

**AFN C-19 National Task Force**  
**Daily Update for: May 21, 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 2020-05-21 11:01AM EDT**

Province	Confirmed Cases	Hospitalization (ICU)*	Deaths	Recovered
BC	2,467	43 (10)	149	1,975
AB	6,735	58 (7)	128	5,637
SK	620	4 (3)	7	494
MB	290	1 (0)	7	260
ON	24,187	984 (155)	1,993	18,509
QC	44,775	1,516 (183)	3,718	12,822
Newfoundland/Lab	260	3 (1)	3	253
NB	120	0 (0)	0	120
NS	1,045	9 (4)	57	959
PEI	27		-	27
Yukon	11		-	11
NWT	5		-	5
Nunavut	0			
Repatriated Travelers	13			
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,555</b>	<b>2,618 (363)</b>	<b>6,062</b>	<b>41,098</b>
<b>Active Cases= 33,395</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>	5,034,458	329,186	1,918,028

- Data is as of May 21 at 10:32am from Johns Hopkins University:  
<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

## Epidemic Summary

As of **May 13**, 2020 **81%** of COVID-19 cases were related to community transmission, while **19%** were either exposed while travelling or exposed to a traveler coming to Canada.

As of **May 20**, 2020, Canada has an overall case fatality rate of **7.5%**.

As of **May 20**, 2020, **51%** 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>

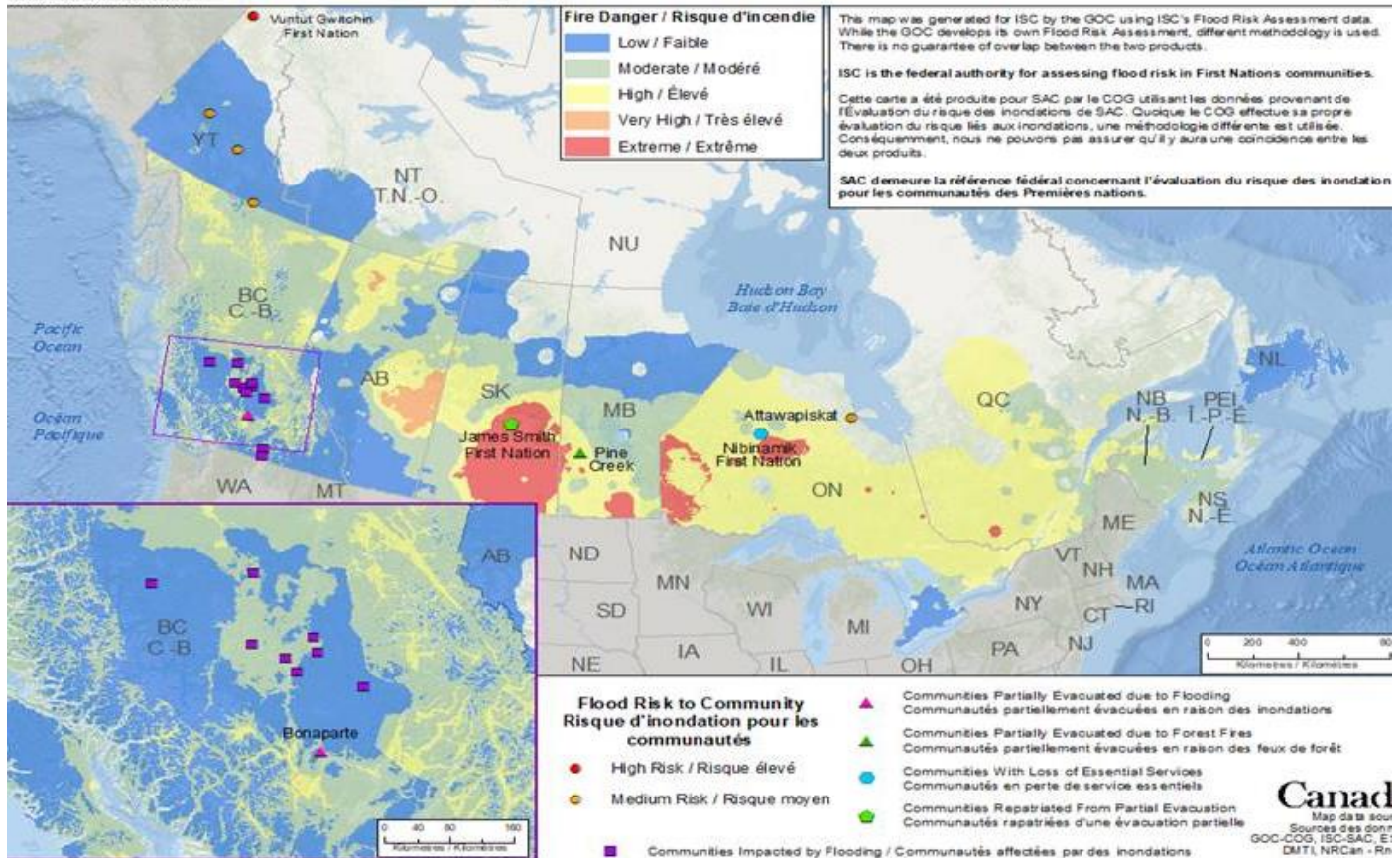
Additional source (national): <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/tracking-every-case-of-covid-19-in-canada-1.4852102#alberta>

