



INFO BULLETIN

INFORMATION FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

National

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[Honouring Excellence in Nursing: 2026 Indigenous Services Canada Award Recipients Announced](#)

In First Nations and Inuit communities, nurses are key to the delivery of healthcare, as frontline providers and trusted partners walking alongside patients through every stage of their health journey. On May 13, 2026, the Government of Canada announced the three recipients of the [2026 Award of Excellence in Nursing](#):

- **Kayla McCulloch**, a resilient nurse from Cold Lake First Nations who incorporates a blend of Indigenous ways of knowing and Western medicine into her practice.
- **Joann Pye**, a resourceful nurse whose lifelong dedication to the people of Labrador has made her an indispensable pillar of Nain's healthcare system.
- **Marcie Einarsson**, an incredible nurse with 33 years of experience and a passion for improving access to care in First Nations communities.

Nurses in First Nations and Inuit communities are the first point of contact and a consistent presence in community healthcare. Through their dedication and deep relationships within communities, nurses are helping to improve the health and well-being of First Nations and Inuit while shaping a healthier future for generations to come.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

[Government of Canada invests in Indigenous-led research](#)

On May 20, 2026, the Government of Canada announced a [\\$12.7 million investment for Indigenous-focused research initiatives](#). Led by Canada's three federal research funding agencies—the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)—this investment will support 42 Indigenous-led research projects, which also prioritize Indigenous leadership.

These projects are supported by three funding opportunities, originally announced in [Budget 2024](#):

- Indigenous Capacity and Leadership in Research Connection Grants
- Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants—Stage 1
- an expansion of the Inuit Research Network Grant (Phase 3)

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

[Government of Canada supports improved decision-making and Indigenous participation in northern major projects](#)

The Government of Canada is advancing responsible development in the North by supporting better data, stronger partnerships, and [regulatory processes guided by Indigenous priorities](#). Successful applicants may receive up to \$500,000 over three years to support Indigenous-led initiatives that inform decision-making and advance nation-building and major projects in Canada's North.

In the coming weeks and months, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada will introduce additional measures as part of a strategic plan to invest \$42 million over four years. Together, these actions and investments demonstrate Canada's broader commitment to improving northern regulatory systems so they are clear, reliable, and responsive to the needs and priorities of Northerners and Indigenous Peoples, while respecting modern treaties and Indigenous rights.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

**HELP IS AVAILABLE
WHENEVER YOU
NEED IT.**

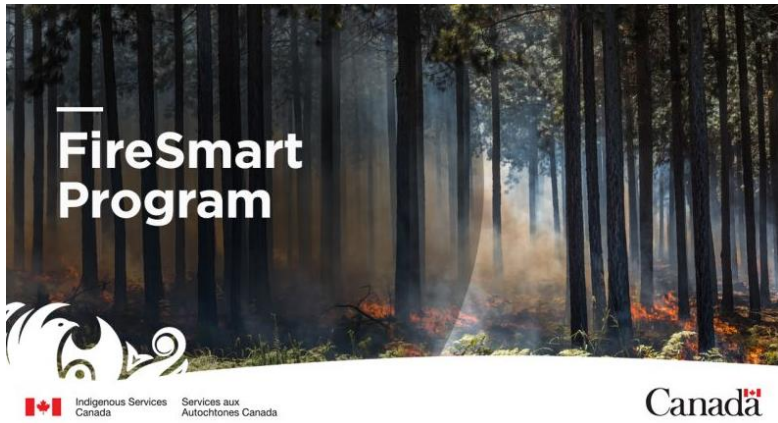
**Immediate support is available 24/7
for all Indigenous people in Canada.**

Hope for Wellness Help Line and Chat
1-855-242-3310 or www.hopeforwellness.ca

Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line
1-866-925-4419

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
and Girls Support Line
1-844-413-6649

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[FireSmart Program](#)

The [FireSmart Program](#) builds skills in First Nations communities to prevent and prepare against wildland fires, supporting wildland fire non-structural mitigation and preparedness initiatives.

Proposals will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until funding is exhausted. For more information, including [how to apply](#), please visit [Emergency Management FireSmart program](#).

[CRTC takes action to support the creation and discoverability of Canadian and Indigenous content](#)

The [Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission \(CRTC\)](#) is taking important steps to implement the modernized [Broadcasting Act \(the Act\)](#) by updating how Canadian and Indigenous content is supported and made available. The Act requires the CRTC to modernize Canada's broadcasting framework and ensure that online broadcasters make meaningful contributions to Canadian and Indigenous content.

