

**AFN C-19 National Task Force**  
**Daily Update for: June 18, 2020**

**Health Sector**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html#a1>

**Areas in Canada with cases of COVID-19, as of 2020-06-17 7:00PM EDT**

Province	Confirmed Cases	Hospitalization (ICU)*	Deaths	Recovered
BC	2,775	11 (5)	168	2,422
AB	7,530	38 (7)	151	6,893
SK	693	2 (1)	13	633
MB	306	0 (0)	7	293
ON	32,744	351 (84)	2,550	27,784
QC	54,263	637 (65)	5,298	22,549
Newfoundland/Lab	261	0 (0)	3	257
NB	164	4 (1)	2	133
NS	1,061	2 (1)	62	997
PEI	27		-	27
Yukon	11		-	11
NWT	5		-	5
Nunavut	0			
Repatriated Travelers	13			
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,853</b>	<b>1,045 (164)</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>62,017</b>
<b>Active Cases= 29,610</b>				

\*These are numbers of *current* hospitalizations and ICU admissions. Some sources report the total *cumulative* number of hospitalizations and ICU admissions. Also, hospitalization data are amalgamated as they are reported by various hospitals; they are therefore updated sporadically, intermittently, and are likely to be less accurate and current than other data points.

	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
<b>Globally</b>	8,384,043	449,695	4,102,111

- Data is as of June 18 at 10:33am from Johns Hopkins University:  
<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

## Epidemic Summary

As of **June 17, 2020**, the majority (**87%**) of COVID-19 cases are related to domestic acquisition. Domestic acquisition is defined as any exposure that occurred within Canada. This includes acquisition through contact with a COVID-19 case (**52%**); through contact with a traveller (**1%**); and from an unknown source (**35%**). Only **4%** of cases are attributed to travel outside of Canada. The exposure setting for the remaining **8%** of Canadian cases is unknown (information pending).

As of **June 17, 2020**, Canada has an overall case fatality rate of **8.3%**.

As of **June 17, 2020**, **62%** of all Canadian COVID-19 cases are reported to have recovered.

## Risk to Canadians

COVID-19 is a serious health threat, and the situation is evolving daily. The risk will vary between and within communities, but given the increasing number of cases in Canada, the risk to Canadians is considered **high**.

There is an increased risk of more severe outcomes for Canadians:

- Aged 65 and over
- With compromised immune systems
- With underlying medical conditions

## Data Sources:

British Columbia:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

Alberta: <https://covid19stats.alberta.ca/#cases>

Saskatchewan: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/cases-and-risk-of-covid-19-in-saskatchewan>

Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/index.html#cases>

Ontario: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus#section-0>

Quebec: <https://www.inspq.qc.ca/covid-19/donnees>

New Brunswick:

[https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory\\_diseases/coronavirus/case-map.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/coronavirus/case-map.html)

Nova Scotia: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/data/>

Prince Edward Island: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/pei-covid-19-testing-data>

Newfoundland and Labrador: <https://covid-19-newfoundland-and-labrador-gnl.hub.arcgis.com/>

Yukon: <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

Northwest Territories: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19>

Additional source (national): <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/tracking-every-case-of-covid-19-in-canada-1.4852102#alberta>

### **Housing, Infrastructure, Water & Emergency Management Sector**

#### **Local States of Emergencies:**

First Nation States of Emergency- As per ISC report June 16, 2020									
Region	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	Territories	Total
Confirmed	61	31	0	21	69	4	7	2	195

**WILDFIRE:** - As Per ISC EMD 2020 FN Flood / Wildland Fire Report as of June 12, 2020 -  
**\*\*Please note that given the decrease in significant incidents, this report will now be issued on a bi-weekly basis\*\*** - Updates in Bold

Nil -

**FLOODS:** As Per ISC EMD 2020 FN Flood / Wildland Fire Situation Report as of June 12, 2020 -  
**\*\*Please note that given the decrease in significant incidents, this report will now be issued on a bi-weekly basis\*\*** - Updates in Bold

