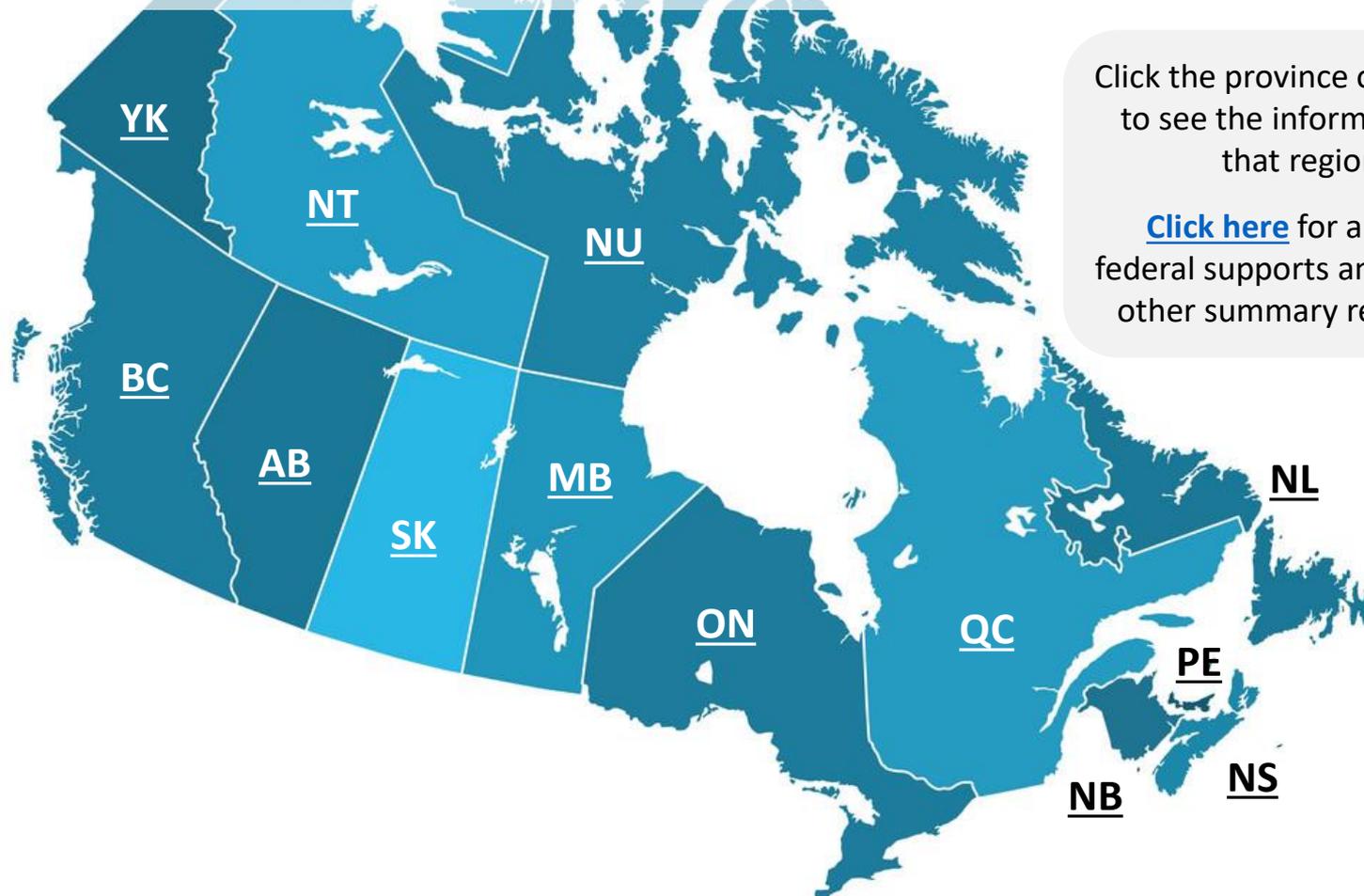


COVID-19: Supports for Indigenous Peoples – Federal/Provincial/Territorial

This deck presents a scan of publicly available information on federal, provincial, and territorial supports for Indigenous peoples in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The information below should not be considered exhaustive of all available supports and resources. **Updates since May 14 are highlighted.**



Click the province or territory to see the information for that region.

[Click here](#) for a scan of federal supports and [here](#) for other summary resources.



Federal Supports Scan

Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and Indigenous Communities](#) webpage is updated daily.

NOTE: The information included is not exhaustive of all federal supports and resources for Indigenous peoples. This information is provided to illustrate some of the supports available and to give a national context for the provincial and territorial supports subsequently outlined.