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

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

##### **First Nations Local States of Emergencies:**

First Nation States of Emergency- As per ISC report May 19,2020									
Region	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	Territories	Total
Confirmed	57	33	4	20	69	4	7	2	196



**UPDATES SUMMARY:**

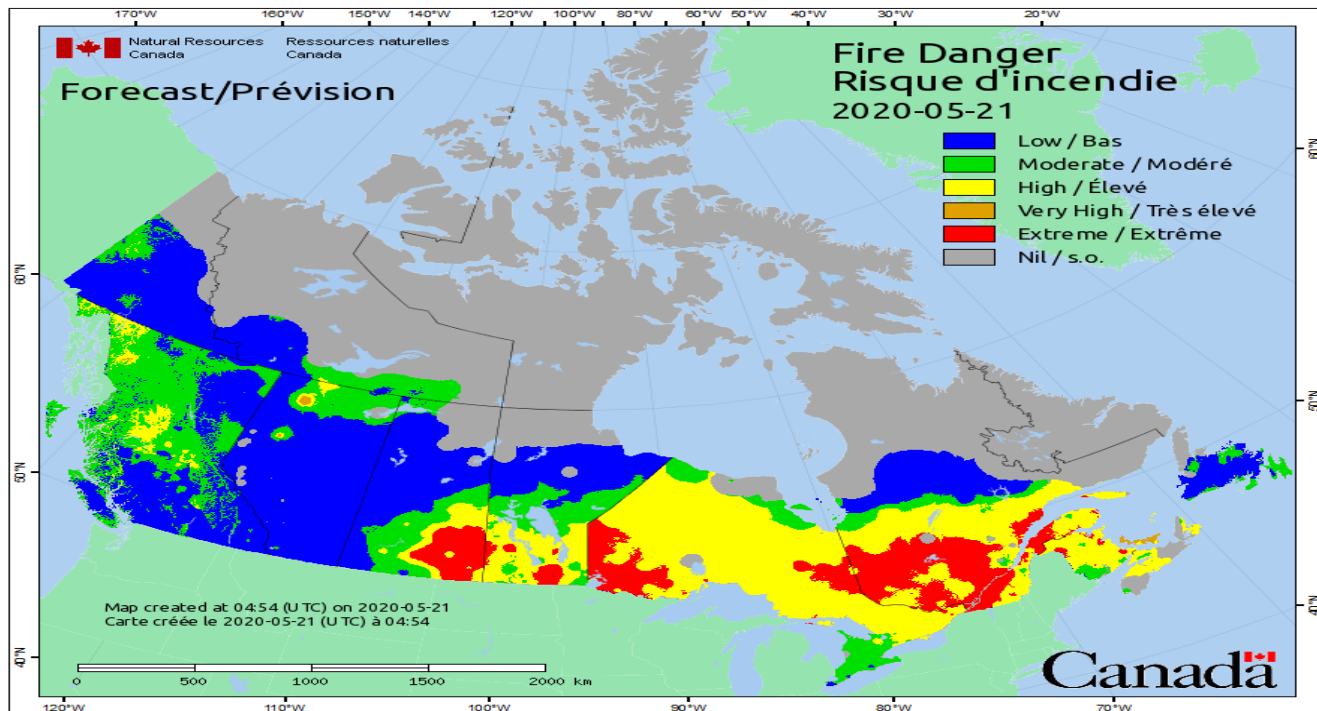
- There are currently 2 FN communities impacted by Wildland Fires (1 SK, 1 MB), 2 FN communities impacted by Flooding (1 BC and 1 ON), and 1 FN community impacted by Loss of Essential Services (1 ON). 2 FN communities are partially evacuated (1 BC, 1 MB). 5+ FN community residents are currently evacuated.

