

AFN Alberta COVID-19 Bulletin



Wednesday, June 17

AFN Alberta is summarizing updates and information we are receiving on our website. All our previous bulletins can be found on this page as well: <http://www.afnab.ca/News-and-Events/Coronavirus>.

AFN Alberta will be transitioning to providing the daily bulletin every other business day in June as we begin our slow and phased transition back to regular operations. The next bulletin will be Friday, June 19. Critical or time sensitive information will still be provided in real time as needed. Thank you for your understanding.

DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

AB Testing Results	June 15	June 17	Change
Tests Completed	343,311	356,818	+13,507
Total Positive	7,453	7,530	+77
Active	440	486	+46
Fatalities	151	151	+0
Recoveries	6,862	6,893	+31
<u>COVID-19 Regional Data for Alberta</u> Calgary zone - 5,126 Edmonton zone - 747 Central zone - 88 South zone - 1,284 North zone - 272 Unidentified zone - 13		<u>COVID-19 in Alberta First Nations* (as of June 16)</u> Calgary Zone - 26 North Zone - 5 South Zone - 30	

New Measures

- Canada created a web hub for buying and supplying PPE. [Click here](#) to access it.
- The Canada-US border closure will be extended to July 21.
- Pharmacists in Alberta can begin to give out larger quantities of prescriptions again, up to a 100-day supply.
- Alberta is now allowing anyone in the province to get tested for COVID-19, even if they don't have symptoms. Asymptomatic testing can be scheduled through the online AHS COVID-19 self-assessment tool [here](#).
- Alberta will only supply PPE to critical service providers in publicly funded or contracted settings. Private organizations can continue to access PPE through the government until **June 30**, but will need to pay market price.
- Alberta Health has partnered with A&W, McDonalds, and Tim Hortons to distribute non-medical masks to Albertans at no cost.

First Nation-specific Updates .

- Alberta Health is available on request to support First Nations in developing guidelines around ceremonies.
- Last Thursday, Canada announced an additional \$133M in financial aid for Indigenous businesses and \$16M for the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada.
- The Alberta government will provide each First Nation individual in community 4 non-medical masks. Those who are in urban centers will be able to get the masks through the restaurant partnership program, or through a community service agency.

National and Regional Updates

- The Alberta health minister says the provincial state of emergency will lapse, but that existing provincial health orders will not be impacted.
- Alberta is issuing comprehensive guidance to schools on re-opening for the 2020/21 school year. This includes guidelines on hygiene and health requirements, student learning, transportation and diploma exams. It also addresses mental health and psychological supports for students and staff.
- Canada launched the P-O-S-T Promise campaign aimed at encouraging businesses to fill out a voluntary declaration to its customers and employees that they will be diligent in their combat of COVID-19. The details of the initiative can be found at postpromise.com
- Addressing the separation of family members, the Canadian government is offering a limited exemption allowing members of the immediate family of permanent residents or citizens to come into Canada, targeting husbands, wives and/or children.

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS FOR FIRST NATIONS

Updates from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

****NEW* June 16 Bulletin:***

ISC Alberta Region is sending updates twice weekly to leadership on the current COVID-19 situation and response. Yesterday's bulletin (June 16) is attached. It includes the following information:

- Alberta Government Mental Health and Addiction COVID-19 Community Funding Grant
- Government of Canada Web Hub for Buying and Supplying PPE
- What Supports are available for affected businesses?

As a reminder, there are no Chief's calls scheduled through ISC-AB this week.

****NEW* Thursday, June 18th | 1:30 to 3:00 pm | Weekly COVID-19 Telehealth Call***

A weekly telehealth call on COVID-19 is being held for First Nation health centre staff to talk through possible scenarios and ask FNIHB staff questions. Please note the details shared with us below:

To join by phone dial: 1 587 328 1099, code 91950900418#

To view the webinar: <https://fnfn.zoom.us/join>, enter Meeting ID: 91950900418

Objectives

1. Medical Officer of Health Update
2. Current priority topic
3. Let's work through some scenarios
4. Community COVID-19 response Profile – Sturgeon Lake
5. Additional questions from communities

