



# ANISHINABEK NATION

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## COVID-19 Update – May 6, 2020

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### Indigenous

- Anishinabek News Articles
  - [Wiikwemkoong player named top rookie on Nipissing University lacrosse squad](#)
- Many in the Northern Ontario community of Kashechewan are heading out onto the land in order to avoid annual flooding. Normally, the 2,500 residents of the community escape to cities such as Thunder Bay or Timmins until the flooding subsides, however fears of contracting the novel coronavirus have them utilizing alternative options. No one from the community has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The number of cases of COVID-19 in First Nations reserves continues to rise this week, according to data reported by Indigenous Services Canada. The cumulative number ISC reported as of May 5 was 161 confirmed positive cases on reserve, 41 of those in Ontario. The Indigenous Services Canada website does not include the number of recovered cases, the number or names of First Nations communities affected, or account for First Nations members who live off-reserve, including in long-term care facilities.
- Indigenous post-secondary students are concerned about their eligibility for the Canada Emergency Student Benefit, as details on who is eligible are not yet available. The government has also announced \$75.2 million for Indigenous post-secondary student support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Provincial

- According to the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board, home sales in the Greater Toronto Area plunged 67 per cent in April.
- A union representing thousands of Ontario healthcare workers is calling on the province and local police forces to launch a public inquiry and criminal investigations into long-term care deaths tied to COVID-19.
- Toronto Mayor John Tory said Tuesday that there have been preliminary talks with Major League Baseball's Blue Jays and the NBA's Raptors about a return to action as restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic begin to ease.
- The Ontario government has announced it is temporarily lowering minimum spirit prices while expanding access to ciders amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The lower price minimums will be in effect until January 1, coinciding with the end of the government's previous permission to allow restaurants and bars to sell alcohol with food as part of a takeout order or delivery.
- The province's resolution rate of cases has passed 70 per cent for the first time in the pandemic.
- The LCBO will begin gradually extending its hours at 360 of its locations on May 14.



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- Premier Ford announced further steps in re-opening the economy today. Per his announcement, garden centres and nurseries will be allowed to open for in-store services on May 8, with hardware stores opening in-store on May 9. On May 11, retail stores with a street entrance will be allowed to provide curbside pickup.
- The government is expanding essential construction to allow below-grade multi-unit residential construction projects to begin and existing above-grade projects to continue.

## Federal

- Statistics Canada is expected to release its Labour Force Survey for April on May 8. The results are widely expected to reflect most pandemic-related layoffs. Several economists estimate the number of employed people will plunge by 4 million or more. The Bank of Montreal pegs job losses at 4.5 million, while the Bank of Nova Scotia has issued the bleakest forecast, with employment losses of 5.5 million.
- The federal government is receiving criticism regarding the recently released support for the agri-food industry, with farmers and other stakeholders saying it is not enough.
- Prime Minister Trudeau did not make an announcement today as he attended a ceremony to honour service members killed in the helicopter crash last week.

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