Nil -

**OTHER EVENTS:** Nil -

## **Communications Sector**

**New COVID-19 cases on NW Ontario First Nations**

**The New Watch – June 17, 2020**

<https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/new-covid-19-cases-on-nw-ontario-first-nations-2441309>

**2 more COVID-19 cases in Eabametoong First Nation, chief worried about possible outbreak**  
**CBC – June 16, 2020**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/eabametoong-2-more-covid-19-cases-1.5613947>

**Leading Westbank First Nation into the future**

**Chief Christopher Derickson address issues facing the Westbank First Nation**

**Kelowna Capital News – June 18, 2020**

<https://www.kelownacapnews.com/news/leading-westbank-first-nation-into-the-future/>

**Initiative to provide laptops, tablets, free wi-fi for Indigenous learners**

**Times Columinst – June 17, 2020**

<https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/initiative-to-provide-laptops-tablets-free-wi-fi-for-indigenous-learners-1.24154952>

**Health Unit announces two new COVID-19 cases**

**Both cases listed as being from First Nations communities.**

**The News Watch – June 17, 2020**

<https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/health-unit-announces-two-new-covid-19-cases-2441457>

## **International**

**Paulinho Paiakan: Amazon indigenous chief dies with coronavirus**

**BBC News – June 18, 2020**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-53087933>

**One of the best-known indigenous defenders of the Amazon rainforest has died with coronavirus in Brazil, where the disease continues its rapid spread.**

## **Numbers**

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581964230816/1581964277298#chap5>

### **Confirmed cases of COVID-19**

On First Nations reserves in provinces, as of June 17, ISC is aware of:

- 263 confirmed positive COVID-19
- 26 hospitalizations
- 213 recovered cases
- 6 deaths

Case numbers per region:

- British Columbia: 42
- Alberta: 64
- Saskatchewan: 67
- Ontario: 55
- Quebec: 35

## **Full Stories**

### **New COVID-19 cases on NW Ontario First Nations**

#### **The New Watch – June 17, 2020**

<https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/new-covid-19-cases-on-nw-ontario-first-nations-2441309>

SIoux LOOKOUT, Ont. — The Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority reports four new cases of COVID-19 in two communities within its jurisdiction.

SLFNHA says these are in addition to a case that was identified on June 12.

The authority, which recently took responsibility for COVID-19 case management, is working with both communities with contact tracing, and providing additional resources.

Neither community was identified in a news release. SLFNHA said this is consistent with good public health practices, and respecting confidentiality and privacy.

Following the June 12 positive case, two additional cases from the same community were identified on June 15.

"These are significant as the transmission occurred in the community," the authority said.

It said it has met with all parties, including Chief and Council, community doctors, the nursing station, Indigenous Services Canada and the Preventing Infectious Disease team.

As part of their pandemic planning, the community already had a Contact Tracing Team in place, which the SLFNHA says enabled tracing to begin within hours.

It deployed a response team to the community, and the local pandemic plan has been implemented.

As part of the response, 500 swabs and sets of personal protective equipment have been delivered to the First Nation.

Contact tracing is also underway in a second community where two positive COVID-19 cases came to light on June 15.

SLFHNA said it is working with community leaders to ensure the safety of residents, but no other details are available as yet.

### **Rainy River First Nations COVID-19 case re-examined**

Elsewhere in northwestern Ontario, Rainy River First Nations, west of Fort Frances, has provided an update on the status of a COVID-19 case it reported on Tuesday.

In a post on its Facebook page, RRFN says a test result that was originally labelled as "positive" has now been labelled "indeterminate."

The test is now being redone to get a conclusive result.

An update will be provided to the community when the results are available.

Contact tracing began immediately on Rainy River First Nations after the test result initially came back positive, and testing was also made available to any individuals concerned about their risk of getting COVID-19.

### **2 more COVID-19 cases in Eabametoong First Nation, chief worried about possible outbreak CBC – June 16, 2020**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/eabametoong-2-more-covid-19-cases-1.5613947>

The chief of a fly-in Ojibway First Nation in northern Ontario said the community is facing a possible COVID-19 outbreak after two more tests came back positive on Monday night.

