

Food Security Funding and Resources

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting Indigenous communities in many ways, including with regards to food. Concerns can be wide ranging from how to safely shop and prepare food to minimize the transmission of COVID-19, to having access to enough healthy food for families and communities. It is important that Indigenous communities have easy and fast access to trustworthy, factual, effective and culturally relevant resources to support their health and wellness during this challenging time. Below is a list of food-related funding sources, resources and websites to access a broad range of food security-related supports, information and services.

Government of Canada Funding Sources for Food Security		
Source	Details	Contact
Government of Canada –Economic Response Plan	The Government of Canada’s COVID-19 Economic Response Plan provides a range of economic supports for individuals, businesses and sectors.	http://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Emergency Food Security Fund	<p>The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, on October 9, 2020 announced an additional investment of \$100 million through the Emergency Food Security Fund. This investment will help improve access to food and increase food supply for vulnerable Canadians across the country, who are facing the impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic. The Government of Canada will provide this funding to national and regional organizations, who will then support food banks and local food organizations across Canada in order to help reach people experiencing food insecurity.</p> <p>https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/10/09/prime-minister-announces-additional-support-food-banks-and-local-food</p> <p>The announcement on December 18, 2020 provided further details on the \$100 million in funding that was announced in October 2020. The new funding will provide \$18.5 million to Food Banks Canada, \$18.5 million to Breakfast Club of Canada, \$8.9 million to Second Harvest, \$8.9 million to Community Food Centres Canada, \$8.85 million to the Salvation Army, and \$1.34 million to La Table des Chefs. Of the \$100 million, \$30 million will be provided to Indigenous Services Canada to bolster its existing Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF). <i>See Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) ICSF below.</i></p>	<p>https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/emergency-food-security-fund/?id=1585855025072</p> <p>https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2020/12/government-of-canada-rolling-out-100m-in-added-support-to-food-security-organizations-during-covid-19-pandemic.html</p>

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Indigenous Community Support Fund	<p>The Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF) helps Indigenous communities prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19. This fund provides Indigenous leadership with the flexibility needed to design and implement community-based solutions to prevent, prepare and respond to the spread of COVID-19 within their communities. Funds can be used for a wide range of measures, including measures to address food insecurity.</p> <p>In March 2020, the Government of Canada announced \$305 million for a new, distinctions-based Indigenous Community Support Fund through its COVID-19 Economic Response Plan to address immediate needs in First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities.</p> <p>In August 2020, an additional \$305 million was announced, with part of this funding distributed directly to First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities and part of it was put towards needs-based COVID-19 support for Indigenous communities and organizations serving Indigenous peoples, including those living in urban centres and First Nations living off reserve. The needs-based application process was launched on October 30, 2020, and closed on November 30, 2020.</p> <p>On November 30, 2020, an additional \$380 million was announced for the fund through the Fall Economic Statement, which included both direct allocations and needs-based COVID-19 support. Needs-based support will continue to fund needs-based applications received by ISC, and address COVID-19 emergency situations as they arise.</p> <p>On December 18, 2020, the government announced that \$30 million of the \$100 million Emergency Food Security Fund is being transferred to ISC from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to help improve access to food and increase food supply for Indigenous communities, and is being distributed through the Indigenous Community Support Fund.</p> <p>Visit the website for a list of Indigenous Community Support Fund allocations.</p> <p>Although the application process is closed, Indigenous communities and organizations are encouraged to continue communicating with regional offices about their urgent needs.</p>	<p>https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198</p>
Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), public health support	<p>ISC works with Indigenous communities to support the public health response to COVID-19 with funding totaling \$926.7 million since the start of the pandemic, including \$631.6 million in additional support announced in the Fall Economic Statement on November 30, 2020. This</p>	<p>https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1584819394157/1584819418553</p>

