oneida Nation

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Oneida, WI 54155

## **BC Resolution # 09-22-21-A**

### **Extension of Declaration of Public Health State of Emergency Until November 25, 2021**

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** the federal government has proclaimed a public health emergency related to the spread of the COVID-19 virus and has identified that the spread of the virus has resulted in large numbers of individuals becoming ill and high mortality rates, impacts to the stock markets, and businesses; and
- WHEREAS,** state governors, including the State of Wisconsin, have declared public health emergencies and state public health officers have issued orders, for example, closing public schools, limiting public gatherings, and closing restaurants and bars except for take-out orders; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 12, 2020 the Chairman declared a Public Health State of Emergency, the Oneida Business Committee took actions to take steps to protect the health and welfare of the members, employees and the community, including instituting expenditure restrictions to preserve resources for the provision of governmental services to members most at risk, closure of the Nation's gaming operations, and insuring that employees will continue to be paid during the Public Health State of Emergency as long as the Nation's resources will allow; and
- WHEREAS,** the Public Health State of Emergency was extended by resolutions # BC-03-26-20-A, # BC-05-06-20-A, # BC-06-10-20-A, # BC-07-08-20-A, # BC-08-06-20-A, # BC-09-09-20-A, # BC-10-08-20-A, # BC-11-10-20-A, # BC-12-09-20-D, # BC-01-07-21-A, # BC-02-10-21-A, # BC-03-10-21-D, # BC-05-12-21-A, # BC-06-23-21-B and # BC-07-28-21-N; and
- WHEREAS,** the status of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to change daily with identification of hotspots occurring within certain industries and areas which are more clearly identified in the Public Health Officer Report which supports this resolution; and
- WHEREAS,** a positive test does not identify the total number of individuals who have the virus, including those who are not showing symptoms or who have isolated themselves at home because not every person is tested; and
- WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 Core Decision Making Team issued several declarations intended to protect the public health within the Oneida Reservation and updated those declarations from time

to time as the U.S. Center of Disease Control, the Medical community and the Scientific community were able to update and identify the impacts and transmission of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS,** the Emergency Management Director and the Public Health Officer have advised extension of the Public Health State of Emergency declaration supported by information from the Centers for Disease Control and the level of spread of COVID-19 throughout the State of Wisconsin, surrounding states, and the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee adopted resolution # BC-08-03-21-A, *Setting Public Gathering Guidelines During Public Health State of Emergency - COVID-19*, which provides that when vaccination levels of Oneida's members and Oneida Nation employees reaches 75%, the safety of public health will be considered to be effectively managed, and the Oneida Business Committee shall review whether a need for a declaration of a state of public health emergency continues to exist; and

**WHEREAS,** as of September 21, 2021, the vaccination levels of Oneida's members have reached 44% and the vaccination levels of Oneida Nation employees have reached 67% based on the information from those who have applied and have had their vaccination status verified for the Oneida Nation Vaccination Incentive Program for Oneida Nation Members and for the Oneida Nation Employee Vaccination Incentive Plan for Employees Who Are Not Oneida Nation Members; and

**WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has determined that continuing the Public Health State of Emergency continues to be necessary and that its declaration should be longer given the ongoing pandemic impact and the inability to identify mechanisms to control for infection or protect the public;

*Extension of Public Health State of Emergency Declaration*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that in accordance with section 302.8-2 of the Emergency Management Law, the Oneida Business Committee extends the Public Health State of Emergency declaration ending at 11:59 p.m. on November 25, 2021.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 8 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2021; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 5 members for, 1 members against, and 1 members not voting\*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Liggins, Secretary  
Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."