



**Joint Chiefs Committee on Emergency Management and
Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure Meeting**

DRAFT AGENDA

Date: Thursday May 28, 2020

Location: ZOOM Meeting – 2:00pm to 3:30pm EDT

Time	Agenda Item	Leads	Documents
2:00 pm	Welcome and Introductions	Regional Chief Kevin Hart	
2:05 pm	Review of Agenda & New Items	Regional Chief Kevin Hart	
	Adoption of Agenda & Minutes	Regional Chief Kevin Hart	Meeting Minutes May 22, 2020
	Opening Remarks	Regional Chief Kevin Hart	
	Update from ISC – <i>ISC, COVID-19, and the Indigenous Community Support Fund</i>	Chad Westmacott, Director General, ISC	
	Special Topics & Invited Guests		
	- InfoPoint Help Desk for COVID-19	Marion Crowe , CEO First Nations Health Managers Association	InfoPoint – A Covid-19 Helpful Desk PPT
	- Odawa Native Friendship Centre	Amy Nahwegahbow , President & Kim Jerome , Executive Director, Odawa Native Friendship Centre	Odawa Native Friendship Centre PPT
	AFN Health Briefing	AFN Health	
	Updates – AFN & HIES		
	- COVID-19 Task Force		
	- Parliamentary Committee Updates		
	- Infrastructure, Housing & Water. Emergency Management & Youth	AFN HIES Staff & Representatives	
	Regional Roundtable	Roundtable	
	Other Business	Regional Chief Kevin Hart	
3:30 pm	Meeting Adjourns		

Indigenous Community Support Fund

Prepared for Assembly of First Nations
Chief's Committees Meeting on
Emergency Management and Housing
- May 28, 2020.



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Canada

Indigenous Community Support Fund

- The Indigenous Community Support Fund provides \$380 million of distinctions-based funding to address the COVID-19 needs in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities.
- The distribution of the Indigenous Community Support Fund was as follows:
 - \$215 million for First Nations which was allocated to each First Nation based on population, remoteness and community well-being;
 - \$45 million for Inuit, which was flowed to each of the four land claims organizations through an allocation determined by the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and regional Inuit land claims organizations;
 - \$30 million for Métis Nation communities, which was flowed through each of the Governing Members;
 - \$90 million for Indigenous organizations and communities providing services to Indigenous peoples in urban centres or off reserve such as friendship centres.

Funding for First Nation Communities

- Each community was provided a base amount of \$50K, with the remaining balance distributed according to population size, remoteness, and community well-being index.
- As of May 26, agreement amendments worth \$212.3M have now been signed by First Nations and processed for payment (98.8%).
- The remaining \$2.7M has been committed and is in various stages of agreement amendment process.
- Funds have been used to support security, food security, support for elders and other vulnerable populations, etc.

ICSF & the EMAP Terms and Conditions

- To ensure the prompt distribution of funds, an existing program was chosen to act as a conduit for the Indigenous Community Support Fund.
- While three existing programs were considered for this purpose, the Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP) was selected because:
 - It is familiar to most First Nations and to the main players in emergency response;
 - It has the widest eligibility of recipients, activities, and expenditures of those considered;
 - It has considerable flexibility in application and comparatively minimal reporting (while still having reporting);
- The amendments made to the terms and conditions were intended to facilitate the COVID-19 response, while ensuring the integrity of the existing EMAP program.
- To ensure that COVID-19 funds remain distinct from EMAP program funds:
 - Expanded eligibility (including “landless” Bands), additional flexibility on expenses, and altered application and reporting were all limited to COVID-19 response activities;
 - Terms and conditions for traditional EMAP response remain in effect; and
 - Amended terms and conditions are currently due to expire on March 31, 2021. At that point the EMAP terms and conditions will revert to their previous state.

Funding for Urban and Off-Reserve Indigenous Populations

- ICSF included \$15 million for Indigenous organizations and communities providing services to Indigenous peoples in urban centres and/or First Nations living off reserve.
- Funds were distributed through a Request for Proposal process. Over 500 proposals were received, of which approximately 400 were eligible. In total, 94 projects received funding.
- On May 21, 2020, the Government announced an additional \$75M to support critical needs of Indigenous peoples living in urban centres or off-reserve.
 - Will support more community-based projects (e.g., food security, mental health supports, protective equipment)
 - Could support other needs too: elders, transportation, education material for Indigenous children
- Next steps: ISC working with partners on how the funding will be allocated

COVID – 19 CONSIDERATIONS DURING EMERGENCY EVENTS

- Additional complexity in responding to Flood and Fire events in the COVID-19 context. Increased planning, innovative approaches and better coordination are required.
- Health Emergency Management Coordinators have been working closely with Emergency Management Coordinators in the regions to address preparedness and response activities;
 - Consider shelter-in-place options;
 - Ensure infection mitigation strategies are implemented, if evacuating individuals with COVID-19;
 - Ensure public health interventions are considered when selecting the evacuation site (e.g., access to soap/water, hand sanitizer, social distancing during meals/recreational activities);
 - Enhanced mental wellness supports needs due to concerns around COVID-19

On-going Considerations for the COVID-19 Response

- Seeking information on how First Nations communities spent ICFS funding to better identify priority areas and gaps.
- While continuing to address current needs, planning for potential second wave.
 - Supported by reflection on lessons learned from the first wave of the pandemic; work on this has recently begun.
- Indigenous Services Canada continues to work with First Nations to understand remaining COVID-19 support needs.