Eabametoong First Nation Chief Harvey Yesno said he plans to ask the band council to implement a lockdown of the community for the next two weeks.

"We will be discussing a total lockdown... It's going to be severe," he said.

The two new cases emerged from two rounds of testing as a result of contact tracing triggered by a positive COVID-19 result last week.

That case, an 80-year-old, mostly house-bound elder, was flown to the Sioux Lookout, Ont., hospital Thursday.

Eabametoong is a community of about 1,600 and sits about 360 kilometres north of Thunder Bay.

### **Evidence of 'in-community transmission'**

The Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority is leading the community's COVID-19 response after taking over the duties from Indigenous Services Canada on May 19.

Dr. John Guilfoyle, the authority's public health physician, said in an emailed statement that Eabametoong is facing a "cluster" of cases and that there is evidence of in-community transmission.

"Contact tracing continues as we try to get out ahead of this," Guilfoyle said.

The health authority previously said it had provided Eabametoong with 500 swabs for COVID-19 testing and the community is fully stocked with personal protective equipment.

Guilfoyle said in an interview Monday that a team is already in place to deal with contact tracing and COVID-19 case management.

"We have taken pains to have that capacity to be ready for exactly having these circumstances," said Guilfoyle.

The health authority chartered planes over the weekend to transport swabs to the Sioux Lookout Ya Win Health Centre, which has the capacity to rapidly process a limited number of COVID-19 tests.

### **'We are not ready'**

Yesno said the first round of 12 contact tracing tests that included two of the elder's family members and the rest were from health staff, came back negative.

Yesno said the elder was most likely infected through community spread and that the elder was recently at a camp with a large number of family members.

Eabametoong now has recorded a total of four COVID-19 cases. The first case, in early April, was a band councillor who appeared to have been infected in Thunder Bay and has since recovered.

Yesno said the community currently does not have an isolation centre, despite plans to use the youth hall which he said was turned down by the community's health authorities.

Eabametoong is currently using its community hall as an assessment centre and there is a medical tent that could also be used, but it has no water hook up, he said.

"Even if we convert the gymnasium, we would need a lot of equipment," he said.

"We are not ready."

The community is currently still under a long-term boil water advisory because its new water treatment plant is still not operational and one of its two drinking water stations needs maintenance. Eabametoong also faces widespread overcrowding with an average of a little more than six people per house, making it difficult to self-isolate, said Yesno.

The community currently has at least seven nurses on the ground, and one is dedicated exclusively to dealing with COVID-19 cases, he said. The nursing station is also under a partial lockdown for emergencies only and Yesno said he's concerned community members with other ailments won't be able to get the help they need.

### **Leading Westbank First Nation into the future**

**Chief Christopher Derickson address issues facing the Westbank First Nation**

**Kelowna Capital News – June 18, 2020**

<https://www.kelownacapnews.com/news/leading-westbank-first-nation-into-the-future/>

*The West K News interviewed Westbank First Nation (WFN) chief Christopher Derickson last week and invited him to respond to a variety of issues facing Indigenous culture.*

*Derickson was elected WFN chief in 2019. His diverse post-secondary education background includes an executive MBA in Aboriginal and Business Leadership from Simon Fraser University, a Juris Doctor degree from UBC Law School and a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in political science from UBC Okanagan.*

*He sits on several boards including the Okanagan College Board of Governors, which he chaired for two years, and was included by Business in Vancouver as 'Forty under 40' award recipient in 2017.*

### **What were the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic?**

"None of us elected to the new council last year, two newly elected, one incumbent and one who has served previously, anticipated having to govern during a pandemic. There is no handbook for that.

“We had developed our strategic planning process in October and hit the ground running in January, starting to make some headway on that when the pandemic shut everything down. During that time period, we had to ensure our residents, our membership, the business owners on our lands were looked after.

“We are very fortunate in B.C. to have the leadership of (provincial health officer) Dr. Bonnie Henry and we are trending in the right direction...flattening the curve. Our WFN membership has so far had no reported cases, and no reported cases for Okanagan Nation as well.”