The Government of Canada has announced two primary funding tracks through which Indigenous communities can access resources:

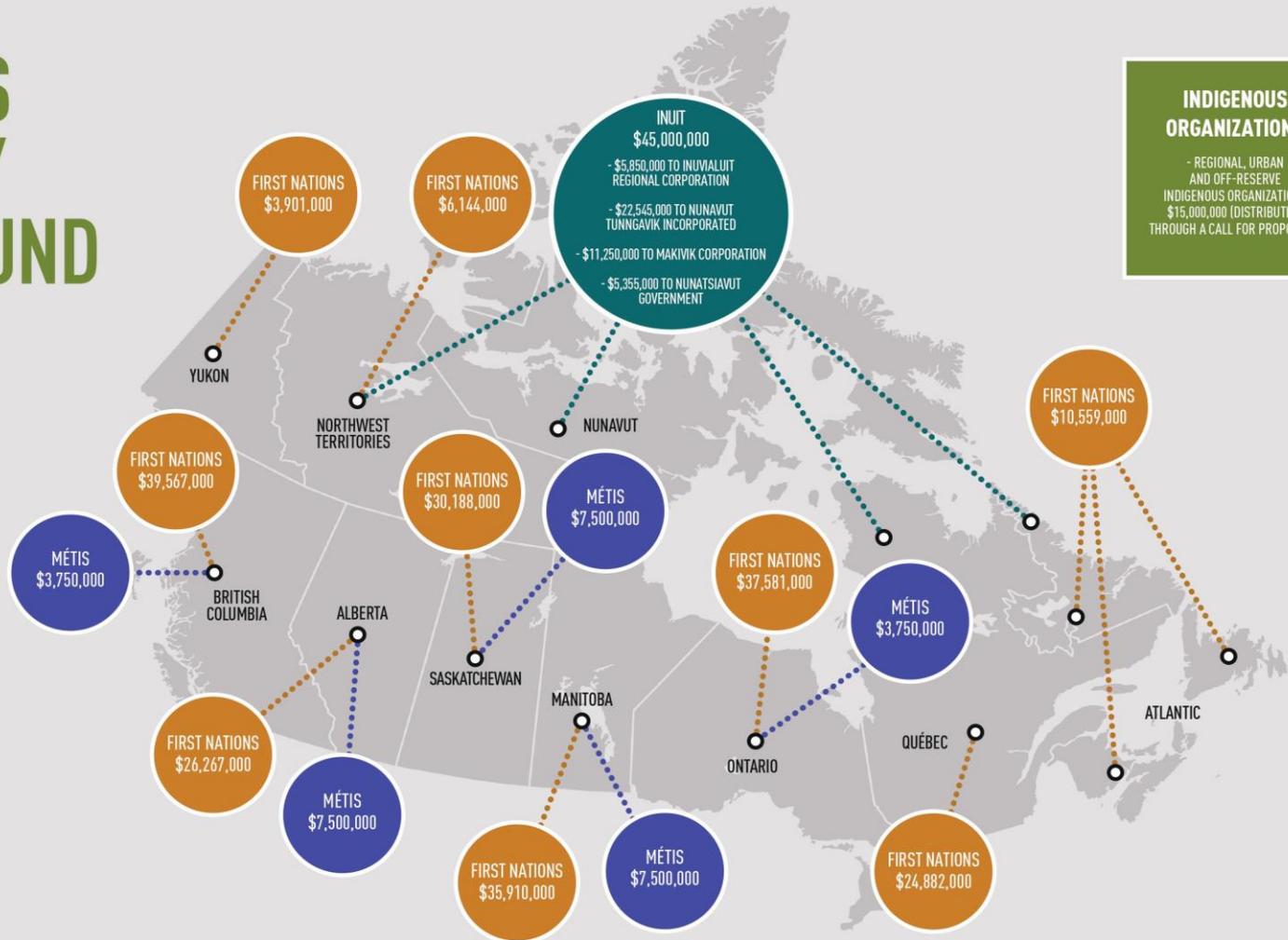
- 1. \$100 million for areas of federal responsibility,** including for First Nations, Inuit and Métis community public health needs. Indigenous Services Canada's [COVID-19: First Nations Community Guide on Accessing Additional Supports](#) outlines how to access support through this fund or other existing programs for which expenditures related to COVID-19 may be eligible. Funding is designed to:
 - respond to identified needs to update and/or activate pandemic plans;
 - support an effective allocation of public health and primary health care capacity to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak;
 - align response efforts with scientific evidence as determined by a medical officer of health; and
 - address immediate needs in the short term.
- 2. \$305 million for a new [Indigenous Community Support Fund](#)** that will directly support Indigenous communities and organizations and will provide Indigenous leadership with the flexibility needed as they prepare for and react to the spread of COVID-19. Funding will be distributed as follows:
 - \$215 million for First Nations: allocated to each First Nation based on population, remoteness and community well-being;
 - \$45 million for Inuit, which will flow to each of the four land claims organizations through an allocation determined by the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and regional Inuit land claims organizations;
 - \$30 million for Métis Nation communities, which will flow through each of the Governing Members;
 - \$15 million for regional and urban Indigenous organizations supporting their members living away from their communities, and to regional organizations such as Friendship Centres and the Métis Settlements General Council of Alberta. Organizations can apply through the [Call for Proposals](#).
 - (See [below](#) for the distribution of the Indigenous Community Support Fund by region.)

