

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19

Update for Chiefs: November 4, 2020

Updates

ICSF Update:

Earlier this week, you would have received an email identifying that in addition to the second allocation for Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF) distributed to Nations through your funding arrangements in September, applications for the needs-based funding through ICSF are now open. Approximately \$160 million is available for needs-based funding stream for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation communities, as well as Indigenous organizations serving Indigenous Peoples, including those living in urban centres and First Nations community members living off reserve. This funding is available through an [application driven process](#), and information on the selection criteria and examples of activities that can be funded is included in the application link above.

All applications will be reviewed and approved by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) as per the selection criteria listed on the website. **Applicants are asked to submit their applications by November 30**, as funding must be disbursed by the department by December 31, 2020. ISC encourages all applicants to send their applications for additional resources as soon as possible.

CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI)

On October 27, 2020, [details of the new CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative \(RHI\) were released](#). The initiative is intended to address the urgent housing needs of vulnerable Canadians by rapidly creating new affordable housing and supporting Canadians experiencing homelessness or living in temporary accommodation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. There are two streams for funding:

1. **Major Cities stream** (\$500M) for cities with highest severe needs, and are encouraged to apply a community benefits approach and push for projects targeting women, and the urban Indigenous population;
2. **Project stream** (\$500M) wherein Indigenous governing bodies and organizations will be eligible to apply and will be priorities. Standard Rentals, Transitional housing, Single Room Occupancy and Independent Senior's Living are some examples of eligible types of projects under this stream. **Regional CMHC Specialists are available to advise and navigate Indigenous governing bodies and Indigenous organizations through submission requirements. Applications close for the Project Stream on December 31, 2020.**

Details and application forms can be found [here](#).

Question of the Day

Q: What is the current testing criteria?

A: As of November 2nd, runny nose and sore throat have been removed from the list of symptoms that require mandatory isolation for children. If a child has only one of any of the other symptoms on the list (chills; sore throat or painful swallowing; runny nose or congestion; feeling unwell or fatigue; nausea, vomiting, diarrhea; unexplained loss of appetite; muscle or joint aches; headache; conjunctivitis (pink eye)), they should stay home and monitor for 24 hours. If their symptom is improving after 24 hours, testing is not necessary and they can return to normal activities when they feel well enough. If the child has two or more of the symptoms on the list, then testing is recommended and they should stay home until the symptoms go away or they test negative for COVID-19. To reiterate, if a child has even one of the core isolation symptoms –cough, fever, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell – the child must still isolate for 10 days or have a negative test result and resolved symptoms before resuming activities. Click [here for more information](#).

National Information

[Government of Canada COVID-19 Update for Indigenous Peoples and communities](#)

Epidemic curves of COVID-19 cases in FN communities [are available online & updated weekly.](#)

Alberta Cases:

as of November 3rd, 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (November 2nd – 570 new cases)	29,932
AB Recovered Cases	23,484
Confirmed First Nations On-reserve Cases	487
On-reserve Recovered Cases	386
On-Reserve Active Cases	96
Calgary Zone Confirmed	2,532
Central Zone Confirmed	235
Edmonton Zone Confirmed	2,581
North Zone Confirmed	413
South Zone Confirmed	317
Unknown Confirmed	32
Deaths due to COVID-19	338
On-reserve Deaths due to COVID-19	5

Additional Pandemic Funding for Indigenous Peoples and Communities:

On October 30th, the Prime Minister announced an additional \$204 million for child care, education and infrastructure to help Indigenous communities fight the COVID-19 pandemic. This announcement includes \$120 million to support early learning and child-care facilities in Indigenous communities during the pandemic. Additionally, the government is providing \$25 million to help Indigenous post-secondary institutions with increased costs related to the pandemic, and \$59 million to improve infrastructure in First Nations to meet COVID-19 health and safety standards. **We will communicate with your Nations as soon as details on the distribution of these funds becomes available.**

Regional Snapshot



More Alberta case data can be found [here](#)

Useful links

Influenza Immunization Alberta:

Influenza immunization is more important this season, than ever before. All Albertans, six months of age and older, are eligible to be immunized, free of charge. See details [here](#).

Indigenous Virtual Care Clinic (AIVCC):

On Oct. 28, 2020, the Alberta Indigenous Virtual Care Clinic (AIVCC), a joint initiative between ISC, TSAG, and AHS, opened its virtual doors, providing same day, primary care services to rural and urban First Nations, Métis and Inuit patients and families through a secure telephone and/or video system. To book a same day appointment, please call 1.888.342.4822. For more information please see: <https://aivcc.ca/> or email info@aivcc.ca

On November 2, 2020, Canada's Chief Medical Officers of Health and the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, released a statement: [Working with Canadians on the Ongoing Management of COVID-19 in the Months Ahead](#). The objective of the statement is to address the perception of conflicting public health messaging across the country by emphasizing core preventive measures valid anywhere, and the need to continue tailoring our response, as our understanding of the virus and the situation evolves.