April 8, 2020

**CHIEF AND COUNCIL NEWS BULLETIN #6 – COVID-19 UPDATE**

Chief and Council of the Montreal Lake Cree Nation (MLCN) will be providing regular updates on the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic to our membership as new information becomes available.

**If you feel you are experiencing symptoms related to COVID‐19, please call the Healthline at 811 or use the online self‐assessment tool at the** [Ministry of Health website](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus)**.**

Government of Canada COVID-19 Support (As of April 6, 2020)

* Indigenous organizations providing services to Indigenous peoples in urban centres or off-reserve are being asked to submit proposals to access funding from the [Indigenous Community Support Fund](https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198) to prepare for and react to the spread of COVID-19. (*MLCN Urban Services Inc. will be submitting a COVID-19 proposal to assist off-reserve members*.)
* The Government of Canada announced $207.5 million to [support homelessness and women fleeing violence](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/canada-announces-support-to-those-experiencing-homelessness-and-women-fleeing-gender-based-violence-during-the-coronavirus-disease-covid-19-pandemic.html) during the COVID-19 pandemic. $10 million will be provided to existing emergency shelters to support Indigenous Women and children fleeing violence.
* $100 million will be provided to Canadian food banks and local food organizations to help [support people experiencing food shortages because of COVID-19](http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/local-food-infrastructure-fund-infrastructure-and-equipment-improvement-projects/supporting-people-experiencing-food-insecurity-in-canada-because-of-covid-19/?id=1585855025072).
* Access to financial [Support for individuals](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#individuals) and [Support for businesses](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#businesses) are available to all Indigenous peoples.

Jordon’s Principle Funding (As of April 6, 2020)

* Jordan’s Principle Funding continues to be available to fund products, services and supports for First Nation children and youth. Business is operating as usual and the National Call Centre is available 24 hours, 7 days a week at 1-855-JP-CHILD (1-855-572-4453), during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

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* Jordan’s Principle application process includes:
1. Jordan’s Principle continues to be available to address unmet needs of First Nations based on normative standards or substantive equality, cultural appropriateness and best interests of the child.

2. Jordan’s Principle continues to pay for unmet needs of First Nations children, such as childcare, respite, and others.

* Please note that there has been no change in requirements or process for making a request to Jordan’s Principle during the COVID-19 pandemic.
* If there are unmet needs of First Nations children related to COVID-19, families can apply to Jordan’s Principle to seek additional funds. If families within a community are facing a similar situation, communities can submit a group request.
* Jordan’s Principle does not fund personal protective equipment including masks, gowns and gloves.
* Visit [www.canada.ca/jordans-principle](http://www.canada.ca/jordans-principle) for more information.

Council, Pandemic Response Team and MLCN Urban Services Inc. are working together to meet the immediate needs of our members. For further information, please contact the following:

1. MLCN On-Reserve – Amanda Nelson, Nurse Manager at (306) 314-7878
2. MLCN Off-Reserve – Charlotte Ross, Chair of MLCN Urban Services Inc. at (306) 281-9462

Teniki and stay safe everyone!