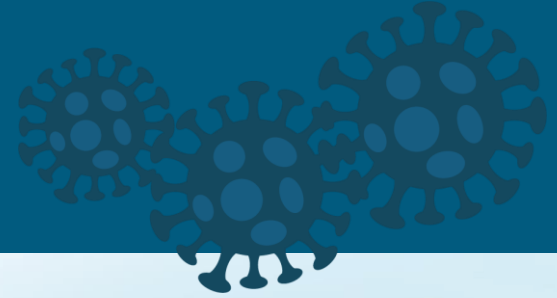


ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19 Daily Update for Chiefs: *April 16, 2020*



Updates

Update on Testing Criteria:

Effective April 14th, Alberta Health Services has updated the criteria for testing for COVID-19. Anyone living in Alberta with fever, cough, shortness of breath, a runny nose or sore throat may get tested.

In Alberta, approximately 2% of the over 80,000 COVID-19 lab tests have come back positive to date. This means that the vast majority of low risk Albertans (those who haven't travelled or been exposed to someone with COVID-19 disease), have some other condition causing their symptoms.

While to date there are still no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in any Alberta First Nations communities, any symptomatic individuals residing in First Nations communities will continue to be tested. If a case becomes present in a community, you will be notified immediately by the Alberta Region Executive.

Service Canada Outreach Support Centre:

Beginning this week, a Service Canada Outreach Support Centre is now available to you and your Nation members. Through this free service, individuals facing barriers will receive additional support to accessing services and benefits.

This service will supplement the existing online service by providing an option for those who need additional support due to issues accessing a computer, the internet, or other barriers. Community Outreach and Liaison Service staff will be available to answer live calls and ensure that all get assistance with accessing critical services. The Service Canada Outreach Support Centre can be reached at **1-877-631-2657**

Question of the Day

Q: Can people go for visits to hospitals and other care facilities?

A: As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, AHS is taking additional steps to ensure that those most at risk of contracting the virus are protected. Effective immediately, no visitors will be permitted to visit patients or residents in acute care (hospitals), long-term care, supportive living, congregate living, hospice care and licensed group home settings in Alberta. The new restriction also applies to all residential addiction treatment operators licensed under the Mental Health Services Protection Act.

Please see AHS's website for [detailed information on visiting patients](#).

National Information

[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Prevention and risks](#)

[Indigenous Services Canada's preparedness and response to COVID-19](#)

[Government of Canada further facilitates enforcement of the Federal Quarantine Act](#)

The Hope for Wellness Help Line is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week to support members of your community experiencing emotional distress and may be reached directly by dialling **1-855-242-3310** or via online chat at: hopeforwellness.ca



Alberta Cases:

as of April 15 1:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (April 15 – 126 new cases)	1996
Confirmed First Nations on-reserve Cases	0
Calgary Zone	1242
Central Zone	74
Edmonton Zone	402
North Zone	107
South Zone	36
Unknown	9
Deaths due to COVID-19	48

Windspeaker Radio Spots

Weekdays at 12:30, Medical Officers of Health from Indigenous Services Canada join Windspeaker Radio to give the latest updates on COVID-19, and to answer questions you may have on the virus. You can find recordings of these messages online [here](#).

Have a question about COVID-19? [email](#) or text the station at 866-454-2813

Regional Snapshot



Useful Links

AHS COVID FAQs

- [novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) FAQs for Public](#)

GCIndigenous Twitter

- <https://twitter.com/GCIndigenous> includes updates, news releases and links for resources

Virtual Town Hall Today

- FNHMA will be offering a weekly Virtual Town Hall Session every Thursday at 11am. Live stream at www.ihtoday.ca. Questions can be submitted to fnhma@ihtoday.ca

Telehealth Session Today:

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update, today, April 16, 2020 1:30 to 3:00. Questions can be submitted in advance or at the end of the presentation to VChelp@FNTN.ca

[REGISTER HERE](#)