



Indigenous Services Canada
Saskatchewan Region
1783 Hamilton St
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2B6

March 20, 2020

Re: COVID-19

Dear Chiefs in Saskatchewan First Nations

These are unprecedented times and we recognize and acknowledge your efforts and focus on coordination, collaboration, and communication in response to Covid- 19. Indigenous Services Canada is committed to working with you to prepare and respond to this situation. Please find enclosed the **COVID-19: First Nations Community Guide on Accessing Additional Supports**. This Guide is meant to support your community and Tribal Council efforts as you plan and prepare for COVID-19 and activate your All-Hazard and Pandemic Plans.

To ensure the ongoing delivery of critical services and core programs, ISC- Saskatchewan Region has enacted our Business Continuity Plan to ensure essential programs, services and assistance remain available to First Nations communities and members. Essential services include, but are not limited to:

- primary health care and health protection services
- non-insured health benefits
- emergency management measures
- Jordan's principle
- management of health facilities
- any operations required to maintain safety at any environmental remediation site
- provision of funding for community services such as Child Family Service, Income Assistance

Our teams are available to guide you in how to access additional resources for Public Health- Related Emergency Supports and/or supports through the Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP). Going forward, we have created an email account for you to ask any specific questions related to COVID-19 and to provide support for response to meet your community needs. Please send to aadnc.skemergency.aandc@canada.ca to help us ensure a coordinated and integrated response from the region.

Our commitment to the Chiefs in Saskatchewan is to provide you with regular updates on the evolving situation of Covid- 19. We will continue to do so every Tuesday afternoon via teleconference. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us directly.

Sincerely,

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cc:

Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations
Tribal Councils
Northern Inter Tribal Health Authority
Health Directors
Band Administrators
Education Directors