



National

Issue 139

January 20 to February 2, 2025

Official launch of the Call for Proposals for Indigenous-led Options for Solutions to the Second-Generation Cut-Off and Section 10 Voting Thresholds

Indigenous Services Canada has launched a [call for proposals](#) as part of the consultation events and activities phase of the [Collaborative Process on the Second-Generation Cut-Off and Section 10 Voting Thresholds](#). They are currently seeking options for potential solutions to the second-generation cut-off and section 10 voting thresholds from First Nations, tribal councils, treaty organizations and Indigenous organizations.

The solutions and results of these assessments will be broadly distributed to help guide discussions in the second part of the consultation events and activities phase (First Nations-led events) to determine which solutions work best for Rights-Holders.

If your First Nation or organization would like to participate in the first step of the consultation phase by submitting options for solutions, please complete the funding proposal application through [GC Forms](#) by **March 14, 2025**. For more information or assistance, contact the Registration Reform team at reforme-de-linscription-registrations-reform@sac-isc.gc.ca.

2025 annual Award of Excellence in Nursing: Call for nominations

The [Award of Excellence in Nursing](#) is presented to 3 exceptional nurses who provide care to First Nations and/or Inuit clients. Nominees will have demonstrated that they are committed to excellence in professional nursing practices serving First Nations and Inuit communities in Canada. This award will be presented during [National Nursing Week](#) (May 12 to 18, 2025).

The call for nominations for the 2025 Award of Excellence in Nursing is now open until February 21, 2025 at 4 pm Eastern Time. All nominators and nominees will be notified in April 2025 of the results. We wish to thank everyone involved in the nomination process for taking the time to nominate an outstanding nurse providing direct front-line care in a First Nations or Inuit community.

For more information, including [eligibility](#) and [how to make an nomination](#), please visit the the [2025 annual Award of Excellence in Nursing](#).

Application period to the Youth Employment and Skills Program now open

On January 9, 2025, the Government of Canada announced that [applications will open for the Youth Employment and Skills Program \(YESP\)](#). Supported by an investment of approximately \$13.5 million, the [Youth Employment and Skills Program](#) is an initiative aimed at helping young Canadians access employment opportunities and gain valuable work experience in the agricultural sector, while contributing to the growth of the agricultural community here in Canada.

Eligible applicants include producers, agri-businesses, industry associations, provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous organizations and research facilities. Applications from Indigenous employers will be prioritized for the 2025 to 2026 program year.

The intake period is now open. **Submit your application on or before February 24, 2025.**

For more information, including [eligibility](#) and [how to apply](#), please visit the [Youth Employment and Skills Program](#).

**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     

Emergency Management Assistance Program

Do you deliver emergency management services to First Nations communities? We have a toolkit for you!

A new, Culturally Relevant Emergency Management Services Toolkit can help you make sure you're meeting the cultural needs of on-reserve and other eligible First Nations communities.

[Get the toolkit](#) and learn more.



Co-chairs call for and commit to more for missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people in Canada

On January 30, 2025, at the third annual National Indigenous-Federal-Provincial-Territorial Meeting on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQI+ People, co-chairs discussed some meaningful progress being made to implement the [National Action Plan](#) and respond to the [National Inquiry's](#) 231 Calls for Justice, including, but not limited to:

- developing a [Red Dress Alert pilot project](#) in Manitoba, to help communities work together quickly and efficiently to protect lives when an Indigenous woman, girl or 2SLGBTQI+ person goes missing
- combatting the human trafficking and sexual exploitation of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people, including the appointment of a [Chief Advisor on Human Trafficking](#) to help guide the Government of Canada's efforts in this regard
- addressing data gaps related to missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people data, ensuring data collection and analysis are guided by an Indigenous women's and 2SLGBTQI+ lens to reflect their lived experiences and realities accurately

Please [read the full statement](#) for more information.

Measles Prevention: What You Need to Know

Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent measles. Measles vaccines are tested and effective at protecting you and others from serious illness. Parents and caregivers should make sure that children are up to date with their measles vaccines according to their [local routine vaccination schedules](#). If an adult or a child in their care has missed any doses of the vaccine or are unsure if vaccines are up to date, it is very important to contact their healthcare provider or local public health department.

If you may have been exposed to measles and are not fully vaccinated, immediately contact your healthcare provider or local public health department for advice. They may recommend the measles vaccine or a medication that contains protective antibodies. These should be given as soon as possible after exposure. Symptoms of measles include: fever; cough; runny nose; red, watery eyes; or rash (which looks like red spots and blotchy patches that start on the face and then spread down the body, arms and legs).

For more information, please visit [Measles: Symptoms and treatment](#).



**VACCINATION IS THE BEST
WAY TO PREVENT MEASLES**



Regional

Manitoba government increases investment to \$11.3 million for winter road construction

The Manitoba government is [investing \\$11.3 million in the province's winter road system](#) to provide access for northern communities and allow the delivery of essential goods. This is an increase of \$1.8 million from 2023, and will allow the province to fund the winter road from St. Theresa Point to Berens River. This road alignment substantially reduces travel time required to get vital supplies to the remote communities.

Timelines of completion for all roads depend on weather conditions and some sections of the winter road system may be closed for repairs on short notice due to changing weather conditions. A complete list of Manitoba's winter roads is available at [Winter Roads in Manitoba](#). The province encourages travellers to check the [road status on 511](#) before heading out.

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

Apply for the 2025 to 2026 Student Advisory Council

[Applications for the 2025 to 2026 Student Advisory Council are now open](#). The Manitoba government is inviting students in grades 9 to 12 to apply and share their ideas on how to improve schools across the province. The [Student Advisory Council](#) is made up of 30 students from different backgrounds across the province that meet regularly with Manitoba government education leadership and other stakeholders. Council members contribute student-centered perspectives and input on current and emerging issues affecting students, creating positive change at the provincial level.

The 2025 to 2026 Student Advisory Council will begin meeting in August for a one-year term. Those who have participated in the council in past years who continue to meet the criteria can apply again. **Applications are open until midnight on March 21, 2025.**

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

Investing \$1.5 million in Indigenous sport programs to empower Winnipeg communities

On January 29, 2025, the Government of Canada [announced the 2024 to 2026 funding recipients for the Sport for Social Development in Indigenous Communities \(SSDIC\) program](#), with a focus on projects in Winnipeg. Approximately \$1.5 million will be invested in 8 Indigenous-led projects aimed at expanding access to sport and physical activity. These initiatives will prioritize culturally relevant and community-designed programming to empower Indigenous people, including youth, women, girls, 2SLGBTQI+ individuals and persons with disabilities.

The [Sport for Social Development in Indigenous Communities](#) program prioritizes culturally relevant sport and physical activity opportunities, making sure that projects are designed and led by Indigenous communities and organizations. This approach empowers communities to address their unique barriers to participation in sport and develop programs that best suit their unique needs.

For more information, including a [list of funding recipients](#), please visit the [news release](#).

First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program

The 2025 to 2026 call for proposals to support activities under the [First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program](#) is now open. The First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program is part of the [First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy](#). Projects under the First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program allow youth to learn about career options and earn an income that can contribute to a university or college education.

Funding is provided to eligible First Nations and Inuit communities, governments and organizations, as well as not-for-profit associations, private sector employers and schools and employers who then provide activities for First Nations and Inuit secondary and post-secondary students. **The deadline to submit a proposal in Manitoba region is March 14, 2025.**

For more information, including [eligibility](#) and [how to apply](#), please visit the [First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program](#).