

National Issue 123 April 1 to 29, 2024

### **Budget 2024 – A Fair Future for Indigenous Peoples**

A fair Canada is one where the government continues making meaningful progress in the journey of reconciliation by working in partnership with Indigenous Peoples. The federal government continues to prioritize its responsibility to help ensure First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities have what they need to grow and succeed on their own terms. <u>Budget 2024</u> invests in the next steps on the path of reconciliation.

For information on Budget 2024, please read the highlights or Chapter 6: A Fair Future for Indigenous Peoples.

## Government of Canada announces two new funding opportunities for sustainable jobs in the low-carbon economy

On March 8, 2024, the Government of Canada <u>announced new funding opportunities</u> to help employers, organizations and unions train workers for jobs in a low-carbon economy. A call for proposals opened under the new <u>Sustainable Jobs Training Fund</u> (SJTF) with an allocated investment of just over \$99 million over 4 years. A second call for proposals will be launched in late June this year under the <u>Canadian Apprenticeship Strategy</u>.

The SJTF is a new targeted fund that will support a range of training projects over a 4-year period. Not-for-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, Indigenous organizations (including band councils, tribal councils and self-government entities) and provincial or territorial governments are <u>eligible to apply</u> for funding under this call for proposals. **The deadline to apply is May 15, 2024 at 3 pm ET**. For more information, please visit the <u>backgrounder</u> and <u>Sustainable Jobs Training Fund</u>.

### Sexually Transmitted Blood Borne Infections program - Call for proposals

This program provides funding for First Nations and Inuit communities and organizations to help support programming for sexually transmitted blood borne infections (STBBI) prevention, education, capacity building and raising awareness activities, as well as to facilitate access to culturally safe testing, treatment and social support for First Nations and Inuit communities.

The fiscal year 2024 to 2025 call for proposals for projects or initiatives focusing on HIV self-testing, HIV and other STBBI point-of-care testing, culturally safe STBBI care and harm reduction is now open. Single-year and multi-year proposals ending in fiscal year 2026 to 2027 are eligible for submission. Applicants must submit a detailed proposal to the general STBBI inbox at <a href="mailto:ISTT-STBBI@sac-isc.gc.ca">ISTT-STBBI@sac-isc.gc.ca</a>. The deadline to submit a proposal is May 24, 2024 at 11:59 pm, Pacific Time.

For more information, please visit <u>Sexually Transmitted Blood Borne Infections program</u>.

### Canada Summer Jobs 2024

Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) is part of the <u>Youth Employment and Skills Strategy</u>, a horizontal federal initiative that supports youth aged 15 to 30, particularly those facing barriers to employment, to gain work experience and develop the skills they need to successfully transition into the labour market. CSJ prioritizes projects that support youth who face barriers to employment. This includes youth with disabilities, Indigenous youth, as well as Black and other racialized youth.

The hiring period for CSJ 2024 is underway and will run until **July 22, 2024**. More than 70,000 jobs that matter to young people and to our communities will be posted on the <u>Job Bank website</u> and <u>mobile app</u>, and will be updated on a regular basis. Young people are encouraged to keep checking for updates on placements available in their communities. For more information, please visit <u>Canada Summer Jobs 2024</u>.

### Protect your children, protect yourself, protect your community

<u>Measles</u> is a virus that spreads easily and can lead to serious complications, such as brain swelling and death. Measles can cause high fever, cold-like symptoms and a bad cough, followed by a red, blotchy rash on the face that spreads down the body. Measles is especially dangerous for children under 5 years, pregnant people and those with a compromised immune system.

Vaccines have been protecting people and communities against diseases for many years. Boost your vaccine confidence by learning how vaccines can protect First Nations, Inuit and Métis from measles. A new measles fact sheet is available for <u>download to share</u> within your community.

For more information, please visit <u>canada.ca/vaccines</u>.

# HELP IS AVAILABLE WHENEVER YOU NEED IT.

Immediate support is available 24/7 for all Indigenous people in Canada.

Hope for Wellness Help Line and Chat 1-855-242-3310 or www.hopeforwellness.ca

Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line 1-866-925-4419

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Support Line
1-844-413-6649





The Government of Canada has announced recruitment and retention allowances to triple through to 2025 for Indigenous Services

Canada nurses in remote and isolated communities. Become a northern community nurse in a First Nations community and build relationships that will last a lifetime!

Visit Indigenous Services Canada's website to <u>find out more and apply</u> and read <u>testimonials</u> from nurses with experience working in First Nations in Canada.

#### **Government of Canada announces new Youth Mental Health Fund**

The Government of Canada has <u>announced a new Youth Mental Health Fund</u>, which will help younger Canadians access the mental health care they need, by reducing wait times and providing more care options. This will help build a happier, healthier future for every generation. To help younger Canadians access mental health care, Budget 2024 will propose an investment of \$500 million for a new Youth Mental Health Fund.

The new Youth Mental Health Fund will help community health organizations provide more care for younger Canadians, and better equip these organizations to refer youth to other mental health services within their networks and partnerships.

For more information, please visit the news release.

### Lyme disease and how to prevent infection

Lyme disease is spread through the bite of infected <u>blacklegged ticks</u>. Infected blacklegged ticks need to be attached for at least 24 hours in order to transmit the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. <u>Symptoms of lyme disease</u> include mild symptoms like fever or a skin rash soon after being bitten, while others may suffer severe symptoms, but not for weeks after the bite. Untreated, symptoms can last years and include recurring arthritis and neurological problems, numbness and facial paralysis. If you have symptoms of Lyme disease, contact your healthcare provider right away.