**2020 Flood Season General Assessments:** As Per ISC EMD 2020 FN Flood / Wildland Fire Situation Report as of May 21, 2020 - **Updates in Bold**

**\*\*Please note that given the decrease in significant incidents, this report will now be issued on a bi-weekly basis\*\***

## **FLOODING 2020 Flood Season General Risk Assessments - New Information in bold**

- **BC: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – DECREASING**
    - **19MAY2020: High Streamflow Advisory remains for a number of locations within the mountainous interior of the Rocky Mountains due to snowmelt.**
  - **AB: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – MODERATE TO HIGH...No Change**
  - **SK: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – MODERATE...No Change**
  - **MB: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – LOW...No Change**
  - **ON: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – Moderate to high**
    - **20MAY2020: Flood Watch in Northeast Ontario continues. If temperatures occur as forecasted (low 20s) in the next 3 days, there is LOW to MODERATE risk of flooding. Flood Watch/Warning in Southern Ontario with low-lying areas flooding in the flat areas around southwest Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair due to rain accumulations and high wave/lake levels. Hamilton issued flood watch due to local waterways nearing full capacity.**
    - **Attawapiskat First Nation (143) (Chief David Nakogee) Population: 1,990**
      - **20MAY2020: The flood risk for the Attawapiskat River has been reduced to MODERATE. Ice breakup has begun. Water levels remain low.**
        - 19MAY2020: The Attawapiskat River is showing signs of breakup; a surveillance flight is planned for 20 May; There are currently no flooding concerns for Attawapiskat First Nation; Flood risks on the Albany and Moose Rivers have been downgraded to LOW;
        - This will be the final notification for Kashechewan, Fort Albany and Moose Cree First Nations unless conditions change.
  - **QC: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – MODERATE...No Change**
  - **ATL: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – MODERATE TO LOW...No Change**
  - **YT: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – LOW RISK...**
    - **19MAY2020: The flood watch issued for the Klondike River on May 9, 2020, remains in effect at Rock Creek and Dawson. The minor flooding threshold was reached on May 11, 2020; however river discharge has since dropped.**
  - **NWT: FLOOD RISK FORECAST – HIGH RISK...No Change**
-



**GOC Elevated Posture: Level 1 – Enhanced Reporting**

The Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) National Preparedness Level: N/A

- **20MAY2020: The GOC is currently conducting a planning process, in collaboration with partners, to increase preparedness of the Federal and Provincial/Territorial (PT) partners in case of wildland urban interface fire events in Canada. The final product will include a national risk assessment and a whole of government contingency plan.**

**Wildfire:** - Western regions Low to Moderate; most of Prairie region showing a decrease in risk levels; Central to Atlantic regions showing an increase in risk levels.

