



National

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Whooping cough – Protect yourself and your community

By vaccinating yourself and your family against [pertussis \(whooping cough\)](#), you play an important role in protecting everyone, including your community.

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is [highly contagious](#) and can lead to [serious complications](#). It is particularly dangerous for infants who are too young to have received a complete pertussis containing vaccine series. The pertussis vaccine is safe and effective. It provides strong protection after receiving all the recommended doses.

[Prevention](#) is key. Your healthcare provider can tell you if your family's vaccinations are up-to-date and where you can get vaccinated.

For more information, please visit [Pertussis \(whooping cough\)](#).

Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program

The Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program (CCHAP) funds the efforts of First Nations and Inuit communities to identify, assess and respond to the health impacts of climate change. There are 2 streams for the program: [Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program North](#) and [Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program for First Nations South of 60°N](#).

The program supports projects that focus on the health impacts of climate change by helping communities: develop and implement health-related adaptation or action plans; develop and share knowledge-building and communication materials; and support adaptation decision-making at the local, regional and national levels.

The deadline to submit your proposal for the Climate Change and Health Adaptation (CCHAP) South intake is September 20, 2024, 11:59 pm Mountain Time. CCHAP North has an ongoing intake. For more information, please visit the [Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program](#).

Special programming marking National Day for Truth and Reconciliation featured on nfb.ca in September

The [National Film Board of Canada](#) (NFB) is featuring powerful and thought-provoking free programming throughout the month of September to mark the [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#). September kicks off with a special spotlight on Indigenous cinema with 3 channels:

- [Residential Schools](#)
- [Transmission of Indigenous Knowledge](#)
- [Indigenous-Made Animation Films](#)

Starting September 30, Dr. Jules Arita Koostachin's deeply personal [WaaPaKe \(Tomorrow\)](#) unravels the tangled threads of silence suffered by residential school Survivors through truth, freedom and power. This acclaimed film will be featured on the [Residential Schools](#) channel on [nfb.ca](#). Honours to date for *WaaPaKe (Tomorrow)* include the Best BC Film Award at VIFF and the APTN Award at the Montreal First Peoples Film Festival.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV): Prevention and risks

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) usually causes a mild illness with [cold-like symptoms](#). RSV is very contagious. It can [spread from one person to another](#) by being in close contact with an infected individual and their respiratory particles which can enter your body through your eyes, nose or mouth; or by touching a surface that has the virus on it and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands. Symptoms often begin 2 to 8 days after exposure to RSV.

If you or your child have symptoms of RSV, even if mild, stay home if possible and limit close contact with other people. You should do this until symptoms have resolved to [avoid spreading illness](#) to others. It's especially important to limit contact with [people who are at risk](#) of more severe RSV infection.

Usually, RSV infections are mild and clear up on their own in 1 to 2 weeks. [If you or your child are infected](#), drink plenty of fluids and get lots of rest. You can use over-the-counter products such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen to manage fever. Speak to your health care provider if you're unable to use these medications.

**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

FOLLOW US     

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 navigator@sac-isc.gc.ca with their business's information and a representative will help you find what best fits their needs.

Visit the [Indigenous Business Navigator](#) to learn more.



First Nations Environmental Contaminants Program – Call for proposals

Indigenous Services Canada provides funding through the [First Nations Environmental Contaminants Program](#) to help First Nations communities improve their health. The program supports these communities in identifying, investigating and characterizing the impact of exposure to environmental hazards. Its activities include community-based research, monitoring, risk assessment, risk communication and knowledge integration.

Any environmental contaminants that are of concern to First Nations communities can be included in your [proposal](#), based on potential human health risk due to exposure. This risk must be articulated and justified in the proposal. **The deadline to submit your proposal is November 1, 2024, 11:59 pm Mountain Time.** For more information, including [eligibility](#) and [how to apply](#), visit [First Nations Environmental Contaminants Program for communities and organizations south of 60th Parallel: 2025 to 2026 call for proposals](#).

Fourth phase of CanCode program launched, targeting 1.6 million training opportunities for youth and teachers


On August 13, 2024, the Government of Canada [launched the next phase of CanCode and highlighted a \\$39.2 million investment in the program](#). Now in its fourth phase, the [CanCode](#) program is looking for applications from not-for-profit organizations for projects offering students from kindergarten through grade 12 the opportunity to learn digital skills, such as coding and AI knowledge. This iteration of the program also aims to offer learning opportunities to 1.5 million students and train 100,000 teachers to incorporate new digital skills and technologies into their classrooms.

