

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19 Update for Chiefs: *May 28, 2020*



Updates

#ProtectOurElders Social Media Campaign:

#ProtectOurElders launches today! Alexis Nakota Sioux First Nation, with funding support from ISC-FNIHB, is launching #ProtectOurElders, a social media campaign that aims to educate and motivate Indigenous youth to adhere to public health measures during COVID-19. Focusing on protecting the knowledge keepers, #ProtectourElders features personalities such as Ethan Bear, hockey player with the Edmonton Oilers; Ashley Callingbull, actor and model, and Sarain Fox, actress and activist; asking youth to practice physical distancing, wash hands, avoid touching your face and limit all unnecessary contact with Elders. Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation has developed a YouTube channel, website, a series of videos and a contest in a bid to raise awareness of COVID-19 with Indigenous youth and of their responsibility in keeping traditional knowledge and Elders safe.

How can you support the campaign? Use the hashtag #ProtectOurElders, share the videos, visit the website and encourage youth in your communities to make their own videos and enter the contest to have a virtual meeting with one of the high profile personalities. See the videos [here](#) and learn more at www.protectourelders.ca

On-Line Tool for finding Financial Help:

The Honourable Joyce Murray, Minister of Digital Government, announced a web-based benefits finder tool, “Find financial help during COVID-19” at canada.ca/coronavirusbenefits, to help people living in Canada determine which government benefits programs best meet their needs. Designed as a straightforward survey, the site can list and point the user towards what programs are available nationally as well as provincially for financial COVID-19 relief. The site will not tell you if you are eligible but does provide a comprehensive list of program supports and is quite user friendly.

Question of the Day

Q: Where else can my members access mental health supports during this time?

A: Text4Hope originally launched in March to help those looking for support during the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 45,000 Albertans have subscribed to this service, and others can still join by texting COVID19HOPE to 393939. The program is expanding to reach more Albertans. Text4Hope-Addiction Support and Text4Hope-Cancer Care are designed to help Albertans dealing with psychological issues related to addiction and cancer issues..

Text “Open2Change” to 393939 to subscribe to the addiction program.

Text “CancerCare” to 393939 to subscribe to the cancer program.

National Information

[Epidemiological summary of COVID-19 cases in First Nations communities](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and Indigenous communities](#)

The Hope for Wellness Help Line is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week to support members of your community experiencing emotional distress and may be reached directly by dialling **1-855-242-3310** or via online chat at: hopeforwellness.ca



Alberta Cases:

as of May 27 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (May 27 – 25 new cases)	6,926
AB Recovered Cases	6,106
Confirmed First Nations On-reserve Cases	40
On-reserve Recovered Cases	31
Calgary Zone Confirmed	4,804
Central Zone Confirmed	99
Edmonton Zone Confirmed	527
North Zone Confirmed	237
South Zone Confirmed	1,235
Unknown Confirmed	24
Deaths due to COVID-19	141

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

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

As mentioned in the May 16, 2020 update, the first Canadian clinical trial for a potential COVID-19 vaccination was approved by Health Canada. The Canadian Center for Vaccinology at Dalhousie University will begin the clinical trials of a COVID-19 vaccine. If successful, manufacturing will be done domestically for rapid dissemination. It is difficult to determine when a COVID-19 vaccine will be available to the public, but any COVID-19 vaccine would be free and available to all Canadians.

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](#)

NO Telehealth Session Today:

- The regularly scheduled Telehealth session will not occur today. It will be moved to Thursday, June 4th.

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.