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

\$305,000,000

BREAKDOWN

- First Nations \$215,000,000
- Inuit \$45,000,000
- Métis \$30,000,000



INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS

- REGIONAL, URBAN AND OFF-RESERVE INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS \$15,000,000 (DISTRIBUTION THROUGH A CALL FOR PROPOSALS)



Federal Supports Scan (Continued)

The following federal investments and initiatives also impact Indigenous peoples:

Health & Social Supports:

- [\\$40 million](#) in funding to Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE), up to \$30 million of which will address immediate needs of shelters and sexual assault centres.
- [\\$10 million](#) in funding to ISC's existing network of 46 emergency shelters on reserve and in Yukon to support Indigenous women and children fleeing violence.
- Additional supports through the [Canada Child Benefit](#) in May and July.
- \$350 million through the new [Emergency Community Support Fund](#).
- [Additional measures to help seniors](#) through payments through the Old Age Security pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), an additional investment of \$20 million to the New Horizons for Seniors Program, and extending GIS and Allowance payments.
- [\\$240.5 million to develop, expand, and launch virtual care and mental health tools](#) in partnership with provinces and territories.
- [\\$75 million in new funding for Indigenous organizations providing services to Indigenous peoples in urban centres and off reserve](#). This additional funding will support more community-based projects, including food security, mental health support services, sanitation, and protective equipment (May 21).

Employment & Economic Supports:

- The [Canada Emergency Response Benefit](#).
- Special measures within the [Employment Insurance Work Sharing Program](#).
- [Tax-filing deadline](#) extension to June 1, 2020.
- [\\$306.8 million in funding to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses](#), and to support Aboriginal Financial Institutions.
- [Application documents and updated criteria are now available](#) for the [Canada Emergency Rent Assistance \(CECRA\)](#) program for small businesses (applications open May 25) .
- Through the new [Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund](#), Canada is providing \$62.5 million of new assistance to the fish and seafood processing sector (April 25). [An additional \\$469.4 million in new measures](#) was announced May 14 to support fish harvesters, who are economically impacted by the pandemic but cannot access existing federal measures.
- [\\$252 million and other important measures to support farmers, food businesses, and food processors](#).
- All provinces and territories are working to cost share wage top-ups for their essential workers. [The federal government will provide up to \\$3 billion to increase the wages of low-income essential workers](#).
- The Prime Minister and First Ministers agreed to a set of [common principles for restarting the Canadian economy](#), released April 28.

Federal Supports Scan (Continued)

The following federal investments and initiatives also impact Indigenous peoples:

Employment & Economic Supports (Continued):

- The [Canada Emergency Business Account](#) (\$25 billion program) provides interest-free loans to small businesses and not-for-profits, to help cover their operating costs during a period where their revenues have been temporarily reduced, due to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Education:

- [\\$9 billion in financial aid for post-secondary students](#), including \$75 million for Indigenous post-secondary students.

[Supports in the North:](#)

- \$72.6 million to the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut to support their COVID-19 health and social services preparations and response.
- Up to \$17.3 million to the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut to support northern air carriers. This funding is in partnership with investments by the territorial governments.
- \$15 million in non-repayable support for businesses in the territories to help address the impacts of COVID-19.
- An additional \$25 million to Nutrition North Canada to increase subsidies so families can afford much-needed nutritious food and personal hygiene products.

- [Support from the Canadian Armed Forces](#) to communities in response to the pandemic, including the deployment of Canadian Rangers in northern Ontario, Nunavik, and the Basse-Côte-Nord region.

British Columbia

The Government of British Columbia has announced several measures and resources in response to COVID-19 for British Columbians [in general](#) and for [Indigenous peoples](#).

