

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19

Update for Chiefs: August 19th, 2020

Updates

Update on Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICFS):

On August 12, Minister Miller announced an additional \$305 million for the Indigenous Community Support Fund. These investments bring the Indigenous Community Support Fund to \$685 million in total. This fund provides Indigenous leadership with the flexibility needed to design and implement community-based solutions to prepare for and react to the spread of COVID-19 within their communities. It will be distributed through a combination of allocations directly to First Nations, Inuit and Métis leadership, and needs-based funding, which will be application driven. Further details will be forthcoming and we will share information with you as soon as it is received.

Education Update:

As part of the strategy to create a safe environment for children to return to school this fall, Dr. Hinshaw, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health, is recommending that all teachers and school-based staff should get tested once before school begins in September, and regularly throughout the year, in addition to the most critical testing of anyone with symptoms. Dr. Hinshaw further recommends that Albertans who do not have coronavirus symptoms and have not been in contact with anyone diagnosed with the virus to postpone testing until September 1st, as it will allow teachers and school staff to receive their test results sooner. As you are aware, most communities have testing capacity through the Health Centres. Community nursing staff is aware of the need to prioritize this testing of teachers and school staff. In addition, school staff may access testing off reserve through completing the AHS self assessment tool. Regarding the 20/21 school year, we continue to work with your Education Directors to help support physical, mental and social health in whichever scenario your Nation chooses to implement for back to school. The ISC Education team and FNIHB are also working together on the most efficient way of flowing funding for your schools. This funding will initially cover PPE for all staff and students, as well as hand sanitization/cleaning supplies, and plexiglass barriers, etc. Communication regarding this allocation of funding will be forthcoming. Please note, that because Nominal Roll is the main driver for calculating the school funding formula, the September 30th census date and October 15th submission date is firm. These dates are firm to ensure the timely release of 2021-22 Funding Formulas

Question of the Day

Q: What further supports are available to assist our communities through COVID-19?

A: The Canada Healthy Communities Initiative, announced by Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna, will provide up to \$31 million in federal funding to support community-led solutions that respond to immediate and ongoing needs arising from COVID-19 over the next two years. The Initiative will fund smaller-scale local projects under three main themes: creating safe and vibrant public spaces, improving mobility options, and digital solutions. The goal is to fund projects that quickly help communities, including rural and remote communities, adapt to the new reality of COVID-19. More information available [here](#).

National Information

[Download COVID Alert today](#)

[Canada COVID-19 App and Self-Assessment Tool](#)

[Going out safely during COVID-19](#)

Alberta Cases:

as of August 18th, 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (August 17 th – 89 new cases)	12,419
AB Recovered Cases	11,025
Confirmed First Nations On-reserve Cases	161
On-reserve Recovered Cases	158
Calgary Zone Confirmed	6,934
Central Zone Confirmed	563
Edmonton Zone Confirmed	2,447
North Zone Confirmed	729
South Zone Confirmed	1,717
Unknown Confirmed	29
Deaths due to COVID-19	225
On-reserve Deaths due to COVID-19	1

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

Prime Minister's Youth Council

The deadline to apply for the Prime Minister's Youth Council has been extended to **August 31**. The Prime Minister's Youth Council is a group of young Canadians who provide non-partisan advice to the Prime Minister and the Government of Canada on issues of importance to them and to all Canadians. Youth Council members meet both online and in person several times a year to discuss issues that matter to their peers, their community, and their country. There may also be opportunities to engage with local and national organizations, meet with policy makers and decision-makers like Cabinet Ministers, and attend public events. More information available [here](#).

Regional Snapshot



Useful Links

AHS Indigenous People and Communities webpage for COVID-19

[AHS has been working with Indigenous communities and organizations across Alberta to support their COVID-19 responses](#)

All Chiefs Call on Education TODAY

Today at 2:30pm, an opportunity to discuss issues and concerns surrounding the return to school next month with ISC officials.

All Chief's Call with Dr. Hinshaw

Thursday, August 20th at 9:00am

Regional Contact:

Dean Janvier, Special Leadership Liaison, is available to support information sharing and to assist you in navigating questions or concerns related to COVID-19. He may be reached at Dean.Janvier@gmail.com or 780-545-6655.