



Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women

COVID-19 Response

Update April 20, 2020

On Monday, March 16, 2020 we announced the temporary closure of our office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The health, safety, and well-being of our members, staff and communities remains our top priority.

Please see below for a list of actions we are undertaking during this uncertain time.

Doing our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19

We are:

- Encouraging handwashing and social distancing measures as recommended Public Health Agency of Canada
- Have allowed staff to work from home until further notice
- Have transitioned all programs that normally happen in our office to an on-line or phone-in format
- Have postponed our upcoming events including the Indigenous Women's and Family Gatherings in Edmonton and Calgary, Empower U Leadership Day, Esquao Awards and other community events scheduled until further notice.
- Are staying up to date on COVID-19 developments and recommendations by the Public Health Agency of Canada

Incorporating additional health and safety measures at the office:

We are:

- Encouraging handwashing and social distancing measures as recommended Public Health Agency of Canada for those that need to come into the office
- Have mandated that if anyone believes they have been in contact with an unwell person, that they remain at home and self isolate.
- Are limiting the office to staff only, and in a staggered manner
- Are limiting the number of people in staff room and small spaces as per social distancing guidelines (2 meters apart)
- Are encouraging disinfection of individual offices at the end of the workday
- Disinfecting all office spaces after each use

Reaching out to our participants:

We are:

- Managing the requests for information and support by phone.
- Having program staff reach out to our program participants by phone
- Providing resources, care packages and contact numbers to participants that require additional support

Offering online supports and resources:

We are coordinating Facebook live sessions on topics that have been requested such as:

- Family art and craft time
- Natural healing medicines
- Managing Anxiety
- Healing through Music
- Maintaining Sobriety
- Healthy Relationships

Contact Information:

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Going forward

We continue to stay connected within our communities and monitor developments and recommendations by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Take care,

Rachelle Venne, CEO