

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19 Update for Chiefs: *January 6, 2021*

Updates

New Coronavirus Variant:

The Government of Canada is working with provinces, territories and international partners, to identify COVID-19 variants such as those identified in the United Kingdom and South Africa. Several cases of the new COVID-19 variant identified in the United Kingdom have now been reported in Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec. It is expected that other variants of concern will likely be found in Canada as monitoring continues. Potential implications on health impacts, diagnostics, and vaccine effectiveness are being assessed. Public Health measures continue to be effective at decreasing spread. More information can be found [here](#).

Difference Between Quarantine and Isolate:

People are asked to quarantine or isolate to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 to others. Although these two words are often thought to mean the same thing, there's an important difference.

Quarantine

If you have **no symptoms** and any of the following apply to you, you must quarantine for 14 days:

- you had close contact with someone who has or is suspected to have COVID-19
- you've been told by the public health authority that you may have been exposed to COVID-19 and need to quarantine.
- you're returning from travel **outside of Canada** (mandatory quarantine)
- you're travelling to a [province or territory](#) **that's enforcing 14-day quarantine** for all inter-provincial travellers

Isolate

You must isolate for 10 days if **any** of the following apply:

- you've been diagnosed with COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19
- you have symptoms of COVID-19, even if mild
- you've returned from travel outside Canada **with symptoms** of COVID-19

ISC Weekly COVID Vaccine Update:

ISC will run a vaccine information session every Tuesday from 1-1:30pm. These will be hosted by Dr. Parminder Thiara and Christina Smith. Contact your Community Liaison Team for more info

Question of the Day

Q: How can we access emergency isolation supports?

A: As part of the Minister's announcement regarding additional funding supports for Alberta and Saskatchewan in December, we have established a mechanism to assist Nations with emergency isolation supports when the Nation's isolation capacity has been exhausted during an outbreak. Needs will be assessed in collaboration with FNIHB's MOHs and CDC teams, and the Nation's Health / DEM staff. There are short term trailer rental options (when a Nation's capacity has been exhausted) and hotel rooms (when Provincial supports have been maximized). For more information or if your Nation is in need of emergency isolation support please contact your Community Liaison Team or email the CDE Inbox: sac.cdemergenciesab-urgencesmtab.isc@canada.ca

National Info

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

[Moderna mRNA-1273 vaccine approved by Health Canada](#)

[Dr. Adam's APTN interview](#) Dr. Evan Adams answers the questions surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine.

Alberta Cases:

as of January 5th, 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (Jan. 4 th – 843 new cases)	106,378
AB Recovered Cases	91,799
Confirmed First Nations On-reserve Cases	2965
On-reserve Recovered Cases	2275
On-Reserve Active Cases	671
Calgary Zone Confirmed	40,670
Central Zone Confirmed	7,142
Edmonton Zone Confirmed	45,652
North Zone Confirmed	7,584
South Zone Confirmed	5,119
Unknown Confirmed	211
Deaths due to COVID-19	1168
On-reserve Deaths due to COVID-19	19

Recall of Maksopia PPE

Health Canada has issued a [recall](#) warning about unauthorized personal protective equipment (PPE) that are manufactured and sold by Maksopia (formerly known as Medkem Canada Inc.). The company is selling gowns, masks, and gloves through social media and online marketing sites without the required Medical Device Establishment License from Health Canada.

Anyone who has bought PPEs from this company should stop using the equipment immediately and notify Health Canada through their online [reporting page](#). Further information about companies making false or unauthorized claims to prevent, treat, or cure COVID-19 can be found on the Government of Canada [website](#).

Regional Snapshot



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

Useful Links

Mental Health Telehealth Session:

On **January 20th**, from **10am-12pm** a telehealth titled *Helping the Helper: Resources and tools to support resilience and mental health for front end workers* will be held.

To connect to the session:

- via Zoom, go to <https://fnfn.zoom.us/join> and enter Meeting ID: 928 4795 5576 and Passcode: 864150
- from an audio line, dial 1-587-328-1099 and enter Meeting ID: 928 4795 5576 and Passcode: 864150
- from a videoconference-enabled room, go to www.fnfn.ca to register. Questions can be submitted in advance of or during the presentation to VChelp@FNTN.ca, or via Zoom during the presentation. This session will be recorded and posted to www.fnfn.ca.

AHS Vaccine Update:

AHS has developed [this FAQ site](#) which also includes further resources and an online form if you have questions that are not answered online.