Indigenous Health:

- The Province's [\\$5 billion COVID-19 Action Plan](#) includes a \$1.7 billion funding increase for critical services, including services provided by the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA).
- [Mental health services have been made available virtually](#) to connect Indigenous Peoples and those living in remote communities.
- [A new collaborative framework](#) will help ensure people living in rural, remote and Indigenous communities have access to critical health care during the COVID-19 pandemic and into the future.
- Numerous resources are available through the [FNHA](#) including: [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#), a [COVID-19 podcast](#), a [PPE request form and process](#), and the [First Nations Virtual Doctor of the Day program](#).

The North:

- An [additional \\$75 million through](#) the 2020 Northern Capital and Planning Grant to provide \$50 million directly to local governments to help address infrastructure needs and \$25 million to communities as they prepare for major economic development through the BC Northern Healthy Communities Fund.

Education:

- [An additional \\$1.5 million to supplement the Indigenous Emergency Assistance Fund](#).

Social Supports:

- [900 spaces in shelters](#) have been secured for homeless people, those without a safe space, and youth. In addition, there are [more than 100 transition houses and safe homes](#) supported on an ongoing basis.
- The Province is opening [a 45-bed emergency response centre with wraparound supports](#) for people living in encampments in Victoria.
- [BC is inviting non-profit and Indigenous housing societies, First Nations, housing co-operatives and municipalities to propose new affordable housing projects for the second intake of the Building BC: Community Housing Fund.](#)

Economic Support:

- Temporary relief for those whose ability to work has been affected by COVID-19 is being provided through the \$1,000 [B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers](#) opening on May 1, 2020.
- BC released a [Restart Plan](#) that lays out a series of steps to protect people and ensure a strong recovery from COVID-19 (May 6).
- [As part of a cost-shared program with the federal government, eligible front-line workers will receive temporary pandemic pay, a lump-sum payment of about \\$4 per hour for a 16-week period, starting on March 15, 2020.](#)

Alberta

Support for Albertans in general during the COVID-19 crisis are being communicated on the Government of Alberta [website](#). The Emergency Isolation Support program is now closed as it served as a temporary stop-gap until federal funding was available through the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, other [supports for Albertans can be found here](#).

Alberta Indigenous Relations is coordinating with ISC, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Emergency Management Agency, provincial ministries, and Indigenous communities and organizations to ensure all Indigenous people in Alberta have access to supplies and quality care through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most Indigenous people in Alberta live in urban communities and, as residents, are part of those centers' emergency plans and responses. Métis Settlements are unique to Alberta. Although they will receive federal support, most of their funding comes from the Province.

Social Supports:

- Municipalities and charitable and non-profit organizations providing social services support will receive [\\$60 million](#). This includes [\\$30 million](#) in funding for homeless shelters and women's emergency shelters to address social distancing, sanitation and other Alberta Health guidelines. [\\$25 million](#) will support homeless populations and \$5 million will be allocated to women's shelters. This funding includes the Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association, with 21 locations throughout the province.
- [Up to \\$17.8 million in grants](#) will be provided to child care centres and approved family day home agencies to help them restart as restrictions lift.

Health:

- [Alberta's \\$53M COVID-19 Mental Health Response Plan](#) includes:
 - \$21.4 million to improve access to phone and online supports with existing helplines, including the Addiction Helpline, the Mental health helpline, Kids Help Phone and the Community and Social Services Helpline.
 - \$2.6 million to expand individual and group treatment to address family violence, addiction and mental health for Albertans.
 - \$4.2 million to expand the addiction and mental health support available through the Primary Care Network.
 - \$25 million for a new community grant program to enhance community mental health and addiction recovery for the public, including Indigenous communities, seniors, families and people experiencing social barriers, who are negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Economic:

- [Alberta released their relaunch strategy](#) with the first stage beginning as early as May 14.

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's [COVID-19 information page](#) outlines public health orders, testing details, direction for health care providers, support for businesses and workers, and other pertinent information for the province.

To date, no Indigenous-specific funding has been announced. Saskatchewan's [resource page](#) refers to the [Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations](#) for additional supports and information for Indigenous peoples in Saskatchewan.

Economic Status and Supports:

- Saskatchewan has announced financial supports for [businesses](#) and [workers](#) impacted by COVID-19, such as the [self-isolation support program](#), a three-month PST remittance deferral and audit suspension, and Crown utility interest deferral programs.
- On April 22, Saskatchewan announced plans to slowly reopen the provincial economy based on a [5 phase plan](#) beginning in May 2020.
- \$1 million to support a province-wide marketing campaign to encourage Saskatchewan residents to support local businesses and their employees. The "[Together We Stand](#)" campaign will be led by the Regina and District Chamber of Commerce.
- [On May 6, the Government announced a \\$7.5 billion, two-year capital plan](#) to stimulate Saskatchewan's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The \$7.5 billion in infrastructure funding represents a \$2.0 billion increase over the existing capital plan.
- The [Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment program](#) is being extended to the month of May for businesses that are required to remain closed or substantially curtail operations after May 19, 2020.