**What about the wider impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous people?**

“I guess with the narrative of our experience in Canada, it’s no secret we have dealt with our fair share of challenges from our initial contact with European settlers through history to impact of colonization and the pandemics of early disease that spread through our communities and in some cases wiped out entire Indigenous populations.

“Today we deal with modern society systemic racism, over-representation in our prison system, under-representation at higher levels of government and the public sector as well, under-representation of high school and post-secondary graduation rates. We have survived through these experiences in our history and I’m quite sure we’ll make it through this.”

**What is the economic outlook for WFN’s future?**

“We are looking forward to our development plans with an idea to being more environmentally-friendly and be mindful of our carbon footprint...we are living in an era of facing drastic impacts due to climate change, which was top of mind before the COVID-19 pandemic was born.

“We are looking at taking a more progressive direction in the kinds of development we want to attract...to partner with developers willing to look beyond short-term profit and look to the type of world we are leaving for our children.

“Millennials don’t look at both sides of climate change as baby boomers who discuss the merits of both sides...They accept climate change is here, it’s happening and let’s do something about it.

“As millennials age and move into positions of authority, you will start to see that change in policy”

**Is the resolution of land claims issue still at the forefront of First Nations thinking?**

“I think every generation of ours as their issues for that period and time...outstanding land claims were an issue in the 1990s before that was our right to vote and unjust racist government legislation, prior to that was recognition of aboriginal title to land in Canada, prior to that people on reserves not allowed to leave the reserves or vote.

“The framework of that conversation has expanded to a wider scope about culture and language, more than just land. The issue is still outstanding but the scope of the discussions is wider today.”

**What has led to improved graduation rates for WFN students?**

“The Central Okanagan School District has done an amazing job and been an excellent partner for us. We value our relationship with them and come to realize their success is our success.

“Our youth still face issues with gang violence, and drugs and alcohol addiction, but we are about to celebrate our fourth straight year of 100 per cent high school graduation rate.

That is the result of our past leadership making investments in education and other social programs to support our young people.

“Back for my WFN student graduation class, we had an event at some obscure hall in Winfield that I can’t remember the name of.

Today, for that ceremony we pack the largest gym in the school district at KSS and there is still not enough room for all the parents and friends wanting to attend...things have changed dramatically for the better.”

**What is the benefit from serving as the chair of the Okanagan College board of governors before becoming chief?**

“It has been a phenomenal experience...I learned how to chair a meeting and direct conversations in the right way and also work with different levels of government...all through my career I have been fortunate to work with knowledgeable and experienced people and learn from them.”

**Initiative to provide laptops, tablets, free wi-fi for Indigenous learners**

**Times Columinst – June 17, 2020**

<https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/initiative-to-provide-laptops-tablets-free-wi-fi-for-indigenous-learners-1.24154952>

Three groups have joined together to distribute laptops and tablets and provide free wi-fi access to more than 800 Indigenous learners in mid-Vancouver Island.

Kw’umut Lelum Child and Family Services, the Nanaimo Ladysmith Schools Foundation and the Mastercard Foundation are all part of the Staying Connected to Education initiative, which aims to help learners with online education and keep them connected to the social programs they need.

Kw’umut Lelum said the COVID-19 pandemic has had a big effect on Indigenous communities, which have one in four people living in poverty. With education and other services being provided virtually, it is hard to ensure that the most vulnerable have the proper technological resources, the organization said.

While graduation rates are rising, only about 44 per cent of Indigenous people ages 18 to 24 and living on reserve have completed high school, it said.

The devices and supports provided through the initiative will be a “lifeline” for those struggling with the transition to virtual education necessitated by COVID-19, Kw’umut Lelum said.

Families in need will be identified by the Nanaimo-Ladysmith, Qualicum and Cowichan school districts, Aboriginal friendship centres and First Nations governments.

“Kw’umut Lelum and its nine Coast Salish member nations realize that education is the pathway to betterment of our children’s lives, and during this pandemic we have to ensure all Indigenous learners do not fall behind for economic reasons,” said Kw’umut Lelum chief executive William Yoachim. “We have a duty as Indigenous people to ensure all Indigenous youth in our territories are treated as ours.

