

ONTARIO REGION UPDATE



IN THIS ISSUE

Health

- [Immunizations for children & teens](#).....2
- [Bringing dogs into the U.S.](#).....3

Funding & Operations

- [2024 ISC Ontario Joint Gathering](#).....3
- [Emergency management resources](#).....4
- [Ottawa Urban Treaty Day](#).....4
- [Funding: GICB Program](#).....5
- [Funding: Prosecution Pilot](#).....5

Community & Partners

- [New skatepark on Wauzhushk Onigum Nation](#).....6

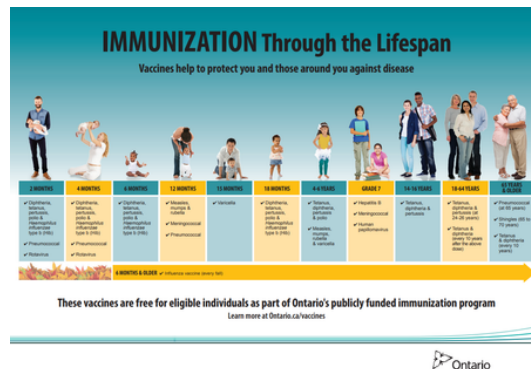
*For newsletter questions, ou pour recevoir
une version française, please email
Ontario Region Communications:
ontario-communications@sac-isc.gc.ca*



Immunizations for children and teens

Routine immunizations may have been delayed or postponed in some regions during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the measles and meningitis vaccines. As a result, some children and teens may not be fully protected against all vaccine-preventable diseases when they return to school this fall. Getting caught up on immunizations is the best way to protect them from serious illness.

[Click here for resources that can be shared on social media](#) to encourage catching up on missed vaccines. There are also some resources that can help families and caregivers identify which immunizations their children need and how to get them. Please consider sharing these with your community. To help reduce children's stress around vaccinations, check out [these tips for parents and caregivers](#), or this list of [interactive activities and resources shared in last month's newsletter](#).



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, able to provide culturally relevant support. To find more services and resources, [click here to go to the Indigenous mental health page](#).

Hope for Wellness Helpline

Phone: 1-855-242-3310

Online chat: www.hopeforwellness.ca

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Support Line

Phone: 1-844-413-6649

Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line

Phone: 1-866-925-4419

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Services

Phone: 9-8-8 (call or text)



Updated requirements for bringing dogs into the United States

As of August 1, 2024, the United States (U.S.) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has implemented updated import requirements for all dogs travelling to the U.S. The CDC has different requirements depending on where the dog has been in the 6 months before travelling to the U.S. Please visit the following links for more information:

- [Statement by Minister Holland on the new CDC requirements for dogs entering the U.S. from Canada](#)
- Webpage: [Dogs travelling to the United States](#)

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has published several social media posts on this topic. We encourage you to share these posts on your channels to spread the word in your community.

- X (Twitter) – [English post](#) / [French post](#)
- Facebook – [English post](#) / [French post](#)
- LinkedIn – [English post](#) / [French post](#)



Register for the 2024 ISC Ontario Region Joint Gathering

Indigenous Services Canada, Ontario Region is pleased to invite you to this year's Joint Gathering from November 5 to 7, 2024. A welcome reception will be held on the evening of Monday, November 4. The Joint Gathering brings together leadership from First Nations, Canada, and Ontario to strengthen relationships and define joint priorities. ISC will sponsor First Nations Chiefs (or a proxy) and a plus one. Sponsorship is also extended to Indigenous Representative Organization leadership, Executive Directors of Tribal Councils, and Health Directors. Agenda to follow. [Click here to register](#), and [click here to book your hotel](#) or call 1-866-932-7058 and reference "Joint Gathering 2024."



Reminder: Emergency management resources

As fire activity continues across the country, we want to remind you that Indigenous Services Canada has a number of resources available to help you prepare for and respond to emergencies. You can find an overview of available funding and programs in our [April Ontario Region Update](#), along with a list of key contacts and helpful websites. [Click here to access a PDF version of the newsletter.](#)



2nd Annual Ottawa Urban Treaty Day

In collaboration with the [Odawa Native Friendship Centre](#), Indigenous Services Canada will be holding its second annual Ottawa Urban Treaty Day event from September 26-27, 2024.