The North:

- Regular COVID updates and information are being provided on the radio across the North in four languages: English, Cree, Dene and Michif.
- [An additional \\$370,000 to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the north](#), \$350,000 will be used to establish, staff and maintain community checkpoints. The Northern Village of La Loche will receive \$20,000 directly.

Métis Nation in Saskatchewan (MN-S):

MN-S has implemented a [province-wide COVID-19 relief action plan](#) that includes:

- A \$2.88 million investment with \$110,000 to each of the MN-S twelve regions as the first relief response of COVID-19 for immediate needs.
- Emergency Housing Support Program: \$500 maximum per Métis household
- Childcare Support: One-time funding of \$500 per child

[\\$2.3 million in support of the ongoing effort to combat COVID-19 in northwestern Saskatchewan](#), through the North West Saskatchewan Pandemic Response Plan, a collective effort between First Nation, Métis, municipal, provincial, and federal partners.

Manitoba

Manitoba's [COVID-19 information page](#) provides updates, testing details, health directives, support for Manitobans, support for businesses and workers, and other pertinent information for the province.

Data sharing with First Nations:

- Manitoba health officials have established [an agreement with First Nations leaders to track and share COVID-19 data](#).

Supports for Manitobans:

[Several steps](#) have been taken to support the general population in response to COVID-19, including:

- \$400 million in measures in the Manitoba Protection Plan to assist homeowners and businesses and enhance health preparedness.
- Up to \$1.2 million to add more than 140 shelter beds including repurposing a vacant Manitoba Housing building to create new beds, add 35 beds to the Main Street Project and 50 beds at Siloam Mission.
- Funding support for child-care services for critical service providers including \$18 million for the creation of new independent child-care spaces, \$7.6 million continuation of child-care operating grants and \$2 million for a capital grants trust.
- Up to \$120 million to support small and medium-sized businesses through the Manitoba Gap Protection Program (MGPP) for businesses who do not qualify for federal supports.
- Partnering with the federal government to provide additional [\\$120 million in compensation to front-line workers](#).

On April 29, Manitoba announced its [Restoring Safe Services: Manitoba's Pandemic Economic Recovery Roadmap](#).

Métis Nation in Manitoba

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) has announced several initiatives to support citizens:

- A \$1 million [Health Action Plan](#) that includes supports for vulnerable citizens, and funding for Métis entrepreneurs and workers whose incomes are affected (including the [MMF Bridge Financing Initiative](#)).
- Three mobile homes to be used as isolation units that can be moved anywhere in the province.
- Two secure, 48-bed, fully accessible health facilities (through Métis N4 Construction).
- [\\$400,000 in support of Métis employers](#).

Supports and initiatives in the North:

- Virtual town hall meetings are being held every Tuesday and Thursday with Northern Affairs community councils and leadership.
- As of April 17, travel to northern Manitoba has been prohibited with some exceptions, including movement within the north for residents, delivery of goods and services, and travel for employment, medical treatment or to facilitate child custody agreements.

Ontario

Ontario's [COVID-19 information page](#) provides critical information for the province on health directives; supports for people, workers, businesses, students and parents; testing information; and provincial statistics.

With its initial \$17 billion [response](#) on March 17, Ontario announced \$4 million for Indigenous communities to support transportation costs for health care professionals and the distribution of critical supplies.

In addition, as part of Ontario's [Action Plan: Response to COVID-19](#), Ontario is investing [over \\$37 million](#) to support efforts to ensure the health and well-being of Indigenous people and communities, including:

- \$16.4 million to provide emergency funds for various critical supports
- \$10 million to support Indigenous communities and agencies in responding to the needs of vulnerable children, families and elders during the outbreak;
- \$7.4 million to help social service providers, charities and non-profits delivering critical housing services to Indigenous people living off-reserve; and
- \$4 million to ensure continued service to remote and northern airports, enabling essential goods and services to continue reaching isolated communities.

Social Services:

- [Funding](#) for municipalities/organizations that support shelter systems and that deliver social services to vulnerable First Nations individuals and families.
- [\\$40 million to residential services](#) for children, youth, people who are disabled and shelters for women and families escaping violence.

