

# COVID-19 MESSAGE FROM ISC SK REGION

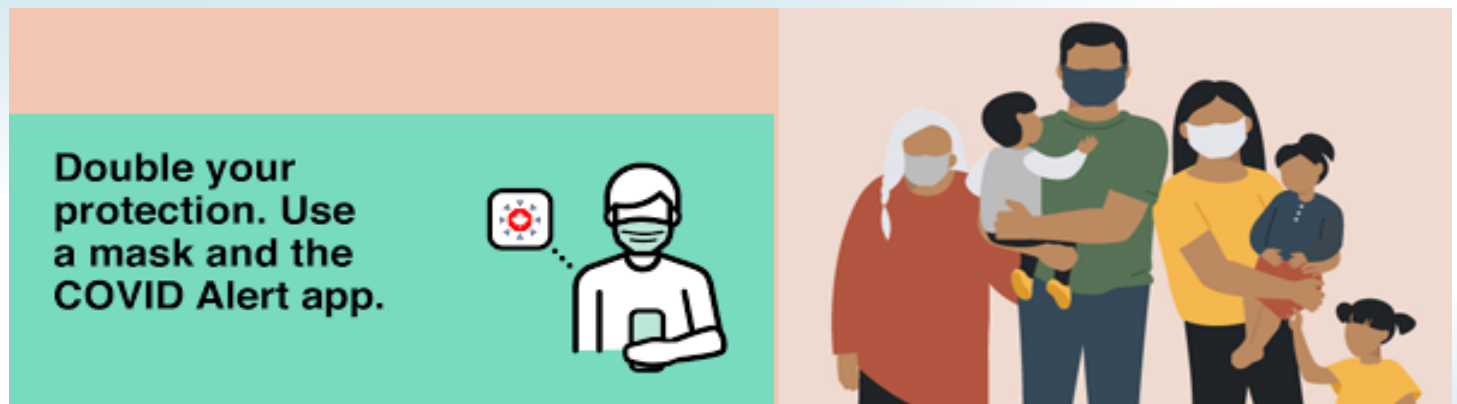
November 16, 2020

Hello /Tansi,

We hope you and your communities are all keeping well. We note that some communities have enacted a series of new restrictions in an effort to slow the sharp increase in COVID-19 cases. We recognize this will impact many communities and urban members and applaud your ongoing efforts to manage this evolving challenge. With colder weather, we are spending more time indoors and the public health measure to avoid the 3Cs settings – closed spaces, crowded places and close contact situations - wherever possible, will help limit the spread of the virus.

Double your protection by downloading the COVID Alert app and wearing a mask whenever you are out in public and might come in close contact with others or in any indoor space with people from outside your immediate household.

We remind you that the deadline to submit an application to the Indigenous Community Support Fund is November 30, as funding must be disbursed by the Department by December 31, 2020. Applications can cover activities through to March 31, 2021.



## UPDATES

On November 13, a [public health order on mandatory masking](#) in communities with a population under 5,000 was issued by the Ministry of Health. The Saskatchewan Health Authority announced that [COVID-19 Alerts to be issued for Self-Isolation Directives Only](#). Saskatchewan's medical health officers are asking all Saskatchewan residents to self-monitor for COVID symptoms, regardless of where you live in this province.

On November 10, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says he sees “the light at the end of the tunnel” of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and is hopeful a COVID-19 vaccine will begin to roll out to Canadians in early 2021. [News from Pfizer](#) indicate that clinical trials of one of its vaccine candidates is “very encouraging”. However, the PM is urging people to not let down their guards, because data that suggests the vaccine may be 90 per cent effective at preventing COVID-19 is preliminary, and it could still be several months before any vaccine candidates are ready for mass distribution.

On November 9, Minister Moe announced [Saskatchewan's new cabinet](#).

On November 7, the [Prime Minister made an announcement](#) about connecting all Canadians to high-speed Internet.

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## LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

### Cases in Saskatchewan First Nations Communities

As of November 16, there are confirmed **631** COVID-19 cases reported in Saskatchewan First Nation communities: **308** active cases, **320** recoveries and three (3) First Nation residents with COVID-19 have died.

Concerned about symptoms or risks?

Call Healthline 811 or use the online [self-assessment tool](#).

Find out more about the hotspots in the province at [COVID-19 Updates and Alerts page](#). Communities can sign up to receive all SHA alerts (and a daily newsletter) directly by sending an email request to: [News@saskhealthauthority.ca](mailto:News@saskhealthauthority.ca)

As of November 16, Saskatchewan has officially reported **5,001** cases of COVID-19 and **297,704** COVID-19 tests have been performed in Saskatchewan. For more information, visit: [Cases and Risk of COVID-19 in Saskatchewan](#).

## FUNDING FOR CONNECTIVITY

The Prime Minister made an announcement on November 7 to accelerate connectivity timelines of the [Universal Broadband Fund \(UBF\)](#) which is managed by [Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada \(ISED\)](#). Up to \$50 million has been set aside to fund mobile projects that primarily benefit Indigenous peoples. These mobile projects are expected to extend 4G LTE coverage or better mobile services to underserved areas.

The UBF has two parallel intakes for applications. The first is a fixed intake for the main UBF stream (including mobile projects benefitting Indigenous peoples). This intake period will end February 15, 2021.

The second open intake for [Rapid Response Stream](#) will end January 15. This stream will use a streamlined process to allow smaller value (\$5M maximum), nearly ready-to-go projects to move quickly.

Projects will be assessed and selected as received, so early application is encouraged.

ISED will also provide “pathfinder” support to Indigenous applicants to build partnerships, point to potential sources of funding and navigate the application process.

Please visit the [ISC webpage](#) for more information on connectivity and partnerships.



**THE REGISTRATION AND STATUS CARD SERVICE COUNTER IN REGINA AND PRINCE ALBERT IS OPEN BY APPOINTMENT**

To ensure the health and safety of visitors and staff, please call ahead to make an appointment before arriving at the building

Please call:

306-780-5392 in Regina and  
306-953-8677 in Prince Albert

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

Send your questions and requests related to COVID-19 to [aandc.skemergency.aandc@canada.ca](mailto:aandc.skemergency.aandc@canada.ca) to allow us to provide you with a coordinated and timely response.

Visit our [Saskatchewan portal](#). You will find additional information, guidance and tools to make the best possible decisions for your community.