

ONTARIO REGION UPDATE



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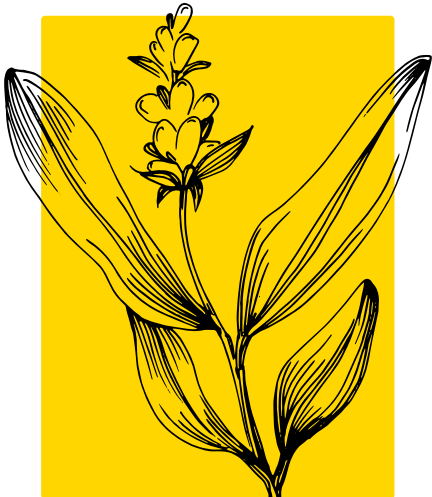
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*For newsletter questions, ou pour recevoir
une version française, please email
Ontario Region Communications:
ontario-communications@sac-isc.gc.ca*



❖ This Winter: Ice Safety ❖

No ice is considered absolutely “safe” to walk or play on, but there are precautions that will help people reduce their risk of getting injured or worse. Please consider sharing the following resources about ice safety. They may be helpful when talking about precautionary measures with your community this winter.

In an emergency, please call your emergency response service. To report a search and rescue incident to the Coast Guard in Ontario, please call [1-800-267-7270](tel:1-800-267-7270).

- Poster – [Lifesaving Society: No ice is without some risk](#)
- Information - [Canadian Red Cross: What you need to know if you fall through the ice](#)
- Fact sheet - [CCHOS: Working on or near Ice Covered Water](#)
- Fact sheet - [CCHOS: Cold Environments](#)



Help is here whenever you need it

Support is available 24/7 for all First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. Please find a list of mental health helplines below that are able to provide culturally relevant support. To find more services and resources, [click here to go to the national Indigenous mental health page](#).



Hope for Wellness Helpline

Phone: [1-855-242-3310](tel:1-855-242-3310)

Online chat: www.hopeforwellness.ca

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Support Line

Phone: [1-844-413-6649](tel:1-844-413-6649)

Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line

Phone: [1-866-925-4419](tel:1-866-925-4419)

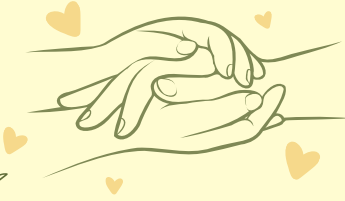
Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Services

Phone: [9-8-8](tel:9-8-8) (call or text)



Mental Health Resources

If you are looking for posters or graphics to promote mental health, the OneHealth Portal hosts a resource library. Content can be found on the [Mental Health & Substance Use](#) page. Examples of content include:



- Graphic: [You're never truly alone, even when you think you are](#) (click to automatically download)
- Graphic: [Talking about your mental health isn't corny](#)
- Graphic: [Lend an ear](#)

Gané Yohs Community Health Centre Wins Award

Our health care colleagues at the Gané Yohs Community Health Centre in Six Nations of the Grand River have been chosen to receive the 2024 Award of Excellence at the Canadian Immunization Conference. The Conference is taking place this week in Ottawa.

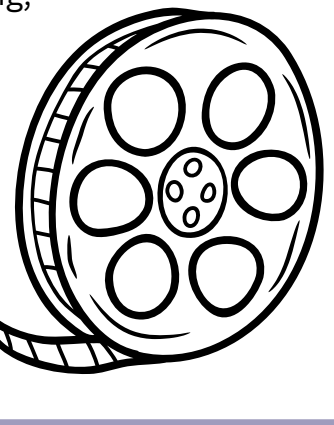
We are delighted to see these hardworking health care professionals and support staff be recognized for their work to keep Six Nations residents healthy through high immunization rates and exceptional crisis management during the pandemic.

Congratulations to the Gané Yohs staff!

Funding Opportunity: Documentary Heritage Organizations

The 2025–2026 cycle of the Documentary Heritage Communities Program (DHCP) is now open. DHCP funds organizations that work on promoting, conserving, and improving access to heritage collections. Indigenous community organizations and governments are [eligible to apply](#).

Applications are due by January 9, 2025 at 8:59 pm Eastern Time (11:59 pm Pacific). Please visit the [DHCP page](#) for more information, such as tips on [how to apply](#), and [how to structure your application](#).



Recap: Winter Roads Roundtable and funding announcement

On November 22, 2024, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services, met with First Nation leaders and key partners in Thunder Bay to address the issues surrounding the shortened winter roads season. The Winter Roads Roundtable provided an opportunity to address immediate and long-term issues that are faced by First Nation communities dependent on winter roads. In Ontario, the winter road system consists of 3,200 kilometres of ice and winter roads that link 32 First Nations communities in the remote reaches of northern Ontario.

Minister Hajdu also announced an additional \$20 million in federal funding over four years for winter roads for Ontario First Nations communities. This new funding supplements the \$7 million in annual winter road funding already allocated to these communities, as part of the Government of Canada's commitment to addressing the challenges posed by shorter winter road seasons. For more details, see the following news release: [Government of Canada boosts financial support for winter roads, strengthening connections to remote Ontario First Nations](#).

Funding Opportunity: Clean Electricity Program

The [Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways program](#) (SREP) is accepting expressions of interest to the [Utility Support Stream](#) (USS). SREP is providing up to \$500M in funding to support clean electricity infrastructure.

Expressions of Interest are due by December 13, 2024 at 8:59 pm Eastern Time (11:59 pm Pacific). SREP is then expected to launch a request for proposals in the first half of 2025. Please visit the USS web page for more information, including [eligibility](#) and an [application guide](#).



Funding Opportunity: Partnerships, Structural Readiness and Regional Education Agreement Development

The Education Partnerships Program is accepting proposals for its 2025–2026 cycle. Three key program areas are accepting submissions: Partnerships, Structural Readiness, and Regional Agreement Development.

Proposals are due by December 19, 2024 at 8:59pm Eastern Time (11:59pm Pacific).

Please visit the [Education Partnerships Program](#) webpage for information about [eligibility](#) and [how to apply](#).

