

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

## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

## **Message on Reporting**

To our partners,

As the situation around COVID-19 continues to evolve, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is focused on supporting First Nations, Inuit, and Métis governments and other indigenous partners and organizations through this difficult time, as we all seek to protect the health and well-being of our citizens.

Over the last week, we have fielded a number of questions about the provision of funding to our partner organizations, and how it will be impacted by current events. I would like to personally inform you where things stand at the moment.

At this critical moment, ISC is focused on helping you to protect your communities in these extraordinary circumstances and ensuring that we help you provide the support and assistance that your citizens need.

From a fiscal perspective, the Department recognizes that communities and organizations are currently focused on responding to their citizens' essential needs, and that now is not the time to insist on business-as-usual processes, particularly when it comes to funding reporting requirements. ISC is currently exploring a wide range of options to reduce the administrative burden of managing your funding agreement during the COVID-19 crisis.

At this point, we can tell you that some of the administrative measures have been lifted for delayed submissions of reports on grants and contributions. More action and decisions are pending in the coming days. For example, we are currently exploring the possibility of temporarily suspending all reporting requirements for grants and contributions. We encourage you to keep in close contact with our regional offices, which will continue to be our main channel for communications with communities and funding recipients.

The Government of Canada's website is being updated regularly with the latest information on the spread of COVID-19 in Canada. ISC has also created this informational video on how Indigenous Services Canada is supporting First Nations communities with respect to the COVID-19 response https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71fFRFQn2VA. More information is still to come on further support that will be made available.

Please contact your Regional Indigenous Services Canada Office for further information, and on behalf of the Department, we wish to assure you that we look forward to working with all of you to get us through it together.



