Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
Réseau Canadien Autochtone du SIDA
ᑲᓇᑕᒥ ᓄᓇᖅᑳᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᓴᐱ ᐱᓪᓗᒍ ᑐᓴᐅᒪᖅᑎᒌᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᑦ

Public Statement

The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) recognizes that Indigenous peoples will have a unique experience with the recent global outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19). Based on our historic and current living circumstances, there will be challenges to how First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples respond to the current pandemic.

Canada's whole-of-government has created the infrastructure to respond to the public health threat of the COVID-19 virus, in collaboration with provincial, territorial governments, and international partners. More information including travel health notices can be found at www.canada.ca.

As an Indigenous organization, we believe taking care of our families, employees, and members, is central to the CAAN response. Know your surroundings; plan for prevention; prepare to limit potential exposure; check in on each other by phone or email; and keep up to date on current information and directives.

Effective March 17, 2020, CAAN has taken the following internal measures:

*All travel is restricted until further notice

*Work from home using online platforms to host and attend meetings

*Be familiar with policy directives as they are created for Canada's response including self-isolation for 14 days if you have travelled outside of Canada. Recognize the symptoms and testing process for your specific location or residence.

In supporting National partners who have responded to COVID-19, please visit www.catie.ca as certain medical conditions may influence the severity of COVID-19 including people with compromised immune systems, diabetes, and heart conditions are some examples, this virus affects the respiratory system and breathing.

As Indigenous people of the land, we are involved with seeking solutions through our Indigenous ways of knowing and asking the medicines, knowledge keepers and ceremonialists to lead us forward. We ask for this for all nations and are working together.

Vancouver Office: 6520 Salish Drive, Vancouver, BC V6N 2C7
1.888.285.2226 604.266.7616 604.266.7612
Halifax Office: 113-154 Willowdale Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2V 2W4
902.433.0900 902.433.3041
info@caan.ca www.caan.ca