“This teaching comes from the land and is practised in our longhouse, where you feed all the guests before yourselves, ensuring the guests are nourished and feel welcomed.”

Ed Poli, board chairman of the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation, said the program is “much needed” and “fits perfectly with the foundation’s vision of helping every student reach their full potential.”

“We are pleased to have been able to partner with Kw’umut Lelum and are grateful for the support of the Mastercard Foundation.”

### **Health Unit announces two new COVID-19 cases**

**Both cases listed as being from First Nations communities.**

**The News Watch – June 17, 2020**

<https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/health-unit-announces-two-new-covid-19-cases-2441457>

THUNDER BAY – The Thunder Bay District Health Unit has announced two new COVID-19 cases. Both are listed as residing in First Nations communities.

The first case involves a woman in her 20s, while the second is a female younger than 20. Both are self-isolating and both are listed as close contact exposures.

The two new cases bring the health unit's total to 89. There are six active cases, four listed as being in hospital. Eighty-two are listed as resolved and there's been one death as a result of COVID-19.

To date, the health unit has conducted 16,278 tests. A total of 440 are pending, with 15,749 coming back negative.

### **International**

#### **Paulinho Paiakan: Amazon indigenous chief dies with coronavirus**

**BBC News – June 18, 2020**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-53087933>

**One of the best-known indigenous defenders of the Amazon rainforest has died with coronavirus in Brazil, where the disease continues its rapid spread.**

Paulinho Paiakan, chief of the Kayapó people, came to international attention in the 1980s in the fight against Belo Monte, one of the world's largest dams.

He was around 65. In 1998, he was convicted of the rape of an 18-year-old, a case that hurt his reputation.

Covid-19 has hit Brazil's vulnerable indigenous communities hard.

The country is among the world's worst affected, and the outbreak is believed to be weeks away from its peak. Brazil has the second-highest numbers of infections - over 955,000 - and deaths, more than 46,500, after the US.

Paiakan was one of the most important indigenous voices during Brazil's return to democracy in the 1980s, and helped lead the campaign for the creation of large indigenous reserves in the Amazon.

Alongside Kayapó chief Raoni and musician Sting, he brought attention to the impact of the construction of the Belo Monte hydroelectric dam on the Xingu river, in the Amazon. After many hurdles, a modified project was eventually built, and operation started in 2016.

He also fought to expel illegal miners and loggers from indigenous areas.

But his image was stained in 1992, after a student accused him of rape, a case that had worldwide repercussions. His allies argued the claim was fabricated to tarnish Paiakan's reputation and to silence him.

After a long legal process, he was sentenced to six years in jail in 1998, but served only part of it under house arrest on his indigenous reserve in the northern state of Pará. His wife was found guilty of assisting him in the attack.

Reacting to his death on Wednesday at a hospital in Pará, the Brazilian Indigenous Peoples' Association (Apib) described Paiakan as a "father, leader and warrior" for indigenous peoples and the environment.

Gert-Peter Bruch, founder of environmental group Planet Amazon, told AFP news agency: "He worked all his life to build worldwide alliances around indigenous peoples to save the Amazon. He was far ahead of his time. We've lost an extremely valuable guide."

Across Brazil's Amazon region, more than 280 indigenous people have died with coronavirus, according to Apib. There are special concerns about the outbreak in the area, where hospitals are underfunded and access to remote areas is difficult.

Pará, home to tens of thousands of indigenous people, has become one of the hardest-hit states in the country.

On Wednesday, Mike Ryan, emergencies programme head at the World Health Organization (WHO), said the outbreak in Brazil was still "quite severe", and that the moment was of "extreme caution".

Far-right President Jair Bolsonaro, who initially described the virus as a "little flu", has been heavily criticised at home and abroad for his handling of the crisis. He has refused to follow WHO advice and two health ministers have left the job over disagreements with the president. Earlier this month, his government stopped publishing data about the virus. It was forced to reverse the decision after being accused of trying to manipulate the numbers.

Mr Bolsonaro has also repeatedly criticised state and local authorities for imposing restrictions that have shut down large cities across the country. The measures have started to be lifted in some areas.

CONFIDENTIAL