The total contributions are expected to stabilize the funding at more than \$2 billion in support of Canadian and Indigenous content, such as French-language content and news. The CRTC is setting clear expectations for the discoverability of Canadian and Indigenous content so that it is made available and visible to audiences. This will make it easier for people to find this content on the platforms they use, while giving broadcasters flexibility in how they meet the new expectations.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

[Government of Canada supports six new research projects to explore impacts of plastic pollution on Indigenous communities](#)

On May 12, 2026, the Government of Canada [announced nearly \\$2.4 million in research funding](#) to help deepen our understanding of the social, cultural and economic impacts of plastic pollution on Indigenous communities. This initiative, launched in partnership with the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada](#), will support six Indigenous-led and co-led projects over two years.

In addition to examining the effects of plastic pollution on wildlife, the environment and human health, these six projects will provide training and mentorship opportunities for students and emerging scholars, helping to build capacity at the intersection of Indigenous Knowledge systems, social sciences, and environmental research. The project results will support Canada's comprehensive plan to reduce plastic waste and pollution, help inform decision-making, and guide future science.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).



Regional

[Launch of MB Ready app](#)

The Manitoba government [launched the MB Ready app in recognition of Emergency Preparedness Week](#) (May 3 to 9), encouraging Manitobans to take steps to ensure their families, neighbours and communities are ready in the event of an emergency. MB Ready provides real-time, location-based notifications for emergencies and incidents such as severe weather, wildfires, floods, road closures and power outages. Users can set alerts for specific addresses or geographic areas, allowing them to stay informed about conditions that may affect their home, workplace or other important locations.

MB Ready also includes guidance on building emergency kits, creating household emergency plans, understanding local risks and accessing safety information during emergencies. To access MB Ready, download the app or visit the [MB Ready webpage](#). Manitobans are encouraged to review or create an emergency plan, update emergency kits and discuss preparedness with family members, neighbours and co-workers.

More information on emergency preparedness in Manitoba is available at www.manitoba.ca/emo.

[Eligible Manitobans encouraged to access hepatitis A vaccine](#)

The Province of Manitoba is raising awareness of a [hepatitis A](#) outbreak in Manitoba and reminding Manitobans to check their [eligibility](#) for the free vaccine. The outbreak initially affected several communities in northern Manitoba and has evolved in recent months to include cases in several communities across Manitoba. Vaccination can prevent hepatitis A, including in those exposed to the virus if given within two weeks of exposure. Immunization efforts are ongoing to reach populations at elevated risk.

Hepatitis A is an acute liver infection caused by the hepatitis A virus. Some people with hepatitis A, especially young children, have no symptoms. Others can develop a range of symptoms from mild to severe. If symptoms do develop, the onset is abrupt. Washing your hands with soap and water after using the toilet, handling diapers and before eating or preparing food can help prevent infection if you are exposed to the virus. If soap and water are not available for handwashing, clean hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Anyone who develops symptoms of hepatitis A should contact their health-care provider, especially if they may have been in contact with someone who has been ill.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

[Manitoba government increases funding for adult learning centres and literacy programs](#)

On May 19, 2026, the Manitoba government announced an investment of \$2.5 million to strengthen and expand adult education programming, including \$1 million dedicated to First Nations and Northern communities, bringing the total funding for adult learning and literacy to \$24.9 million. The additional \$2.5 million investment will stabilize and strengthen existing adult learning and literacy programming in priority communities, support front-line delivery needs and support recruitment and retention of professionals to deliver quality programming.

The Manitoba government is also providing an additional \$100,000 through the [Mino'Ayaawag Ikwewag: All Women Doing Well](#) strategy to support 60 Indigenous women enrolled in the Early Childhood Education, Adult Education and Employment, and Family Support Worker programs at Urban Circle. Adult learning is an important learning pathway that advances reconciliation and supports learners to engage in further education and training or move directly into the workforce.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

[Vital infrastructure and connectivity supported across rural and northern Manitoba](#)

On May 15, 2026, the Government of Canada announced its support of nine projects that will deliver modern, reliable infrastructure across rural and northern communities in Manitoba, with more than \$63 million in funding. To help support rural connectivity, more than \$61 million will support four high-speed Internet projects through the [Universal Broadband Fund](#), helping connect 2,309 households in 11 rural and remote communities, including more than 2,100 Indigenous households.

Better, more reliable connectivity, affordable housing options and strong local infrastructure means better access to essential online services, health care and emergency supports, and economic opportunity. Today's investments will help bridge the divide, and build stronger, more connected towns and regions, particularly in Indigenous communities.

For more information, please visit the [backgrounder](#) and [news release](#).