**SASKATCHEWAN:**

James Smith Cree FN (370) (Chief Wally Burns) Population: 3,421

- 17MAY2020: Due to high winds, the fire is no longer deemed contained. Wildfire crews continue to deploy additional resources. No smoke impacts to James Smith Cree Nation As fire is 7km away.
- 16MAY2020: The fire is contained. Evacuees return home.
- 15MAY2020: Decision made to evacuate priority community members due to smoke from nearby wildfire.
  - Approx. 39 evacuees expected to evacuate to Prince Albert;
  - The wildfire is not yet contained;
  - Prince Albert Grand Council is coordinating food services for the evacuees;

- There are no active or suspected cases of COVID-19 in the community

## **MANITOBA**

### **Pine Creek First Nation (282) (Chief Karen Batson) On-reserve population: 637**

- **20MAY2020: State of Local Emergency declared due to Wildfire. 14 homes on the west side of the community evacuated under threat of Fire. Evacuation within community.**
- 18MAY2020: There is no longer a threat to the community from the fires. 110 evacuees (of 112) repatriated. One family of 2 will remain as long term evacuees supported by the Canadian Red Cross due to the loss of one home. Fire remains out of control; Manitoba Wildfire Service and local teams on scene.
- 17MAY2020: 112 community members have self-evacuated to Dauphin due to several fires in the area.

## **Communications Sector**

**First Nations partners of Keeyask 'not backing down' from blockades over COVID-19 fears  
Manitoba Hydro says it will gradually bring 1,000 workers back to northern Manitoba work site**

**CBC News - May 20, 2020**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/keeyask-manitoba-hydro-first-nations-blockades-1.5577185>

**Kanesatake Mohawks block entrance to Oka provincial park  
Grand Chief Serge Simon fears 2nd wave of COVID-19 as province reopens parks, businesses**

**CBC News · Posted: May 20, 2020**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/visitors-barred-entry-at-oka-provincial-park-1.5577093>

**Feds to announce additional pandemic funding for off-reserve Indigenous People**

**The Canadian Press - May 21, 2020**

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/feds-to-announce-additional-pandemic-funding-for-off-reserve-indigenous-people-1.4947961>

**Amazon mayor warns of indigenous genocide as coronavirus spreads**

**Reuters - May 20, 2020**

<https://nationalpost.com/pmnh/health-pmnh/amazon-mayor-warns-of-indigenous-genocide-as-coronavirus-spreads>

## **Numbers**

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

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

On First Nations reserves in provinces, as of May 20, ISC is aware of:

- 201 confirmed positive COVID-19
- 18 hospitalizations
- 4 deaths

Case numbers per region:

- British Columbia: 39
- Alberta: 37
- Saskatchewan: 47
- Ontario: 43
- Quebec: 35

## **Full Stories**

**First Nations partners of Keeyask 'not backing down' from blockades over COVID-19 fears  
Manitoba Hydro says it will gradually bring 1,000 workers back to northern Manitoba work site**

**CBC News - May 20, 2020**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/keeyask-manitoba-hydro-first-nations-blockades-1.5577185>

All four First Nations who are partners in the Keeyask hydro project are now blocking workers from entering the northern Manitoba work site, as they wait for a court injunction against their blockade to be served Wednesday evening.

A number of Tataskweyak Cree Nation community members who are concerned about the possible spread of COVID-19 started blocking Provincial Road 280 and the north access road to the Keeyask site on the weekend in an attempt to stop a worker shift change scheduled for Tuesday.

"We're not going anywhere. We're going to stand our ground," said Nathan Neckoway, a Tataskweyak Cree Nation councillor involved in the blockade.

Fox Lake Cree Nation, another Keeyask partner, issued a state of emergency and locked down its community Tuesday. Members of Fox Lake also created a blockade on the Keeyask south access road.

"How are we going to allow 1,200 people to come into our territory and fill that work site when these people, these employees could be carrying the COVID virus?" Neckoway said.

In March, about 600 Hydro workers volunteered to stay on site to continue operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tuesday's scheduled shift change was to switch out those workers and replace them with about 1,000 others from Canada and the United States.



