



The Bulletin

Indigenous Services Canada: **Saskatchewan Region**

Listening App Developed by First Nations, for First Nations

The Talking Stick App, which provides culture-based support, was launched in Saskatchewan by the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations in February, in partnership with ISC.

Talking Stick is a 'by First Nations, for First Nations' approach to encourage anonymous conversations and listening as they relate to vaccine hesitancy, mental wellness & emotional health, violence & anger, isolation (depression, stress, loneliness), trauma, grief and loss.

The theme of the app is **Every Voice Matters**, meaning a commitment to language, inclusion and self-determination, with the emphasis on job creation, skills development and training.

The app has a chat service available in seven languages, including Plains Cree, Woodland Cree, Dene, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota, and Salteaux.

The app is available on all smart devices. For more information, please visit [here](#).

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Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Canada

Health Canada has received funding to support anti-Indigenous racism initiatives. Under the *Addressing Racism and Discrimination in Canada's Health Systems Program*, Health Canada is accepting funding proposals for projects that address systemic anti-Indigenous racism and discrimination in Canada's health systems.

Supported by \$13 million in funding, this Call for Proposals is focused on projects to support Indigenous peoples through:

- cultural safety and humility training;
- curriculum and/or accreditation requirements for health services providers; and
- integrating culturally-safe care in acute care settings and traditional approaches to health.

For the 2022 Call for Proposals, Health Canada will be giving priority to projects received from Indigenous health system partners, with a focus on projects that combat anti-Indigenous racism and discrimination.

Funding amounts to be granted per project will range from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000.

To achieve its objectives, the program will make investments through two distinct streams of funding:

1. **Project stream:** To improve the safety, accessibility, equity, quality, sustainability, and accountability of Canada's health systems, investments will be made in community-supported systems-level projects that address racism and discrimination perpetrated against racialized and/or marginalized populations.
2. **Engagement stream:** To maintain strong and effective publicly funded health systems, investments will be made to build capacity within racialized and/or marginalized communities and organizations that serve affected populations to enable them to meaningfully engage on their health priorities.

A Call for Proposals for the **Project stream** is now open, **with applications due to Health Canada by May 15, 2022**. Projects must be completed by March 31, 2024.

Please find the link to more information on the program at the [Call for Proposals here](#).

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Your Virtual Health Care Input Needed

The Government of Saskatchewan will be seeking input from Indigenous clients about virtual care is working for patients.

Virtual care includes the use of various technologies, such as video conferencing, specific apps, telephone, text and email - all of which are critical to providing services to patients in more remote settings.

The information will be used to help create a long-term provincial strategy around virtual care.

Input will also be gathered as to why some patients avoid the use of virtual care. Go to virtualcare.saskatchewan.ca to learn more and to participate.

Moose Hide Campaign

What is the Moose Hide Campaign?

The Moose Hide Campaign invites all Canadians, specifically men and boys, to work together to end violence against women and children.

Wearing a piece of moose hide signifies the wearer's commitment to honour, respect, and protect women and children.

When is the Moose Hide Campaign?

Moose Hide Campaign Day is on May 12th, 2022. Supporters are encouraged to wear and share the moose hide pins every day.

Register for virtual [national Moose Hide Campaign Day activities here](#).

"The Moose Hide Campaign provides a sacred space to contribute in our nation's healing journey." – Senator Murray Sinclair, Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



Access to high-quality Internet services at affordable prices

Through the [Connecting Families](#) initiative, the Government of Canada, in partnership with [SaskTel](#) and [Rogers](#), is supporting affordable high-speed Internet for those who need it most.

In line with [Canada's Connectivity Strategy](#), which aims to provide all Canadians with access to Internet speeds of at least 50 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 10 Mbps upload, Connecting Families 2.0 introduces significantly faster speeds and increased data usage.

For \$20 a month, Internet speeds will be five and ten times faster respectively than previously offered. As well, the data allotment is doubling, from 100 GB to 200 GB of usage per month.

This new phase will also broaden eligibility from families receiving the maximum Canada Child Benefit (CCB) to include seniors receiving the maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

Eligible households will receive a letter from the Government of Canada. This letter will contain an access code that is needed to sign up for Connecting Families through a secure online portal.

The access code will be valid for the entire duration of the initiative, provided the household continues to be eligible; however, access to the discounted Internet offering will depend on availability.

[Access Communications](#), [Rogers](#), [SaskTel](#), [Shaw](#), [TELUS](#), are participating in Connecting Families.

**Help is available
whenever you need it.**

Immediate support is available 24/7
for all Indigenous people in Canada.

Hope for Wellness Help Line and Chat
1-855-242-3310 or www.hopeforwellness.ca

Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line
1-866-925-4419

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
and Girls Support Line
1-844-413-6649



Worried about visiting or gathering with others? Use the My COVID-19 Visit Risk Tool

COVID-19 remains an important public health issue as it continues to spread in communities. As a result, careful assessment before deciding to visit with others remains vitally important.

The Government of Canada is supporting the Ryerson [My COVID-19 Visit Risk tools](#) (Visit Risk Calculator and Visit Risk Decision Aid) to provide people with reliable information to help them assess and reduce their individual risk of COVID-19 infection when visiting or gathering with others. This web-based tool is based on the best available scientific evidence.

Learning to live with COVID as a part of our everyday lives includes understanding how to measure your risk of developing severe COVID-19 disease and taking actions to limit your chances of getting the virus.

For ease of use the vaccine toolkit is now available on a new web page called **Communication resources for community health and safety**

NEW COVID RESOURCES

- [New social media posts on respecting personal choice](#)
- [New radio script on respecting personal choice](#)

New resources on vaccination for children aged 5 to 12

- [Poster: Facts about COVID-19 vaccines for kids](#)
- [Video: Common side effects children might experience after getting the COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [Fact sheet: Vaccinating children against COVID-19](#)

New poster on boosting your immunity with a booster dose

- [Poster: Boost Your Immunity](#)

New resources on fertility and vaccination

- [Video: Ask a Scientist: Will the COVID-19 vaccine affect my fertility?](#)
- [Get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines: It's important to get a booster dose as soon as you're eligible](#)
- [Get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines: The vaccines are recommended for those who are pregnant or breastfeeding.](#)

Link to [Protect your health and your community](#) web page where you can find information on how to access personal protective equipment for your community.

We hope you find this update useful.