



ANISHINABEK NATION

COVID-19 Update – May 20, 2020

Indigenous

- Anishinabek News Articles
 - [Connectivity a critical digital lifeline for women in crisis as domestic abuse rates increase during COVID-19](#)
 - [Indigenous Education at Canadore College receives national recognition](#)
 - [Nipissing lacrosse player to continue academic and athletic careers at Californian university](#)
- The Canada Energy Regulator is looking for Indigenous people to join a new advisory committee that is expected to play a key advisory role to the regulator's board of directors. Up to seven people are expected to join the new Indigenous Advisory Committee. The Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami will appoint three of those people to the committee.
- While the number of COVID-19 cases on reserves continues to climb, Indigenous Services Canada reports the majority are considered recovered. As of May 18, the department reports 134 out of 194 confirmed cases have recovered.

Provincial

- The province reported 390 new cases of COVID-19 today, and 43 additional deaths.
- Premier Ford, Minister Elliott, and Minister Mulroney of Transportation announced today that the chief medical officer is now recommending the use of non-medical masks when using public transit. Exceptions to this recommendation include children under two years old, anyone with trouble breathing, and anyone unable to remove masks without assistance.
- Additional measures being taken by transit agencies include allowing for physical distancing by limiting admission of passengers, encouraging use of hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting vehicles, installing Plexiglas between drivers and customers, and enhancing cleaning in highly touched areas.
- The Minister of Transportation said today that the ministry is working with stakeholders to develop a clear set of guidelines for transit agencies, to be released to the public soon.

Federal

- The Bloc Quebecois is threatening to support a resumption of in-person sittings of the House of Commons five days a week if the Trudeau government doesn't agree to a number of demands -- including delivering an economic update next month and holding modified sittings for at least four weeks during the summer.
- The House of Commons administration says it is ready and able to implement a U.K.-style "hybrid" Parliament that allows regular in-person sittings to resume with some MPs participating by video on screens placed inside the Chamber.



ANISHINABEK NATION

- Prime Minister Trudeau has announced that starting today, large employers impacted by the COVID-19 economic downturn can apply to receive funding through the Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF) program. The loans will be offered for the next 12 months on a case-by-case basis dependent on individual needs.
- Applications for the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program will be available on the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation website beginning on May 25. Under this program, commercial property owners will be offered forgivable loans to cover 50 per cent of three-monthly rent payments. The loans will be forgiven if the property owner agrees to reduce eligible businesses' rent by at least 75 per cent for the three months.
- As of this morning, Canada had 79 101 confirmed cases, 11 probable cases and 5 912 deaths. There have been 1 339 971 Canadians tested.

Allan Dokis
Director of Policy and Communications
allan.dokis@anishinabek.ca