

# Abegweit Update

May 6, 2020



## Chief's Message



As your Chief, I would like to thank you all, once again, for your continued patience as we continue forward together. Your Chief and Council and administration teams keep working hard to maintain a safe, healthy, and happy community for all, and we will continue to do so. Please feel free to contact us and let us know if you need any immediate supports or assistance.

## Honouring an Elder

This week we'd like to honour Ivan Bernard.

Ivan was born on the 14th of August in 1949. He and his wife for many years, the late Elaine Sock, had three wonderful children together - Shannon, Michael, and Gordo.



Ivan was a painter for his whole life, and enjoyed all of his work thoroughly. When Ivan isn't enjoying the company of his nine grandchildren and great grandchildren, he is busy collecting salt and pepper shakers or indulging in his love of travel.

From everyone in the Abegweit community, Welalin Ivan!

## Abegweit's 2020 Lobster Season

The Abegweit Chief & Council, administration team, and all captains of the lobster fishery fleet collectively discussed and decided not to participate in the upcoming Department of Fisheries and Oceans commercial lobster season, due to the ongoing health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated measures. It is important to acknowledge the fact that the Abegweit First Nation reserves *the right to fish and to earn a moderate living as well as access to the food and ceremonial fisheries*.

It is of great importance to know that *this decision was not taken lightly*.

Please see attached letter for other details.

## Update: AFN State of Emergency

Our state of emergency continues and will end on May 31, 2020. This is only to ensure that we can continue to align with the province, keeping the collective health and safety of the community at heart. No new measures have been implemented, but any new changes, if any, will be shared with the whole community as soon as they happen.

## CERB & Seasonal Workers on EI

For any of our seasonal workers, if you're on EI and it has run out, you can apply for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). Once you start a new job, this benefit must be cut off. This benefit **has to be reapplied to for each month** you are on it.

For more information or to apply, visit [canada.ca](http://canada.ca) or call Linda Fraser at 902-940-3869

## Recycling Reminder

For all community members, please remember that recycling is important to us all and to our Mother Earth. Keeping this in our hearts, we'd like to remind everyone to please continue sorting all of your recycling!



## Final Rez Bingo



With measures being relaxed and the Island starting to open up again, tonight will be the final Chief's Rez Bingo to be planned. We're doing this one last time, so good luck to all!