Questions can be submitted in advance or at the end of the presentation to

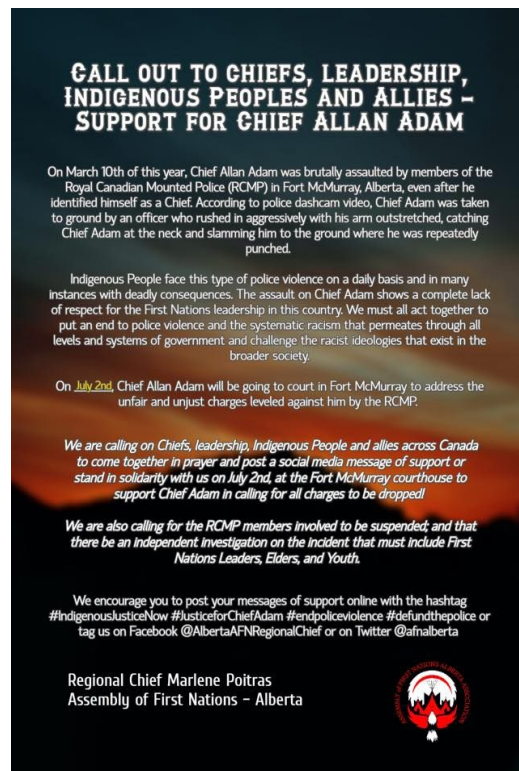
VChelp@FNTN.ca

June 19 | University of Calgary Webinar on Indigenous Resilience During COVID-19

On Friday, June 19, Regional Chief Poitras will join Dr. Reg Crowshoe, Dr. Lindsay Crowshoe, Stoney-Nakoda CEO Ryan Robb for a virtual panel focussed on the Indigenous response to COVID-19. The livestream will start at 2 pm. [Click here](#) to register.

July 2 | Support for Chief Allan Adam

On July 2nd, Chief Allan Adam will be going to court in Fort McMurray to address the unfair and unjust charges leveled against him by the RCMP. **We are calling on Chiefs, leadership, Indigenous People and allies across Canada to come together in prayer and post a social media message of support or stand in solidarity with us on July 2nd, at the Fort McMurray courthouse to support Chief Adam in calling for all charges to be dropped!** We encourage you to post your messages of support online with the hashtag **#IndigenousJusticeNow #JusticeforChiefAdam #endpoliceviolence #defundthepolice** or tag us on Facebook **@AlbertaAFNRegionalChief** or on Twitter **@afnAlberta**



**CALL OUT TO CHIEFS, LEADERSHIP,
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND ALLIES –
SUPPORT FOR CHIEF ALLAN ADAM**

On March 10th of this year, Chief Allan Adam was brutally assaulted by members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in Fort McMurray, Alberta, even after he identified himself as a Chief. According to police dashcam video, Chief Adam was taken to ground by an officer who rushed in aggressively with his arm outstretched, catching Chief Adam at the neck and slamming him to the ground where he was repeatedly punched.

Indigenous People face this type of police violence on a daily basis and in many instances with deadly consequences. The assault on Chief Adam shows a complete lack of respect for the First Nations leadership in this country. We must all act together to put an end to police violence and the systematic racism that permeates through all levels and systems of government and challenge the racist ideologies that exist in the broader society.

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We are calling on Chiefs, leadership, Indigenous People and allies across Canada to come together in prayer and post a social media message of support or stand in solidarity with us on July 2nd, at the Fort McMurray courthouse to support Chief Adam in calling for all charges to be dropped!

We are also calling for the RCMP members involved to be suspended; and that there be an independent investigation on the incident that must include First Nations Leaders, Elders, and Youth.

We encourage you to post your messages of support online with the hashtag **#IndigenousJusticeNow #JusticeforChiefAdam #endpoliceviolence #defundthepolice** or tag us on Facebook **@AlbertaAFNRegionalChief** or on Twitter **@afnAlberta**

Regional Chief Marlene Poitras
Assembly of First Nations – Alberta

CALL & MEETING SUMMARIES

May 29 | Written response to May 29 Questions from DFO Minister Jordan

Attached to today's bulletin is the written response provided by Minister Jordan's office to the questions we provided her in the May 29th Executive Committee meeting which herself and Minister Lametti attended.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL UPDATES

Summaries and information of the following can be found in the update below.

