



# ANISHINABEK NATION

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## COVID-19 Update – May 11, 2020

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### Indigenous

- Anishinabek News Articles
  - [Book review: Talking Back to the Indian Act: Critical Readings in Settler Colonial Histories](#)
- National Chief Perry Bellegarde of the Assembly of First Nations told a House of Commons committee Friday that provinces and jurisdictions should be cautious about lifting pandemic restrictions, given that the number of COVID-19 cases in First Nations has increased.
- Celia Echum, the Chief of Ginoogaming First Nation northeast of Thunder Bay, Ontario, passed away over the weekend.
- The Minister of Indigenous Services, Marc Miller, issued a statement yesterday regarding the shipment of essential goods to remote Indigenous communities across the country. Miller cited a need for more resources and better data collection to help protect the communities and understand the spread of the virus among Indigenous people, and called on provincial governments to help in that area.
- With reports of a sharp rise in violence against Indigenous women as COVID-19 restrictions keep families stuck in their homes, concerns are being raised about whether the pandemic could delay the promised June delivery of a national action plan on missing and murdered Indigenous women.

### Provincial

- The province reported its lowest daily numbers of new cases in over a month over the weekend. Today, the province announced 308 new cases of COVID-19, including 35 more deaths.
- Provincial parks and conservation reserves reopened for daytime use today, following an announcement by Premier Ford on Saturday, May 9.
- The province announced a \$1.5 million investment towards supportive housing in the Muskoka region on Friday. The project will provide housing and support services for those that find themselves homeless, disadvantaged young people and those at risk of homelessness.
- Employees at the Maple Lodge Farms poultry plant in Brampton are speaking out about unsafe working conditions after an outbreak at the plant resulted in dozens of sick workers. Employees allege they are being limited to one or two protective masks per shift and the plant is failing to take proper physical distancing measures in common areas.
- Ontario has implemented an emergency order allowing school employees to be voluntarily redeployed to congregate care settings amid the coronavirus pandemic in a bid to alleviate staffing shortages.
- The province is set to release their decision on how the remainder of the school year will play out in the coming days.



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- Ontario's legislature will sit Tuesday and is expected to extend the province's state of emergency to June 2, while also holding question period again.
- Ontario's Ministry of Long-Term Care has asked the facilities hardest hit by COVID-19 to come up with a plan to stabilize the virus's spread within their walls.

## Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced a new loan program today aimed at providing financing access to large employers impacted by COVID-19 and the economic downturn it's prompted. The Prime Minister emphasized in his announcement that the Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF) will provide funding in the form of bridge loans, not bailouts. The federal government is offering companies across most sectors access to loans of up to \$60 million per company, and guarantees of up to \$80 million.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Friday he would extend the wage subsidy, which is currently set to expire on June 6, past that point. The government has yet to specify how long the program will be extended.
- The total number of people killed by the coronavirus in Canada rose by 2.2 per cent to 4 728 on Sunday, one of the lowest daily increases since the outbreak started.
- The Canadian Labour Congress is calling for an overhaul of the country's long-term care facilities, saying they must be taken out of the hands of private operators to avoid the tragic loss of life experienced during the novel coronavirus pandemic.

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*Allan Dokis*

*Director of Policy and Communications*

[allan.dokis@anishinabek.ca](mailto:allan.dokis@anishinabek.ca)