	<p>funding supports community-led responses to the pandemic, including providing targeted increases in primary health care resources for First Nations communities. Eligible items may include costs related to activities on the land to support physical isolation and food security. Visit the website for the full list of eligible items.</p>	
<p>Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Enhancements to the Nutrition North Canada (NNC) subsidy program during COVID-19</p>	<p>To address growing concerns about food security and affordability related to the COVID-19 pandemic, this funding provides an additional \$25 million to Nutrition North Canada to increase the subsidy rates and extend the list of food and essential items subsidized when shipped by air to all 116 Nutrition North Canada eligible communities from now until March 31, 2021.</p> <p>These enhancements give Northerners in these communities better access and more savings on nutritious foods and essential items.</p>	<p>https://www.nutritionnorthcanada.gc.ca/eng/1415385762263/1415385790537</p>
<p>Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Nutrition North Canada; Harvesters Support Grant (HSG)</p>	<p>The Harvesters Support Grant (HSG) promotes access to traditional foods by reducing the high costs associated with hunting and harvesting. It provides \$40 million over 5 years, and \$8 million per year ongoing, to Indigenous governments and organizations representing eligible Nutrition North Canada communities.</p>	<p>https://www.nutritionnorthcanada.gc.ca/eng/1586274027728/1586274048849</p>
<p>Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program (CCHAP)</p>	<p>The Climate Change and Health Adaptation program (CCHAP) is designed to build capacity for climate change adaptation by funding community-designed and driven projects. This program funds First Nations and Inuit communities' efforts to build capacity to adapt to the health impacts of climate change. Some of the areas of adaptation and research that past projects have examined include traditional food security and access to country food, documentation of traditional medicines and safety while on the land.</p> <p>There are 2 streams for the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCHAP North of 60°N • CCHAP South for First Nations South of 60°N <p>There is no deadline to apply for the CCHAP North of 60°N.</p> <p>Funding for the CCHAP South for First Nations South of 60°N program takes place on an annual basis with a call for applications sent out in the summer of each year.</p> <p>Visit the website for more details on the program as well as details on how to apply.</p>	<p>https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1536238477403/1536780059794#s1</p>

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF)	<p>The Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF) is a five-year, \$50 million initiative. The program is part of the Government of Canada's Food Policy, which is Canada's roadmap for a healthier and more sustainable food system in Canada. Projects should be mostly infrastructure specific, community-driven and dedicated to improving access to safe and healthy foods for Canadians at risk of food insecurity.</p> <p>Eligible projects can range from simpler infrastructure requests such as purchasing a refrigerator for a food bank to more complex requests that strengthen local food systems, such as projects that integrate multiple areas of the value chain through the creation of partnerships. The applicant must demonstrate how their project will be integrated into and strengthen the local food system and how it will impact the well-being of community members.</p> <p>Applications will be accepted until December 31, 2023 (or an earlier date) based on funding availability. Projects must be completed by March 31, 2024.</p>	http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/local-food-infrastructure-fund/?id=1560701480448
Agriculture and Agri-food Canada – (AAFC), Indigenous Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative	<p>AAFC has developed the Indigenous Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative, which is a five year, \$8.5 million initiative that will support Indigenous communities and entrepreneurs who are ready to launch agriculture and food systems projects and others who want to build their capacity to participate in the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector.</p> <p>This initiative funds up to \$500,000 per year, with multiple year funding available. Eligible activities categorized into two streams: Community readiness and pre-development support activities; and supporting Indigenous agriculture and food systems projects.</p> <p>Proposals are accepted until September 30, 2022 and the Initiative ends on March 31, 2023.</p>	https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/indigenous-agriculture-and-food-systems-initiative/guide/?id=1544123669824&utm_source=BenchmarkEmail&utm_campaign=NorthernRegion_-_Newsletter_31_March_2020&utm_medium=email#a1.1
Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Northern Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (NICFI)	<p>Northern Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (NICFI) supports development of Indigenous-owned communal commercial fishing enterprises and aquaculture operations. NICFI uses a step wise approach with a particular focus on business development planning and advice. It is targeted at enterprise-specific training for fisheries. It aims to meet the needs of communities whether they wish to pursue a commercial fishery, a redistributive commercial fishery or a hybrid of both. The objectives of NICFI include to build knowledge and skills required to manage fisheries enterprises; increase access to training to fish safely and effectively operate their vessels; and build the capacity needed to meet future commercial fisheries operations, administration and training requirements independently; and to enhance</p>	https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/aboriginal-autochtones/nicfi-ipcni/index-eng.html