- [\\$4 million to victim services](#). An [additional \\$1 million to help frontline agencies](#) adapt to remote service delivery and ensure continued operations to support victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking.
- [Up to \\$1.5 million in funding to the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada's COVID-19 Youth Support Fund](#).

Frontline Workers:

- Expanding the list of essential workers eligible to receive [emergency child care](#) (includes First Nations constables, workers in shelters, and many others).
- [Temporary pandemic pay](#) of an additional \$4/hour for frontline workers and monthly lump sum payments of \$250 for four months to eligible frontline workers.

Businesses and the Economy:

- \$241 million in urgent relief for small businesses and landlords through the [new Ontario-Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program](#).
- [\\$2.5 million](#) and an [additional \\$2.25 million](#) through the Agri-Food Open for E-Business initiative.
- [\\$3.5 million](#) available to help protect people and jobs in northern, rural and Indigenous communities, while supporting long-term forest sustainability.
- On April 27, Ontario [released A Framework for Reopening our Province](#). [Stage 1 began May 19](#).
- [New programs to help people return to work that focus on hospitality workers and apprentices \(May 22\)](#).

Quebec

Quebec's [COVID-19 information page](#) provides critical information for the province on health directives; supports for people, workers, and businesses; information for schools and daycare centres; testing details; provincial statistics; a self-care guide; and ways to offer help.

Quebec has unveiled various social [economic response measures](#), including:

- \$8.3 billion in tax flexibility measures.
- \$2.5 billion in financing to support Quebec businesses.
- [Suspension of late payment penalties](#) for Hydro Québec services until further notice.
- [\\$2.5 million](#) in emergency funding to women's shelters and women's assistance organizations.
- Suspension of [student loan debt repayment for 6 months](#), including borrowers whose accounts are in collection.
- [Housing measures](#) include interest-free loans to help individuals to pay their rents from the Société d'Habitation du Québec and financial support for individuals who need to find temporary accommodation. A [\\$3 million emergency fund](#) will be provided to community and private organizations offering emergency housing.
- [\\$31 million in new investments for the implementation of a new Mental Health- Covid-19 action plan](#).

[On April 28, the government announced that various sectors and businesses may resume operations gradually.](#)

To date, no announcements have been made specific to financial support for Indigenous communities. However, the Province is ensuring that communities receive and share important information:

- A crisis unit is in place to support the interventions of Indigenous authorities, a unit in which the governments of Quebec and Canada participate, as well as several Indigenous organizations.
- The opening of a targeted communication channel with Inuit who live with particular challenges due to their geographic positioning.
- Information is shared daily through several platforms and formats. The latest [Information Bulletin for Indigenous Peoples](#) in Quebec is dated as of [March 25, 2020](#), and references resources also provided by the [Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador](#), the [Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services](#), and the [Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay](#).

New Brunswick

New Brunswick has announced a number of new measures, including:

- [Relief on co-pay for drug plans](#)
- [Child care](#) for those who lost income and essential workers
- [Income support](#) and job protection for workers
- [Elimination of interest](#)
- [Support for businesses](#)
- [Low-income Seniors' Benefit](#)
- [Continuity of Learning Plan](#): The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has invested \$860,000 towards new equipment for home learning

Workers who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 state of emergency in New Brunswick, including the self-employed, are eligible for [one-time payments of \\$900](#). The province announced these payments March 24 and said they are aimed at bridging the gap between the loss of work and federal benefits taking effect.

To date, Indigenous-specific support has not been announced.

New Brunswick [loosened some of its physical distancing measures](#) April 24 after its seventh straight day with no new cases of COVID-19. The Province is allowing more businesses and services to open as it launches Phase 2 of the [recovery plan](#).

Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island has announced new measures on their [COVID-19 Information Page](#), including:

- Supports for Landlords and Renters
- Emergency Child Care Services
- Broadband Fund for Businesses
- Commercial Lease Rent Deferral Program
- Emergency Income Relief for the Self-Employed
- Emergency Relief - Worker Assistance Program
- Emergency Working Capital Financing
- Employee Gift Card Program

Announced April 28, [Renew PEI, Together](#) outlines the guiding principles and phased approach to the reopening of businesses, services and public spaces. The first phase began on May 1.

To date, Indigenous-specific support has not been announced.

Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia has announced support for individuals, families, and businesses, such as:

- [Measures to support vulnerable Nova Scotians](#) (e.g. an additional \$50 for every family member and individual on income assistance)
- [Deferred government loan payments, suspended student loan payments, and small business renewal fee payments](#)
- [Changes to the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program](#)
- [Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative](#)
- [Relief for commercial tenants](#)
- [Relief for most vulnerable Nova Scotians](#) (e.g. \$200,000 to support transition houses as well as other organizations that serve vulnerable women and children; providing 100 phones with calling plans)
- A \$20 million Worker Emergency Bridge Fund to help the self-employed and those laid-off workers who do not qualify for Employment Insurance ([Announced](#) April 2)
- \$20 million to fund a new program: the Small Business Impact Grant ([Announced](#) April 2)
- \$9 million to provide temporary financial support for small businesses ([Announced](#) April 24)

On May 1, Premier Stephen McNeil and Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health, announced the [easing of some public health restrictions around COVID-19](#).

Most information is being communicated through the [COVID-19: support for Nova Scotians and businesses](#) webpage.

To date, Indigenous-specific support has not been announced.

Newfoundland & Labrador

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has [announced](#) support such as funding for early childhood educators, parents, and students struggling to deal with lost work, income and childcare. The Government has also suspended interest on and payment of all provincial student loans until September 30, 2020.

Other initiatives announced include:

- A toll-free number to provide access to child and adult protection and family services.
- The expiry date for fuel tax exemption permits has been postponed to June 30, 2020 from March 31, 2020. The fuel tax exemption allows permit holders to purchase tax-exempt marked gasoline and light fuel oil.
- The government will [increase access to technology](#) for families who, before COVID-19, were having in-person visits with their children who are in care.
- [Compensation for private sector employers](#) for continuation of pay to employees who were required to self-isolate for 14-days due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions. This includes individuals who are self-employed.
- The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is partnering with 811 Healthline and community organizations to [connect residents of the province who are experiencing food insecurity with community food programs](#) and other supports to access food.
- The Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation announced (May 6) [provincial actions for eligible business clients](#).

On April 30, the Chief Medical Officer of Health announced the [Plan for Living with COVID-19 in Newfoundland and Labrador](#).

To date, Indigenous-specific support has not been announced.

Nunavut

The majority of the population of Nunavut are Inuit. The territorial government has announced several [COVID-19 supports](#), including:

- Nunavut's hunters and trappers organizations are receiving \$25,000 to support community-organized harvesting to help with [food insecurity during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). Licensed daycares in the territory are also receiving a total of \$531,000 to support workers who are losing money due to daycare closures.
- A \$5K relief grant is in place for [small businesses impacted by COVID-19](#). The grant is also available to Nunavut artists and craft persons who make all or most of their income through their own product sales, and to harvesters who make all or most of their income through hunting or fishing through commercial quotas. The money will be provided through the territory's existing small business support program.
- The Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated are each donating \$1 million to [community-based food programs for children and Elders during COVID-19](#). These funds will provide nutritious meals for Nunavut's most vulnerable, using communities' existing expertise and networks during COVID-19-related school closures. Communities under 1,000 people will receive \$40,000, communities over 1,000 people will receive \$90,000, and Iqaluit will receive \$200,000.
- The Department of Community and Government services is providing an additional [\\$2 million to municipalities to cover expenses related to COVID-19](#). This additional funding will ensure that hamlets are able to provide unforeseen services in response to the pandemic. Eligible expenses include but are not limited to the purchase of cleaning materials, hiring additional staff, expenses for additional road clearing, by-law and enforcement patrols, and to cover lost revenues resulting from facility closures.
- The Department of Economic Development and Transportation (EDT) is working jointly with Nunavut Development Corporation (NDC) to produce non-medical masks for public use. [This represents an initial investment of \\$35,000.](#)

Northwest Territories

The government website is updated daily and lists the [continuing programs and services](#) available during this time.

COVID-19 NWT Daily updates can be found at: <https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/covid19dailybrief>

The Government of Northwest Territories announced an initial economic [relief package](#) valued at \$13.2 million, intended to work in concert with federal incentives under Canada's \$27 billion COVID-19 Economic Response Plan.

The following additional investments and supports were announced after the initial economic relief package:

