

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19 Daily Update for Chiefs: *April 30, 2020*



Updates

Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF)

We have received some questions on if the funding provided through the Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF) is the same as regular Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP) funding.

Normally through EMAP, eligible expenses are reimbursed. Under the terms and conditions for the funding provided through the ICSF, there is no reimbursement of expenses. Instead, communities were provided with an allocation up front and are being asked to utilize this ICSF allocation for reasonable expenditures directly related to COVID-19. For the ICSF allocation there is no set list of eligible expenditures because these funds are intended to be as flexible as possible to support any reasonable expenditure that First Nations incur in preparation and response to COVID-19.

Thank you to those First Nations who have provided information on how the Indigenous Community Support Funds are being used and estimates of any future needs. Please continue to work with your Community Liaison Team who can also help with any questions surrounding reasonable expenditures.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Indigenous Communities

A reminder of the department's webpage – [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and Indigenous communities](#). This site is updated regularly and includes useful information in the areas of how to protect your health and your community, and what supports are available for Indigenous individuals, organizations, communities and businesses. You will also find information on how ISC has prepared for the pandemic, and the confirmed cases of COVID-19 on reserves across the country.

Question of the Day

Q: Have there been any adjustments to non-insured health benefits (NIHB) in response to COVID-19?

A: Yes, there have been a number of temporary adjustments to NIHB to help during this pandemic. Temporary adjustments in policy have been made for pharmacy and medical supplies and equipment. Regional adjustments in operations/adjudication of medical transportation and mental health counselling have been put in place with the intent of making key resources/supports more accessible. You can view all specific updates on our departmental website [here](#). For more information on mental health counselling or to make an appointment call our toll-free number at 1-800-232-7301

National Information

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

[The Government of Canada has established a simple portal to help you apply for the CERB](#)

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 29 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (April 29 – 315 new cases)	5,165
Confirmed First Nations on-reserve Cases	20
Calgary Zone	3,520
Central Zone	84
Edmonton Zone	489
North Zone	205
South Zone	833
Unknown	34
Deaths due to COVID-19	87

Indigenous Awareness Resources

The Government of Canada has collected resources pertaining to Indigenous communities and COVID-19 in one easily searchable repository. These are resources from all levels of government as well as academic institutions and non-governmental Indigenous organizations. Many have been translated into various Indigenous languages. You can find the complete database [here](#).

Regional Snapshot



Useful Links

Respiratory Health Tips

- Dr. Ojistoh Horn is a physician working with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health. In this [video](#) Dr. Horn shares tips on maintaining good respiratory health for those with underlying medical conditions

Virtual Town Hall Session 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

Regional Contact:

Dean Janvier, Special Leadership Liaison, is available to support information sharing and to assist you in navigating questions or concerns related to COVID-19. He may be reached at Dean.Janvier@gmail.com or 780-545-6655.