	economic returns from fisheries and aquaculture for the local and broader benefit of communities.	
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), The Northern Food Innovation Challenge	<p>The Northern Food Innovation Challenge is one of the three streams under the Northern Isolated Community Initiatives (NICI) Fund. The objective of this Challenge is to support innovative, community-led projects for local and Indigenous food production systems to help improve food security in Canada's territories. This challenge consists of two phases:</p> <p>Phase 1: Conceptual stage to testing environment open until March 31, 2021. In June 2021, approximately eight Northern Food Innovation Challenge applicants will be funded under Phase 1 (up to \$250,000 per project).</p> <p>Phase 2: Project scaling and deployment with direct benefits at a local level. In June 2023, up to three successful applicants from Phase 1 will be supported with Phase 2 funding (up to \$1M per project).</p> <p>The Challenge is open to applicants located outside of the territories provided that they have a territorial partner and can demonstrate how the proposed innovation could provide direct benefits to reducing issues related to food insecurity or strengthening food systems in one or more of the territories.</p>	https://www.cannor.gc.ca/eng/1608661159836/1608664034823
Environment and Natural Resources, First Nations Guardians Initiative	<p>First Nations Guardians Initiative is a pilot program that funds First Nations communities to exercise their responsibilities to the land, waters, and ice of their traditional territories. It does this through on-the-ground, community-based stewardship initiatives.</p> <p>Please note the call for proposals for new First Nations Guardians' Initiatives closed on November 30, 2020. There are no further rounds of funding confirmed at this time.</p>	https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-funding/indigenous-guardians-pilot/first-nations.html
Impact Canada, Canadian Space Agency, Deep Space Food Challenge	<p>The Deep Space Food Challenge seeks to create novel food production technologies or systems that require minimal inputs and maximize safe, nutritious, and palatable food outputs for long-duration space missions, and which have potential to benefit people on Earth. Through this challenge, innovators will develop compact and novel advanced food production solutions that have the potential to further enhance local production, reduce food supply chain shortages, and reduce the impact on the resources needed for food production in extreme environments, disaster-affected areas and resource-scarce region.</p>	https://impact.canada.ca/en/challenges/deep-space-food-challenge

	<p>The Deep Space Food Challenge is a stage-gated challenge and is expected to be comprised of three phases:</p> <p>Phase 1: Design Report, which is accepting applications until July 30, 2021. Teams will provide a detailed explanation of a design for a novel food production technology that meets the Challenge goals and performance criteria. There are up to 10 prizes of \$30,000 for innovators submitting a Phase 1 concept application.</p> <p>Phase 2: Kitchen Demonstration, which begins in Fall 2021. Semi-Finalists selected in Phase 1 will move on to Phase 2, where they will need to build a food production technology prototype and have their prototype take part in a Kitchen-Level demonstration with samples of food outputs. Those who are successful in this phase will move on as a Finalist in Phase 3. There are up to four prizes of \$100,000 for Semi-Finalists participating in Phase 2.</p> <p>Phase 3: Full System Demonstration. At this stage, selected Finalists will have 12-18 months to build a full-scale food production technology and demonstrate the technology at an appropriate facility, and will be competing to be the Grand Prize Winner of the Challenge.</p> <p>The Canadian Grand Prize Winner for The Deep Space Food Challenge will be announced in Spring 2024. The Grand Prize is \$380,000.</p>	
Food Security – Related Supports and Funding (non-government organizations)		
Food Banks Canada	Food Banks Canada is a network of Provincial Associations and their approximately 650 affiliated food banks. A food bank finder on the website allows searchers to locate their local food bank so that they can contact them and see what food resources and support they are able to offer during the COVID-19 pandemic.	https://foodbankscanada.smapp.ly.ca/ https://www.foodbankscanada.ca/utility-pages/find-a-food-bank.aspx
Salvation Army	The Salvation Army supports food security across Canada through food banks, community meals, and school meals.	https://salvationarmy.ca/ https://salvationarmy.ca/what-we-do/food-services/
Second Harvest Food Rescue	Second Harvest Food Rescue recovers fresh, unsold food to protect the environment and provide immediate hunger relief.	https://secondharvest.ca/