Urban treaty payment events allow eligible individuals who live in urban areas or are unable to pick up their annuities in their home communities to collect them in person. Everyone is welcome to attend whether they are eligible for treaty payments or would like to participate in festivities which will include vendors, artisans, and service and information booths.

Location: Odawa Native Friendship Centre, 815 St. Laurent Blvd in Ottawa

Time: 11:00 am – 7:00 pm (both days)

For more information on urban treaty payments and to check which First Nations receive treaty annuity payments, visit [Treaty annuity payments \(sac-isc.gc.ca\)](https://sac-isc.gc.ca).



Funding opportunity: Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program

The Department of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada, formerly Infrastructure Canada, is pleased to [announce the launch of a third application intake for the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings \(GICB\) program](#). The GICB program aims to build new community buildings in areas with populations experiencing higher needs, and improve the quality and resilience of existing buildings, making them more energy efficient and more open and accessible. Please consult the [GICB Applicant Guide](#) for full program information.

On April 16, 2024, [Budget 2024](#) provided a \$500 million top-up to the existing program and extended it to 2029.

- On **August 1, 2024**, the program began accepting applications for **small and medium retrofit projects**, with total eligible costs ranging from \$100,000 to \$2,999,999.
- On **September 4, 2024**, the program will accept applications for **large retrofit and new build projects**, with total eligible costs ranging from \$3 million to \$25 million.

The deadline to apply under each stream of the program is **October 16, 2024, at 3:00 pm, Eastern Time**.

If you do not already have an online account with the GICB program, you must complete the [Applicant Registration Form](#). Then, starting on the launch date for your project stream, apply online by logging into the [Applicant Portal](#) using your new (or existing) username and password. Please note: The Applicant Portal will only be available on the launch dates for your project streams.

You can also register for one of our upcoming live webinars to learn more about the program's requirements. Visit the [GICB website](#) for more details and to register for an English or French webinar. Space is limited, register early! For questions about the GICB program, contact gicbp-pbcvi@infcc.gc.ca.



Funding opportunity: Prosecution Pilot

On the July all-Chiefs call, the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General and Department of Justice Canada presented on the ongoing Prosecution Pilot. It aims to improve community safety, well-being, and access to justice for First Nations in Ontario by providing funding to interested First Nations to retain private counsel to support the prosecution of First Nation laws.

The Pilot was recently extended and eligible applicants can apply for up to \$35,000 in funding. **Applications will be accepted until December 31, 2024**. For more information, [click here to download the full presentation](#). Please contact Sarah.Greenfield@ontario.ca (647-967-2891) for questions not answered in the document.

Community Story:

New skatepark on Wauzhushk Onigum Nation

Last month, Wauzhushk Onigum Nation (WON) celebrated the grand opening of their new skatepark. On July 23, dozens of community members came out to kick off the summer skate season with a BBQ, beautiful weather, and a great skateboarding show from the local skate shop, Boardanyone. WON purchased skateboards and protective equipment for the youth and partnered with Boardanyone on the day of to help kids learn about skateboarding. The skate shop offered skill lessons on-site, helped the kids choose their own skateboard, and got them properly fitted for safety equipment, like pads and helmets.

The WON Education Department secured funding for a new skatepark and basketball court, while Leadership secured funding for a new play area. The WON Education Team oversaw the creative side of construction, creating and designing the renovated area. Work began in 2021 and construction was completed in 2023. The skatepark was built beside the basketball court, and a new playground was installed to round out the renovations.

COVID-19 surges make it difficult to safely gather indoors with loved ones. The new skatepark provides a beautiful spot where youth and families can play and visit together, without the health stresses of indoor gatherings and travel.

Thank you to Wauzhushk Onigum Nation for contributing this story to the Ontario Region Update.

