



National

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Statement on the Final Report from the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools

On October 29, 2024, the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, issued the following statement after receiving the [Final Report of the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools](#):

“ [...] Today, on behalf of the Government of Canada, I have the honour of receiving the Special Interlocutor’s Final Report, an Indigenous-led Reparations Framework, which is being delivered concurrently to myself and First Nations, Inuit and Métis Survivors, communities and families. It is my sincere hope that the Special Interlocutor’s Final Report and the recommendations in it will honour the memory of the children who never returned home from residential schools and will lead to healing for families and Survivors. [...] I thank [Kimberly Murray](#) for her crucial work listening to Survivors and families and identifying needed measures and recommendations for a new federal legal framework, to ensure that unmarked graves and burial sites at former residential schools are treated with the respect and protection they deserve. [...] ”

To continue reading, please visit the [full statement](#). To read final report, visit [the Office of the Independent Special Interlocutor – Reports](#).

Education Partnerships Program

The fiscal year 2025 to 2026 call for proposals for the Partnerships, Structural Readiness and Regional Education Agreement Development components under the [Education Partnerships Program](#) is now open. The program supports:

- collaboration between First Nations, provincial and territorial ministries or departments of education and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)
- the capacity development and enhancement of First Nations organizations to deliver education, including establishing education systems and service delivery agreements responsive to First Nations students and community education needs

The deadline to submit a proposal is December 19, 2024, at 11:59 pm Pacific Time. For information, including [eligibility](#) and [how to apply](#), please visit the [Education Partnerships Program](#) webpage.

Call for applications under National Crime Prevention Strategy

On October 25, 2025, the Government of Canada [announced the launch of the application process](#) for the [National Crime Prevention Strategy](#) (NCPS). An estimated \$123.5 million will be available over the next 5 years. This investment will support community-led crime prevention efforts tailored to at-risk and vulnerable youth, particularly Indigenous and racialized youth, youth involved in violence, and youth with repeat contacts with the criminal justice system.

Specifically, funding will be focused on initiatives aimed at stopping crime before it occurs by reducing the risk factors that lead youth to get involved in violent criminal activity, such as gun violence and auto theft. In addition, an annual \$700,000 portion of NCPS funding will be available for projects that focus specifically on preventing bullying and cyber bullying.

Eligible organizations will be able to apply for funding from November 1st to December 20th, 2024. For more information, contact the [regional office](#) nearest you, call 1-800-830-3118 or send an email to ps.prevention-prevention.sp@canada.ca. Register for the [NCPS mailing list](#) to receive updates on the NCPS, including notification on funding opportunities.

**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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Emergency Management Assistance Program

Do you deliver emergency management services to First Nations communities? We have a toolkit for you!

A new, Culturally Relevant Emergency Management Services Toolkit can help you make sure you're meeting the cultural needs of on-reserve and other eligible First Nations communities.

[Get the toolkit](#) and learn more.



Government of Canada launches call for proposals for northern contaminants research and monitoring projects

On October 30, 2024, the Government of Canada [announced the launch of the annual call for proposals for research and monitoring projects on contaminants](#) originating from other parts of the world. As part of [Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Northern Contaminants Program](#), beginning in the 2025 to 2026 fiscal year, close to \$1 million will be available for projects for a duration of up to 3 consecutive years. This investment will support new projects related to human health, environmental and community-based monitoring and research, and associated public outreach initiatives.

Applicants have until January 20, 2025, to submit their proposals. Community members, Indigenous and territorial organizations, and governments are encouraged to work in partnership with university and federal government scientists to submit a proposal.

For more information, including [eligibility](#) and [how to apply](#), please visit [Northern Contaminants Program – Call for Proposals 2025](#).

First Nations access greater flexibility and increased self-determination through the New Fiscal Relationship Grant

On October 24, 2024, the [expansion of the New Fiscal Relationship Grant eligibility](#) to tribal councils and First Nations-led service delivery entities was announced. Established in 2019, the New Fiscal Relationship Grant was co-developed with the Assembly of First Nations and the First Nations Financial Management Board as an alternative funding mechanism that would provide more funding flexibility and predictability to First Nations, and support self-determination through effective and independent long-term planning based on community needs and priorities.