CanCode is [now accepting applications](#) from not-for-profit organizations incorporated in Canada that are dedicated to equipping youth and teachers with essential digital skills such as coding and artificial intelligence knowledge. **The call for applications is open until September 16, 2024.** For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

Health Canada releases *What We Heard Report* from engagement on the *Safe Long-Term Care Act*

On August 29, 2024, Health Canada released the [Safe Long-Term Care Act engagement: What we heard report](#), which summarizes what the department learned through in-person and virtual public consultations on proposed legislation to strengthen access to quality, safe and equitable long-term care in Canada. The consultations process garnered wide-ranging and highly informative perspectives from over 5,000 people in Canada, including health care organizations, academics, long-term care residents, staff and caregivers, provinces and territories, Indigenous partners, and other federal government departments.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).



Help make
**routine childhood
vaccinations**
easier for parents
and caregivers

CANADA.CA/VACCINES

Canada

Regional

Statement from Ministers Vandal, Anandasangaree, and Hajdu on the passing of Grand Chief Cathy Merrick

On September 6, 2024, Ministers Vandal, Anandasangaree, and Hajdu issued the following [statement](#):

“We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Cathy Merrick Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC). Grand Chief Merrick was a trailblazing leader, as the first female Chief of the AMC, and a cherished member of the Pimicikamak Cree Nation. On behalf of the Government of Canada, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, community of Grand Chief Merrick, and all Manitobans.

“Grand Chief Merrick dedicated her life to advancing the rights and well-being of First Nations, working tirelessly to preserve the cultural heritage, language, and traditions, and to ensure the justice, safety and security of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people. The Grand Chief was a strong advocate for First Nations health and well-being and for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Her leadership on all aspects of social justice was inspirational, and her efforts to promote reconciliation and justice for First Nations will leave a lasting impact on the path toward a more equitable future for all.”

Statement from Premier Wab Kinew on the Passing of Grand Chief Cathy Merrick

“Lisa and I have known Cathy for years – as a grand chief, First Nations leader, sundancer and kookum. She was the first woman to be elected as grand chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs – something that made so many Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in our province proud.

“She approached her work with joy, compassion, thoughtfulness and a spirituality that was grounded in the belief that we are all equal in the eyes of the Creator and that we all deserve to live a good life.

“I will miss her wise counsel, her drive to get things done and most of all – her hugs. No matter how challenging or difficult any political conversation was, Cathy Merrick always greeted you and said farewell by hugging you.

“Searching the landfill for the remains of Morgan Harris and Mercedes Myran, and other important steps to improve the lives of First Nations people in our province, we rededicate these efforts to the memory of the late Cathy Merrick. On behalf of the people of Manitoba, I extend my heartfelt condolences to Cathy’s husband, family, friends and supporters on the loss of our grand chief.

“The flags outside the Legislative Building have been lowered to half-mast in recognition of Grand Chief Cathy Merrick.”

Universal school nutrition program available across Manitoba

Students heading back to class will now be able to get a nutritious meal or snack when they need one, with the [universal school nutrition program now available](#) in every school in the province. The Manitoba government committed \$30 million in Budget 2024 to make a meal or snack available to students across the province.

Approximately \$21 million has been allocated to public schools within the 37 school divisions, with \$6 million being specifically earmarked for 50 schools in communities with the high socio-economic need. The remainder of the funding is being provided to a number of key community partners including the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba. Grant funding has also been provided to community organizations and school divisions for after-school, summer and school break nutrition programs.

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

Increased funding to support victims of crimes

The Manitoba government is providing more [supports for Manitobans who are victims of crime](#) through a 50% increase in the funding directed to Manitoba Justice Victims Services from the [Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund](#).

This year, the fund is providing a \$750,000 to Manitoba Justice Victim Services, an increase from the usual \$500,000, which will support a number of initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- [Heartwood Healing Centre](#)
- [Survivor’s Hope Crisis Centre’s Sexual Assault Recovery and Healing \(SARAH\)](#)
- [Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre](#)
- [Mount Carmel Clinic’s Sage House](#)
- [Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc.’s \(Ndinawe\) Child and Youth Care Certificate Program](#)

For more information, please visit the [news release](#).

Taking action to protect Lake Winnipeg

The [Manitoba government is establishing nutrient targets to protect Manitoba’s lakes and rivers](#) for future generations. Through the [Water Protection Act](#), the Nutrient Targets Regulation will include Lake Winnipeg and the Red, Winnipeg, Saskatchewan and Dauphin rivers. It commits Manitoba to report regularly on progress towards implementing the targets and actions underway to reduce nutrient levels in waterbodies in Manitoba. This provides a clear, measurable benchmark with the goal of effecting real change in the protection of Manitoba’s waterways.

For more information on Manitoba’s water and nutrient management efforts, visit [Environment and Climate Change – Water](#).