	<p>Emergency Funding 2021 – Second Harvest has received an additional \$8 million from the Government of Canada’s Emergency Food Security Fund, to help improve access to healthy food to charities and non-profits supporting people experiencing food insecurity. This funding is an extension of COVID-19 Emergency Relief, which began in March 2020. Since the start of the pandemic, Second Harvest has provided over \$20 million in financial support to community organizations across Canada. For this newly announced funding, Indigenous groups/organizations have been identified within the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Deadline: February 28, 2021 at 11:59pm PST.</p> <p>If you have funding questions, please email emergencyfund@secondharvest.ca</p>	https://secondharvest.ca/emergency-funding-2021/
Community Food Centres Canada (CFCC)	<p>Community Food Centres Canada (CFCC) is a non-profit organization, which provides ideas, resources and helps partner organizations across Canada so they can establish responsive, financially stable Community Food Centres. These centres work to bring people together to grow, cook, share, and advocate for good food.</p> <p>Funding is available in \$10,000, \$ 20,000 and \$50,000 through the Good Food Access Fund. The application deadline is February 18, 2021.</p> <p>For a link to the application portal, email Carolynne at: carolynne@cfccanada.ca</p>	<p>https://cfccanada.ca/</p> <p>https://goodfoodorganizations.ca/</p>
Breakfast Club of Canada (BCC)	<p>Breakfast Club of Canada (BCC) accepts applications year-round from schools, school boards, and community organizations seeking support for breakfast programs offered to school- aged children and youth during the school year. Breakfast Club of Canada provided special supportive funding during COVID-19. Please check back for updates.</p>	https://www.breakfastclubcanada.org/apply-for-support/
National Association of Friendship Centres	<p>The National Association of Friendship Centres represents 107 Friendship Centres and Provincial/Territorial Associations across Canada, which provide culturally appropriate services for Indigenous people living in urban centres. Some Friendship Centres operate food banks/cupboards, or related supports, and there is a database on the NAFC website which allows a geographic search of Friendship Centres in a given area.</p>	https://www.nafc.ca/
President’s Choice Children’s Charity	<p>President's Choice Children’s Charity school grants provide funding to deliver nutritious food as well as funding up to \$10,000 annually for food-based education programs including cooking classes, farm tours, dietitian services, or equipment like green houses, growing towers, composting systems, and food field trips like farm tours. The application period for the 2021-22 School Nutrition Grant runs from April 1 to May 14.</p>	https://www.pcchildrenscharity.ca/

Canadian Feed the Children (CFTC)	Canadian Feed the Children (CFTC) is a non-profit organization that works in partnership with Indigenous communities to support community-led approaches that focus on food security, capacity building, and education. These initiatives help reduce childhood hunger by increasing access to good food practices and by encouraging healthy eating. Additional funding may not be available at this time, however communities requiring food security support are encouraged to contact CFTC, who can connect the community with other funders and/or partners.	https://canadianfeedthechildren.ca/where/canada
Saputo	Saputo partners with organizations whose core mission is to inform, motivate and pursue initiatives that help communities adopt healthy lifestyle habits through proper nutrition and physical activity. 1% of their profits are put towards community projects through grants, volunteers and product donations. An open call for proposals can be found on their website.	http://www.saputo.com/en/our-promise/community/our-partnerships/sponsorship-requests
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant	TD Friends of the Environment Foundation is a national charity that funds environmental projects across Canada. Eligible projects include community gardens, environmental education, outdoor classrooms, recycling and compost programs and more. Submission deadlines: January 15 and July 15 annually.	https://www.td.com/ca/en/about-td/ready-commitment/funding/fe-f-grant/
Canada Post – Community Foundation	Canada Post Community Foundation provide grants to Canadian schools, charities and organizations in an effort to make a difference in the lives of children in those communities. The 2020 grant application window is now closed. The new application period opens March 2021.	https://www.canadapost.ca/cpc/en/our-company/giving-back-to-our-communities/canada-post-community-foundation.page?
The Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF)	The Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF) is an Indigenous-led effort to respond to urgent community needs while taking a long-term view on building community resilience. The funding ranges from \$5,000 to \$30,000. For more information regarding this fund, contact Wanda Brascoupé at info@iprfund.ca or 613-262-3089.	https://www.communityfoundations.ca/initiatives/indigenous-peoples-resilience-fund/
Nourish Food Rx: COVID-19 Patient Food Security Fund	The goal of the COVID-19 Patient Food Security Fund is to address food insecurity created, or exacerbated by, COVID-19. Hospitals, health authorities, long-term care facilities, Indigenous health services, Aboriginal Health Access Centres, and Community Health Centres are invited to apply for projects that demonstrate a collaborative response to food insecurity in their community. The proposal deadline ended on June 30, 2020. Visit their website for future funding opportunities.	https://www.nourishhealthcare.ca/blog/2020/5/20/launch-of-the-food-rx-covid-19-patient-food-security-fund
Farm to cafeteria	Farm to cafeteria provide grants to schools, kindergarten to grade 12, across Canada including Indigenous schools and those in rural and remote areas.	http://www.farmtocafeteriacanada.ca/