The best way to <u>protect yourself from tick-borne diseases</u> is to prevent tick bites. Early diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease can prevent complications. Consult your health care provider right away if you've been bitten by a tick and develop symptoms of Lyme disease, and have been to an area where blacklegged ticks may be found and develop symptoms of Lyme disease.

For more information concerning Lyme disease, as well as available <u>awareness resources</u> that can be used in your community, please visit <u>Canada.ca/LymeDisease</u>.

## Women and Gender Equality Canada launches Call for Nominations for 2024 Governor General's Awards in Commemoration of the Persons Case

Women and Gender Equality Canada is calling for nominations for the 2024 Governor General's Awards in Commemoration of the Persons Case. These awards celebrate individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of gender equality in Canada—the foundation from which everyone can lead healthy, happy and fulfilling lives, serving as a catalyst for social progress and economic growth.

The call for nominations are now open for the 2024 Governor General's Awards in Commemoration of the Persons Case. **Submit your nominations by July 1, 2024**. Before you submit a nomination, please read the <u>Guidelines for Nominators</u>. These guidelines provide information to better understand the nomination process and complete your nomination. For more information, please visit the <u>news release</u>.



### Regional

### One future. One people. One Manitoba.

The <u>Province of Manitoba announced Budget 2024</u> with a commitment to rebuild health care across Manitoba and lower costs for families, and makes record investments in health care with a <u>plan to hire 100 doctors</u>, 210 nurses, 90 paramedics and 600 health care aides over the next year. The budget adds hospital and ICU beds, and opens new minor injury and illness clinics and primary care clinics so more Manitobans can see a doctor when they need one.

Budget 2024 also extends the gas tax holiday, provides renters and seniors with increased tax credits, expands \$10-a-day child care, provides free birth control, increases funding for fertility treatment and provides rebates for electric vehicles. For more information, please visit the <a href="Budget 2024 backgrounder">Budget 2024 backgrounder</a> and the <a href="newsrelease">newsrelease</a>.

### Increased funding for Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative

The Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative will increase by \$500,000 for the 2024 to 2025 academic year, with a focus on increasing awards for Indigenous students and those facing financial barriers to accessing post-secondary education. The Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative is a long-standing partnership between the Manitoba government and partner organizations, which sees government match private donations for student awards programs. The goal of the initiative is to award scholarships and bursaries to Manitoba students based on merit and financial need and to remove financial barriers to education. This investment of \$500,000 will increase government's commitment to \$10.5 million for 2024 to 2025. For more information, please visit the news release.

### Portage Place to be redeveloped to bring more health care, housing downtown

The Manitoba government announced its intention to move forward with True North Real Estate Development (TNRED) in the creation of the Health-Care Centre of Excellence, as part of the redevelopment of Portage Place. The province and TNRED have signed a letter of intent regarding a 35 year lease agreement for the Health-Care Centre of Excellence to be built in the heart of downtown.

The urban renewal of Portage Place will be anchored by a 300,000 square-foot, 12-storey Health-Care Centre of Excellence, which will add health-care services downtown and make it easier to see a doctor or get specialist care, with key services including a primary care clinic, mental health and addictions support services, additional renal dialysis capacity, as well as an expansion of Pan Am Clinic. Construction on the Health-Care Centre of Excellence is planned to begin in 2025, with a target for completion of construction in 2028. For more information, please visit the <a href="newsrelease">news release</a>.

### Manitoba government invests \$30 million to create new social and affordable housing

Budget 2024 will take the first steps in <u>ending chronic homelessness with a \$30-million investment</u> to build, renovate and acquire new social housing units in partnership with non-profit community housing providers. Budget 2024 includes a \$20-million capital grant program for the not-for-profit sector to increase the supply of social housing across the province. Community housing providers will be able to apply to the program for capital funding to acquire existing buildings that could be renovated into new social housing units, renovate existing social housing stock or construct new units.

The budget also sets aside \$10 million for a new Affordable Housing Partnership Program which will see the province work with municipalities and Indigenous governments to facilitate the planning, development, conversion and building of new social housing units. For more information, please visit the <a href="news-release">news-release</a>.

### Manitoba government road transfer agreement increases access for northern Manitobans

The Keeyask Generating Station's north and south access roads have been transferred from Manitoba Hydro to Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) as part of an agreement that will see the once privately owned roads become part of Provincial Road (PR) 280. The Keeyask access road was built for the construction of the Keeyask project and connects PR 280 and Gillam via the Keeyask site. The transfer of the access road means a considerably shorter travel distance between Gillam and Thompson. The Keeyask project was completed in 2022.

The Manitoba government says increasing access to northern Manitoba with this roadway opens the possibilities of improved transportation for people as well as goods and services into Tataskweyak Cree Nation, Gillam, and Thompson which are all located near or along this vital route. For more information, please visit the news release.

The Indigenous Business Navigator can help Indigenous businesses, organizations and communities connect with Government of Canada programs and services. Individuals can send an email to <a href="mailto:navigator@sac-isc.gc.ca">navigator@sac-isc.gc.ca</a> with their business's information and a representative will help you find what best fits their needs.

Visit the <u>Indigenous Business Navigator</u> to learn more.

