



For more information:
Canada.ca/coronavirus

Information for First Nations communities:
Canada.ca/coronavirus-info-Indigenous

COVID-19 UPDATE

To our partners,

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues, governments all across Canada, including Indigenous governments and organizations, are focused on protecting the health and well-being of our citizens.

Over the last week, Indigenous Services Canada has fielded a number of questions about the provision of funding to our partner organizations, and how it will be impacted by current events.

It is in this context that we are reaching out to share the following information with you. We want to assure you that we will continue to deliver critical services and support you in the delivery of such services in your communities.

We recognize that First Nations, Inuit, and Metis governments and organizations are taking action to protect their communities and the most vulnerable, and to ensure that support and assistance is available to those who need it during this difficult time. Indigenous Services Canada is ready to support you in your efforts.

In particular, we would like to assure you that the flow of expected funding for 2020-21 will continue without interruption. You can expect grants, contributions, transfers, and other payments to continue as scheduled, for the duration of this crisis.

We understand that the sudden emergence of this situation may have affected planned spending of funds that were allocated for February and March. We wish to assure you that ISC is taking action to ensure that funding for planned activities that do not occur by March 31st, due to the unforeseen crisis, can be carried forward to next fiscal year. Situations will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis, in full recognition of the extraordinary circumstances we now find ourselves in.

Equally, we do not want you to be concerned about the Department clawing back funding on existing programs and services in 2020/21 based on delays in undertaking activities due to the COVID-19 emergency. We understand that some of you have asked if you should be laying off staff who currently are unable to move forward on program implementation; we wish to clarify that you are not expected to take these measures.





For general information on COVID-19, please visit the Public Health Agency of Canada's [website](#), which is being updated regularly. Information is also available on ISC's website at Canada.ca/coronavirus-info-indigenous, including a recent [Public Service Announcement](#) – available in 20 Indigenous Languages - which speaks to the importance of social distancing. Also ISC is working with PHAC to assist in obtaining translations of a few of their fact sheets. While not all languages are up as of yet – we encourage you to check back regularly to see if the information is update. The fact sheets include:

- [About coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Know the facts about COVID-19](#)
- [Reduce the spread of COVID-19 – Wash your hands](#)
- [Be prepared – Infographic](#)
- [Be prepared - factsheet](#)
- [How to care for a person with COVID-19 at home – Advice for caregivers](#)
- [How to isolate at home when you have COVID-19](#)

Support is also available should you wish to speak to a mental health counsellor. Please call the toll-free Help Line at 1-855-242-3310, connect to the online chat at [hopeforwellness.ca](https://www.hopeforwellness.ca), or visit <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576089519527/1576089566478> for more information.