Expanding eligibility in the grant to tribal councils and First Nations-led service delivery entities means that First Nations that receive services through these entities will be able to benefit from the specialization and economies of scale their service providers offer, as well as the flexibility, predictability and funding escalator provided by the grant.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#) and [New Fiscal Relationship Grant](#).

New intake for clean electricity program with \$500 million in additional funding

On October 10, 2024, the Government of Canada [announced up to \\$500 million in funding](#) for the [Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways program](#) (SREPs) [Utility Support Stream](#) (USS). SREPs supports clean electricity infrastructure, such as renewable energy technologies, energy storage and grid modernization technologies, that strengthen the electricity grid.

The request for Expression of Interest (EOI) under the Utility Support Stream is now open and **will be accepting applications until December 13, 2024, at 11:59 pm Pacific Time**. The EOI is in anticipation of a request for project proposals to be launched in the first half of 2025.

For more information, including [eligibility](#) and [application process](#), please visit [Utility Support Stream](#) and the [applicant guide](#).



Ready for a career where your lived experiences and knowledge can be applied to delivering programs that truly matter?

We're all about collaboration, team spirit, and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous communities. With work-life balance, hybrid work, and tons of support like access to Elders and Indigenous career counsellors, we've got you covered.

Curious to learn more? Join our information sessions or [apply now!](#)

Regional

Flu and COVID-19 vaccines now available

[Manitobans 6 months of age and older are encouraged to get their free influenza \(flu\) and COVID-19 vaccines](#), which are currently available through many medical clinics, access centres, pharmacies serving high-risk populations, vaccine clinics, nursing stations and public health. Flu and COVID-19 vaccines are especially recommended for those at higher risk of infection or severe disease, along with their caregivers and close contacts. Those at increased risk of severe disease include:

- Indigenous Peoples
- people 65 years of age and older
- residents of personal care homes or long-term care facilities
- pregnant people
- children from 6 months of age until they turn 5 years old
- individuals with chronic health conditions

[Vaccine-Preventable Respiratory Illnesses](#) features a [vaccine provider map](#) to help people find a vaccine provider. For Public Health-run clinics, [book an appointment online](#) or call 1-844-MAN-VACC (1-844-626-8222) Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

NICHI announces Manitoba recipients of funding to advance critical Indigenous housing projects in urban, rural and northern areas and address urgent and unmet needs

On October 23, 2024, the National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Incorporated (NICHI) and Indigenous Services Canada [announced the recipients of NICHI's expression of need process to address the critical need for safe and affordable urban, rural and northern Indigenous housing projects](#) in Manitoba. The announcement includes nearly \$21 million in funding for 7 projects in Manitoba led by:

- Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak
- 2Spirit Manitoba
- Winnipeg Indigenous Friendship Centre
- Ndinawemaaganag Endawaad Inc.
- First Nation Healing Centre Inc.
- Flin Flon Aboriginal Friendship Centre
- Manitoba Inuit Association

Through the national process, \$277.8 million is being distributed to 75 projects across the country aimed at building more than 3800 units. This funding was provided to Indigenous Services Canada through Budget 2022 and was distributed by NICHI, applying its "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" approach.

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

Prairie Green Landfill search begins

The Manitoba government has [begun the third stage of the Prairie Green Landfill search](#) for the remains of Morgan Harris and Mercedes Myran. With the completion of the search facility pad, excavators have begun moving materials above the targeted zone at the landfill, while the engineering assessment of the targeted zone has also been completed. Meanwhile, recruitment for workers has been ongoing, with the job postings for technicians closing earlier in October.

The pilot test program was completed in June 2024, which aimed to refine the search methodology, characterize deposited waste material and further understand potential challenges. The province has implemented a 5-stage approach to conducting the search. Stage four will involve the excavation and search of the targeted zone where the remains of the 2 women are believed to be located. Stage four is on track to begin in late fall 2024.

Bill 41 introduced to expand mandatory training for prospective judges and judicial justices of the peace

The Manitoba government has [introduced legislation that would expand continuing education requirements for prospective provincial court judges and judicial justices of the peace](#). Under proposed amendments to the [Provincial Court Act](#), candidates for appointment as provincial court judges would be required to participate in continuing education in 3 new areas:

- intimate partner violence
- coercive control in intimate partner and family relationships
- the experience of Indigenous persons and 2SLGBTQIA+ persons in the justice system and in society generally

These would be in addition to current requirements to participate in continuing education on sexual assault law and social context including systemic racism and systemic discrimination.

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