- An additional [\\$8.26 million](#) to help businesses and communities in response to COVID-19. The announcement brings the territorial government's relief package total to about \$21.5 million.
- [Support](#) for Indigenous families who are choosing to be on the land to escape the spread of the COVID-19 virus. \$2.6 million in federal money for the "At Home on the Land" initiative to increase physical distancing during the pandemic. The money will be distributed through existing partnerships and community-based governments.
- The [Residential Tenancies \(COVID-19\) Regulations](#), a new temporary regulation that offers tenants a mechanism to defer their rent if they have lost their job or have had a significant decline in their income during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [\\$5.106 million](#) to immediately create four temporary child care initiatives that will support parents providing essential services and lessen the financial impacts on licensed family day homes and centre-based child care programs.
- [Funding applications](#) are being accepted from Northwest Territories businesses and artists interested in manufacturing Personal Protective Equipment as well as other non-medical products.
- A second intake of applications for [low interest loans to support NWT businesses](#) through the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Tax exemptions of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit \(CERB\) and the Canada Emergency Student Benefit \(CESB\) for Income Assistance \(IA\) clients.](#)
- [\\$86,000 to Northwest Territories Community Futures Development Corporations \(CFDC\)](#) for deferred loan payments for their clients in the same way that the Business Development and Investment Corporation has done.
- Waiving rent on existing surface dispositions on public land for the fiscal year 2020-21. [Rent relief](#) is available to all holders of existing recreational, residential, and commercial and mining surface dispositions on public land.
- [Up to \\$6.2 million to temporarily top up wages](#) for workers making less than \$18 per hour.
- [Support for professional artists](#) recovering from the impacts of COVID-19.

Yukon

Indigenous peoples in the Yukon make up approximately one quarter of the total population in the territory.

The Government of Yukon has announced [measures](#) such as funding for arts and culture sectors, business support for cancelled events, paid sick rebate for employers, changes to the Yukon Nominee Program, and support for tourism organizations.

Specific other initiatives and investments include:

- \$4 million in relief funding for [businesses and workers](#) affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.
- The Commissioner of Yukon, the Bishop of the Anglican Church and the Skookum Jim Indian Trust Fund are working together to launch the [Daisy Mason Wellness Fund](#). It will provide financial assistance to First Nations residents behind initiatives that help people in their community through well-being, healing and personal development training and activities. The Daisy Mason Wellness Fund will be awarded on June 21, 2020 on National Indigenous Peoples day.
- Support is available to address the economic impacts of [event cancellations related to COVID-19](#) and to help businesses recover certain costs from the cancellation of major events due to COVID-19. This includes the Arctic Winter Games and Yukon Native Hockey Tournament. All eligible Yukon businesses and NGOs may apply.
- [325 phones](#) with internet access to women vulnerable to violence for four months beginning in April 2020, to ensure they have options to safely access necessary supports.
- Yukon's licensed child care centres and family day homes will receive [additional funding to provide care to children](#) during the COVID-19 response and beyond it.
- Yukon businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic will receive funding to cover fixed business costs, including rent, utilities and business insurance. The [Yukon Business Relief Program](#) will help Yukon businesses that have experienced a 30 per cent reduction in revenue and require immediate relief. Eligible businesses can apply for a grant of up to \$30,000 per month to cover fixed costs from March 23 to May 22, 2020.
- Tenants and landlords who are affected by income losses during the COVID-19 pandemic will receive support from the new [COVID-19 Rent Assist program](#).
- [Families with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 impacted by COVID-19 are eligible for \\$250 per student.](#)
- [Extensions to the Yukon Business Relief Program to support businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.](#)

Additional Resources

Resources summarizing Provincial and Territorial Responses:

- The Council of the Federation - [Links to each province and territory's COVID-19 response page](#)
- EY Canada's Tax Alerts - [information on the federal government's recent tax and economic measures](#)
- Canadian Law Firm McCarthy Tétrault's [COVID-19: Economic relief measures announced to date](#)
- Canadian Law Firm McCarthy Tétrault's [COVID-19: Emergency Measures Tracker](#)
- Childcare Canada, [Status of child care in Canada in the COVID crisis – Provinces/territories](#)

COVID-19: Supports for Indigenous Peoples – Worldwide:

- A scan is available on [GCdocs](#) and [Google Docs](#) that outlines a list of countries and some measures taken by countries and organizations to assist Indigenous Populations worldwide in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This resource is updated weekly.
- [Information on relevant United Nations resolutions, events, webinars, and upcoming events – available on GCdocs and Google Docs.](#)

Summaries of Federal Investments or Indigenous Representative Organizations' Resource Pages:

Assembly of First Nations

- Assembly of First Nations Resource Page: <https://www.afn.ca/coronavirus/>
- National Chief Perry Bellegarde Bulletin – [Covid-19 and Canada's Economic Response Plan \(March 19, 2020\)](#)

Métis Nation

- Métis National Council, COVID-19 resource page: <https://metisnation.ca/covid19/>.
- Métis Nation Ontario, "[Fact Sheet - COVID-19 Financial Supports](#)" (Federal and Ontario)

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

- Resource Page: <https://www.itk.ca/category/covid19/>
- [COVID-19 Federal Benefits Access Tool](#)