	The 2020 grant application window is now closed. Visit their website in the future to find out about upcoming funding opportunities.	
Services, Supports, Information and Resources		
Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada, Indigenous Pathfinder service	A one-stop shop for advice and referral to help navigate the relevant information, tools and support available to start or expand activities in the agriculture and agri-food sector. The service is available to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit individuals and organizations and strives to ensure that Indigenous individuals and organizations do not miss out on support and other business opportunities available.	https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/indigenous-pathfinder-service/?id=1525208767407
Canadian Red Cross	The Canadian Red Cross compiled some tips and tools for self-care, keeping in touch, staying safe online, and helping friends during COVID-19 and beyond. The Canadian Red Cross, with funding from Indigenous Services Canada / First Nations Inuit Health Branch, has launched a Help Desk resource for Indigenous youth and Indigenous leadership. The Help Desk is launched in coordination with other Indigenous help desks, such as First Nations Health Managers Association's InfoPoint.	https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/current-emergency-responses/covid-19---novel-coronavirus/resources-for-indigenous-communities
ClimateTelling	ClimateTelling is an Indigenous community portal for climate change and health. It includes information on climate change adaptation initiatives related to food and food security, which are funded through Indigenous Services Canada's Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program.	http://www.climate-telling.info/food-security.html
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)	Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)'s website includes information on community-based initiatives (including food banks) that play a role in addressing food security in Inuit Nunangat, as well as potential funding resources. ITK has information on funding, supports, and resources, infographics (including on safe food handling and shopping) and other publications related to COVID-19.	https://www.itk.ca/nuluag-mapping-project/ https://www.itk.ca/what-we-do/covid19/ https://www.itk.ca/covid19-infographics/
National Indigenous Diabetes Association (NIDA)	NIDA is gathering examples of communities, organizations, grants, etc., to share models of food security and caring for community, including both existing practices and how communities are coming together during the COVID-19 pandemic. NIDA's website includes a wide range of healthy living resources, including related to food, exercise and physical and mental wellness during COVID-19.	http://nada.ca/?page_id=3200&fbclid=IwAR1Oii5BfsATp42JnYnCQQK3pT42KtOu http://nada.ca/?page_id=3172
First Nations Health Authority	The First Nations Health Authority in BC developed "Planning for Food Security –A Toolkit for the COVID-19 Pandemic".	https://www.fnha.ca/WellnessSite/WellnessDocuments/FNHA-Planning-for-Food-Security-A-

		Toolkit-for-the-COVID-19-Pandemic.pdf
Food Secure Canada (FSC)	FSC is a pan-Canadian alliance of organizations and individuals working together to advance food security and food sovereignty through three inter-related goals: zero hunger, healthy and safe food, and sustainable food systems. Its website includes links to Indigenous networks, partnerships and best practices, such as the Northern Food Network and the FSC Indigenous Circle.	https://www.foodsecurecanada.org
Assembly of First Nations (AFN)	The AFN has extensive information and resources specific to COVID-19 on its website.	https://www.afn.ca/coronavirus/
Government of Canada	<p>The Government of Canada's website includes information on COVID-19 and food safety, including safe food practices and shopping. Note, scientists and food safety authorities around the world are closely monitoring the spread of COVID-19. There are currently no reported cases of the virus being spread through food.</p> <p>The Government of Canada's website includes a copy of Canada's Food Guide, including advice and tips on healthy food choices, healthy eating habits, and many recipes.</p>	https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/covid19.html https://www.afn.ca/coronavirus/d-guide.canada.ca/
Dietitians of Canada	The Dietitians of Canada website provides advice related to COVID-19 on nutrition, supporting immune system, nutrition during self-isolation and breastfeeding, among other topics.	https://www.dietitians.ca/News/2020/Advice-for-the-general-public-about-COVID-19
Diabetes Canada	Diabetes Canada has a dedicated webpage on information and resources related to diabetes and COVID-19.	https://www.diabetes.ca/campaigns/covid-19-(coronavirus)-and-diabetes
Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)	CFIA is the federal agency dedicated to safeguarding food, animals and plants, to enhance the health and well-being of Canada's people, environment and economy. CFIA is currently working to address the challenges and concerns raised by industry and consumers regarding COVID-19, and has provided COVID-related information on its website.	https://www.inspection.gc.ca/covid-19/eng/1584729805758/1584729899016
Chiefs of Ontario	The Chiefs of Ontario COVID-19 website provides information and resources specific to COVID-19, as well as on the unique programs and services that are available to First Nations in Ontario during the COVID-19 pandemic.	https://www.coo-covid19.com/