

FSIN MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release: January 12, 204

FSIN Calling on Businesses and Organizations to Open Doors during Cold Spell

(Treaty 6 Territory, Saskatoon SK) – Environment Canada has issued an Extreme Cold Warning: "A multi-day episode of very cold wind chills is expected. Coldest wind chills: -50 to -40. Time span: Friday morning through to Monday Morning"

As the mercury drops and extreme cold temperatures sweep across our region, the FSIN is rallying local businesses and organizations to open their doors in a united effort to help those in need to stay warm and safe. With the frigid cold temperatures taking hold, we recognize that many of our community members may find themselves without adequate shelter or heating during these perilous conditions. It is our collective responsibility as a community to step up and offer assistance to those who are most vulnerable during this time.

The poor and homelessness are the most affected by this extreme weather. The recent report of the loss of a man's life in a Regina street where he was not assisted by the public reminds us that we must take care of each other. Providing the required temporary shelter will save vulnerable lives. The homeless should be provided shelter where it safe for them to sleep and stay warm. The public and individuals can provide extra winter gear to shelters, coffee/meal for a homeless person(s) to enjoy within a warm place, or donate to the local shelters.

Chief Cameron and the FSIN Executive are requesting businesses and organizations to open their doors during this Saskatchewan cold spell. The businesses and organizations that can open and monitor should do so until the warning passes.

"We are asking business and organizations to open your hearts and share your spaces with those who may otherwise not survive the freezing cold," said Chief Cameron. "We are asking that you overcome any biases or stereotypes and save your fellow human community members from hypothermia and freezing to death during this extreme cold weather. Let's not wake up to the news to hear yet another person or person(s) died a horrific freezing death when all it takes to prevent it is providing some space to keep warm."

If your business or organization has a safe, warm, and accessible location, consider opening it to the public during extreme cold temperatures. Ensure that there is adequate seating, heating, and restroom facilities available.

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For More Information or to coordinate interviews, please contact: **FSIN Communications**Shelley Mike communications@fsin.com