"We were not included in the discussion of the plan for the shift change," said Robert Wavey, a band member and spokesperson for Fox Lake Cree Nation. "It was given to [First Nations] after Hydro came up with their plan."

He says Hydro didn't say that the shift change meant ramping up operations.

The Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench issued an injunction on Monday, ordering the blockade be removed and Hydro be granted access to the construction site.

Mounties will serve the injunction Wednesday evening, an RCMP news release says.

In response, representatives from War Lake First Nation and York Factory First Nation are joining the other First Nation Keeyask partners on the front lines, Neckoway said. All four First Nations are located near the Keeyask work site.

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Grand Chief Garrison Settee is at the blockade and wrote a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Tuesday expressing his "urgent concern" about workers arriving at the site.

"Our First Nations leaders do not want to see a repeat of what is happening in La Loche, Sask.," Settee said in the letter, referencing a COVID-19 outbreak in the northern and largely Indigenous town, which affected more than 100 people.

CBC News has asked the prime minister's office for comment.

Amnesty International also issued a news release in support of the First Nations on Wednesday, calling on Manitoba Hydro to comply with the request to restrict access to the site.

Keeyask workers to return gradually

Manitoba Hydro appeared to back down from its initial plans on Wednesday.

Spokesperson Bruce Owen told CBC News it will bring back workers slowly and deliberately.

"The shift rotation will be a gradual process — not all at once. Our plan is to have approximately 1,000 people on site in about three weeks," he said in an email.

Leaders of the First Nations expressed concern that some of the workers were coming from out of the province and outside Canada, where COVID-19 numbers may be higher.

Owen said when all the workers are back in three weeks, fewer than 10 will be from out of the country and between 100 and 150 will be from outside the province.

"Significant steps have been taken to minimize those numbers, in response to concerns," he said.

Out-of-country workers have to self-isolate for 14 days in the province before they're allowed on site, Hydro officials said. Workers also will be tested for COVID-19 and their tests must come back negative before they're allowed to work.

According to Settee, these measures to test incoming workers and bring them in slowly aren't strict enough to protect community members.

"I think that the risk is still there, regardless of how many people are transported in increments, and I think that the people are not satisfied with that. They would rather not have anyone coming in," he said.

Settee believes the dispute between Manitoba Hydro and the First Nations amounts to a "clash of cultural values."

"I always believe that the safety of human lives is paramount to anything, and ... as Indigenous people, we place every human life over corporate interests any day," he says.

Enforcing injunction

Manitoba Hydro won't comment on enforcement of the court injunction, because that's the RCMP's jurisdiction, Owen said.

Police plan to serve the injunction order in a "respectful manner that is culturally sensitive," an RCMP news release said.

"The community members at the blockades have a lawful right to protest and companies have a lawful right to complete their mandated work," the release said.

"The RCMP is working hard to protect both these rights and ensure all parties and public are kept safe."

Rumours about possible arrests were circulated online, but the RCMP said they are unfounded. Although RCMP say no arrests are anticipated, Neckoway said he's ready to go that far if need be.

"We're not just going to drop everything and put our tail between our legs."

**Kanesatake Mohawks block entrance to Oka provincial park  
Grand Chief Serge Simon fears 2nd wave of COVID-19 as province reopens parks, businesses  
CBC News · Posted: May 20, 2020**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/visitors-barred-entry-at-oka-provincial-park-1.5577093>

Kanesatake Mohawks set up checkpoints at the entrance to Oka provincial park Wednesday, as the park was due to reopen, stopping cars as they arrived and asking their occupants to turn around and leave.

Kanesatake Grand Chief Serge Otsi Simon said the provincial government had failed in its constitutional duty to consult with First Nations before reopening its parks network.

Oka park, about 60 kilometres northwest of Montreal, is adjacent to the town of Oka and the Mohawk community, and Simon said Mohawks are worried opening the park to visitors could spread COVID-19 to neighbouring communities, including Kanesatake.

"We're seeing progress: infection rates and death rates are starting to slow down," said Simon.

"So is it really the time to get the economy rolling?"