- ***Canada's COVID-19 Update - June 16 & 17***
- ***Alberta's COVID-19 Update - June 17***

Canada's COVID-19 Update - June 16

[Prime Minister's briefing](#)

[Federal Ministers and Health Officials Update](#)

Prime Minister Trudeau gave his daily briefing to Canadians on COVID-19. Following this, Federal Officials and Canada's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Tam gave their daily update. **Key**

Highlights:

- Canada's COVID-19 totals are 99,147 cases including 8,175 deaths. Currently 61,042 or 62% of cases have now recovered. Labs across Canada have tested 2,183,000 people for COVID-19. Canada is testing on average 33,000 people daily with about 2% of these testing positive overall.
- The Prime Minister announced the extension of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) by 8 weeks.
 - CERB has provided a \$500 weekly payment for a maximum of 16 week to people out of work because of COVID-19
- The Canada-US border closure will be extended to July 21.

Canada's COVID-19 Update - June 17

[Prime Minister's briefing](#)

[Federal Ministers and Health Officials Update](#)

Prime Minister and Federal Ministers and Health officials gave their daily morning briefings on federal response to COVID-19 today. **Key Highlights:**

- 99,467 cases have been confirmed, including 8,213 deaths. 61,443 or 62% have now recovered. Over 2,216,730 individuals have been tested to date, for an average of 36,000 people daily over the past week with about 1% returning positive.
- The Prime Minister reiterated measures the federal government has taken to date on supporting Canadians through the fight against COVID-19.
- On July 8th in the House of Commons the government will be releasing a fiscal and economic snapshot to give Canadians a picture of the economy, response comparative to other countries, and what to expect going forward.

- Applications for Canadian Fish and Seafood opportunities fund are open **today** to help producers reach new markets and customers internationally.
- **On Monday**, The Canadian seafood stabilization fund will open applications to provide support for everything from PPE, worker safety, and freezers to hold stock while buyers are found.

Alberta's COVID-19 Update - June 17

[Alberta Chief Medical Officer COVID-19 Update - June 17](#)

News Releases: [More protection for commercial tenants](#)

[Update 93: COVID-19 pandemic in Alberta \(June 16 at 5 p.m.\)](#)

Dr.Hinshaw provided a brief update on provincial COVID-19 statistics in the province of Alberta today, **details are as follows:**

- Of 7,530 tests in the last 24 hours, 48 new cases were identified for a total of 486 active cases in the province. 38 people are hospitalized with 7 in the ICU. No new deaths have been recorded.
- Dr.Hinshaw reminded Albertans that although many fatalities had underlying conditions, there were some who had none.
- At some point, regular updates may no longer be needed but the onus is on everyone to continue to take responsibility.

IMPORTANT/USEFUL LINKS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Alberta is providing \$25 million for projects and services that will improve community mental health and addiction recovery supports and services. **First Nations are eligible and encouraged to apply.** The second call for proposals closes on **August 21, 2020**. [Click here](#) for more information.
- The Red Cross is operating a help desk for First Nations to get dedicated, personalized support on pandemic planning. It is available 7 days a week from 7 am to 7 pm MT. Call 1-833-937-1597.
- First Nation health directors, leaders, and technicians can contact “[InfoPoint](#)” to request information about their COVID-19-related questions at 1-855-446-2719 or InfoPoint@fnhma.ca from Monday to Friday, 6 am to 6 pm MT
- ISC is tracking the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 on First Nations on their website. Data is updated Monday to Friday. [Click here](#) to view the webpage.
 - [Click here](#) to view national demographic data and epidemic curves.
- Service Canada has a dedicated toll-free phone line for First Nations members needing help with their CERB applications. Call 1-877-631-2657
- Applications for the [Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance \(CECRA\)](#) are available through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). The CECRA consists of forgivable loans for landlords to subsidize lost rent from small businesses, nonprofits and charitable organizations.
- The [Business Resilience Services Hotline](#) is available to small businesses for the next month to provide free, customized financial guidance from navigating tax regulations and government support to planning a path to recovery.
- Canada created a new web tool to help connect people with COVID-19 aid by asking questions and outlining programs people may be eligible for. [Click here](#) to access it.
- Canada created a web portal to help businesses find a wide range of COVID-19 support and other programs and services. [Click here](#) to access it.
- Canada created a web hub for buying and supplying PPE. [Click here](#) to access it.
- A social media campaign is encouraging celebrating 2020 Indigenous graduates through the hashtag #IndigenousGrad2020. A virtual grad celebration is planned for all Indigenous graduates on June 26. Visit <https://indigenousgrad2020.ca/> for more info.
- The #ProtectOurElders social media campaign launched to encourage people to practice physical distancing and public health measures to keep Elders safe. Visit <https://www.protectourelders.ca/> for ways you can get involved on social media.