

# COVID-19 Funding Streams

## Indigenous Services Canada Alberta Region

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) aims to keep you informed on the COVID-19 funding available through the Government of Canada. This document is intended as a quick guide, please contact us to get more details on each of these funding options.

### Indigenous Community Support Fund (Round 2)

Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF) allocations will be both **formula-based** and **proposal-based**. The **formula** methodology remains unchanged since the first round of ICSF and will provide your Nations with a base of \$25,000 and a top up that takes into account population, remoteness, and community well being. This formula based funding will be approximately 50% of what was received from the first round of ICSF. The allocations are for any reasonable COVID-19 related expenditure not covered through other programs. The funding can be used for measures including, but is not limited to:

- support for Elders and vulnerable community members,
- educational and other support for children,
- mental health assistance and emergency response services,
- preparedness measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19



Details on the proposal based portion of the funding will be forthcoming.

### Education Funding Supports

Education Funding has been provided to keep your children safe, based on your specific needs – be it a safe return to classrooms, a transition to an online education model, or a combination of both. Total COVID-19 Education Funding support for First Nations in Alberta is \$12.9 million and has been adjusted for the specific context of the First Nations school's size, number of students, grade composition and geography.



#### School Minor Capital Funding and School Health Measures Funding:

**School Minor Capital Funding** of \$1,704,029 and **School Health Measures Funding** of \$1,798,304 total to assist with immediate COVID related public health measures under minor education capital for First Nation schools. Eligible activities include:

- Signage to reinforce social distancing and consistent with local public health guidance
- Plexiglass barriers for distancing/partition
- Cleaning supplies and sanitizers
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for staff or students
- Additional hand washing stations

### Indigenous Community Business Fund

The Indigenous Community Business Fund (ICBF) will provide non-repayable financial contributions to help support operating costs for First Nation, Inuit and Métis community-or collectively-owned businesses whose revenues have been affected by COVID-19 and do not qualify for other Government of Canada COVID-19 relief measures. The fund has 2 streams:



- Stream 1- Funding will be transferred directly to communities and collectives to immediately support their COVID-19 economic priorities. No applications are required for stream 1 funding.
- Stream 2-Funding is proposal-based. Applications must be submitted by the community or collectives on behalf of the business. Funding will be transferred directly to communities and collectives.

### COVID-19 and First Nation Child and Family Services Program

ISC has expanded FNCFS eligible expenses to support First Nations agencies and communities in addressing emergency concerns, and addressing issues related to COVID-19. The expanded eligibility could support:

- temporary lodging in order to isolate an individual, whether that be a child or care giver in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 will be considered as an eligible expense if this measure would prevent a child from coming into care (i.e. the primary care-giver is infected or other member of the household); where an infected individual is at risk of infecting others (i.e. a resident of a group home that becomes infected and needs to be isolated); and isolation is in the best interest of public health.
- emergency food support for families at risk
- supplies for children (e.g. baby formula, diapers, wipes);
- communications expenses such as translation



### Supports for Individuals

Through the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, there are supports available for individuals, accessible by all Canadians. This includes Employment Insurance benefits, Canada Recovery Benefit, Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit, Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit as well as additional time for tax filing and mortgage payment deferrals.



### Urban & Off-Reserve Support

As part of the Indigenous Community Support Fund, the Government of Canada is distributing a total of \$90 million to Indigenous organizations and communities providing services to Indigenous Peoples living in urban areas, to support essential services to the most vulnerable and to prevent and respond to potential COVID-19 outbreaks.



## For More Information:

**Community Liaison Teams** (CLTs) were created to ensure that First Nations have streamlined access to ISC information and support during the pandemic. CLTs include representatives from Regional Operations and the First Nation and Inuit Health Branch, and work with subject matter experts to answer operational questions relating to COVID-19. ✉ [sac.cdemergenciesab-urgencesmtab.isc@canada.ca](mailto:sac.cdemergenciesab-urgencesmtab.isc@canada.ca)



# COVID-19 Funding Streams

Indigenous Services Canada Alberta Region

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) aims to keep you informed on the COVID-19 funding available through the Government of Canada. This document is intended as a quick guide, please contact us to get more details on each of these funding options.

## COVID-19 Health Needs



First Nations and Inuit communities can access additional public health support to respond to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) works with Indigenous communities in the provinces to support the public health response to COVID-19 with additional funding of \$285 million. This funding supports community-led responses to the pandemic, and provides targeted increases in primary health care resources for First Nations communities. Guides and templates for health needs funding are available from your CLTs. ISC-FNIHB will continue to accept requests and respond to needs as they arise. Both First Nations communities and aggregate or second level organizations providing health services are eligible for this funding, through applications. Examples of COVID-19 public health expenses that may be supported include costs related to:

### Operational Health Needs Funding

- Surge capacity requirements related to the delivery of Primary Health Care services.
- Additional capacity for continuing community-based programs, such as First Nations and Inuit Home and Community Care program and Environmental Public Health (e.g., biowaste disposal).
- Additional capacity to support more frequent cleaning schedule for health facilities and additional security requirements.
- Activities on the land to support physical isolation and food security
- Support for people self-isolating on the advice of a medical professional

### Other Areas That Can Be Funded But Have Additional Parameters

- Supports to update, review or activate pandemic response plans
- Supplies and storage



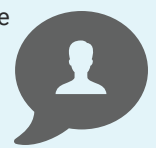
### Capital Funding

- Funding through the Health Facilities Program is being made available to support re-tooling and use of existing community spaces, such as schools and daycares on reserve that are not currently being used for the following specific purposes: 1) Triage and Assessment; 2) Isolation; and 3) Accommodation.



### Mental Health and Wellbeing

- \$7,642,556 in COVID-19 Mental Wellness funding to support Human Resource Surge Capacity and Program Adaptation in First Nations communities.



## Further Supports Provided by the Government of Canada...

### Supports for Students

- Canada Emergency Student Benefit
- Increased grants for Student Loan Programs
- We are also providing \$75.2 million to offer additional distinctions-based support to First Nations post-secondary students



### Persons with Disabilities

We are providing a one-time, tax-free, non-reportable payment of \$600 to help Canadians with disabilities who are recipients of any of the following programs or benefits: holders of a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate, beneficiaries as at July 1, 2020 of:

- Canada Pension Plan Disability
- Quebec Pension Plan Disability Pension,
- Disability supports provided by Veterans Affairs Canada



The Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate counselling and crisis intervention support to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. It is available 24/7 and the toll-free Help Line is 1-855-242-3310 or connect to the online chat at [hopeforwellness.ca](https://hopeforwellness.ca)

## For More Information:



Community Liaison Teams (CLTs) were created to ensure that First Nations have streamlined access to ISC information and support during the pandemic. CLTs include representatives from Regional Operations and the First Nation and Inuit Health Branch, and work with subject matter experts to answer operational questions relating to COVID-19. ✉ [sac.cdemergenciesab-urgencesmtab.isc@canada.ca](mailto:sac.cdemergenciesab-urgencesmtab.isc@canada.ca)