Simon said the province [should have waited at least two more weeks](#) before allowing people to spend time in the park. He wrote Premier François Legault Monday, calling for limited access to the region.

In his letter, Simon said that even if precautions are taken, "the risks of community spread in our area are too high."

"Oka park as well as the Oka–Hudson ferry must stay closed until we are consulted on any reopening of tourist services that may affect the health of our region," Simon wrote.

Town of Oka welcomes reopening

Oka Mayor Pascal Quévillon, who was also at Oka park Wednesday morning, sees no problem with the park partially reopening if people respect physical distancing.

For now, only hiking and biking in the park are allowed. Oka beach and all the park's services, including washrooms, remain closed.

"COVID-19 is here to stay," Quévillon said. "We have to learn to live with the virus."

Quévillon said the park's visitors are important for local businesses, and he is demanding Legault ask provincial police to step in.

Asked about the standoff at the government's pandemic briefing Wednesday, Deputy Premier Geneviève Guilbault said the provincial Ministry of Parks and Wildlife is in talks with Simon in the hope of finding a satisfactory solution to the dispute.

Meanwhile, she asked the Mohawks to allow access to the park.

"Parks were supposed to reopen on May 20, and it is May 20," Guilbault said.

The provincial agency that manages parks, SEPAQ, says it will reimburse anyone who purchased a ticket to access the park and didn't get in.

### **Feds to announce additional pandemic funding for off-reserve Indigenous People**

**The Canadian Press - May 21, 2020**

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/feds-to-announce-additional-pandemic-funding-for-off-reserve-indigenous-people-1.4947961>

-- The federal government is to provide more financial support to help off-reserve Indigenous People weather the COVID-19 pandemic.

The additional funding expected today comes amid criticism that the Trudeau government has largely ignored the plight of thousands of Indigenous people who live off-reserve and in urban centres.

Many of them were already among Canada's most vulnerable before the pandemic hit in mid-March -- struggling with poverty, homelessness, food insecurity and mental health and addiction issues.

The Congress of Aboriginal People, which represents some 90,000 off-reserve and non-status Indigenous people, has gone to court over what it says is the "inadequate and discriminatory" funding it has received compared to other Indigenous groups.

In mid-March, the government created the \$305-million Indigenous Community Support Fund, most of which went to organizations representing First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities to help them prepare for and cope with the pandemic.

Only \$15 million of that was allotted for off-reserve organizations, even though they serve more than half of Canada's Indigenous population, and of that, CAP, which is seeking \$16 million, received just \$

### **Amazon mayor warns of indigenous genocide as coronavirus spreads**

**Reuters - May 20, 2020**

<https://nationalpost.com/pmnh/health-pmn/amazon-mayor-warns-of-indigenous-genocide-as-coronavirus-spreads>

MANAUS — The mayor of the largest city in the Amazon rainforest said the coronavirus pandemic is killing indigenous people and warned of a "genocide" if Brazil's right-wing government fails to protect vulnerable tribes.

So far 25 indigenous people have died in the rainforest as the outbreak slowly penetrates remote villages, but more than 100 have been killed by the virus in urban areas, health authorities and indigenous groups said.

"I fear a genocide," said Arthur Virgilio Neto, mayor of Manaus, a city of 2 million people and capital of Amazonas state, in a video posted on social media late on Tuesday.

The mayor said the government of President Jair Bolsonaro was not concerned about the plight of indigenous people and doing nothing to save lives threatened by the outbreak.

“It is a crime against humanity what they are doing here in my state of Amazonas, in my region.” he said.

Bolsonaro’s office did not reply to requests for comment.

Healthcare for indigenous people is the responsibility of the federal health ministry and its indigenous health service Sesai, which does not treat members of a tribe who have migrated away from their ancestral lands.

Health experts say the outbreak that first broke out in the cities is now spreading to isolated areas where the population has no access to healthcare.

Pan American Health Organization officials said in a virtual briefing on Tuesday they were particularly concerned about contagion in the tri-border area of the Amazon between Colombia, Peru and Brazil.

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