



# ANISHINABEK NATION

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## COVID-19 Update – May 19, 2020

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### Indigenous

- Anishinabek News Articles
  - [Fort William First Nation reopens retail stores](#)
  - [Alderville loses Marsden matriarch](#)
  - [Opinion: The Five-Year Rule and Band Membership along the US-Canada border](#)
  - [Book review: Chickadee](#)
- The federal government has reported at least 190 confirmed cases of COVID-19 on reserves in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Quebec.
- In Ontario's question period today, a question was asked regarding how the province is working with Indigenous communities at this time.
  - Minister Elliott said First Nation communities have been identified as a group the government must work with to make sure they receive necessary supplies and testing kits. The minister has been on a number of calls with Regional Chiefs and other leaders to understand the needs.

### Provincial

- The province has logged 427 new cases of COVID-19 and 15 more deaths today, up from 304 new cases yesterday. This is following fluctuating daily case reports over the weekend, and the discovery of a data glitch that caused the low case count on May 14.
- The Ontario government has extended all emergency orders currently in place until May 29. That includes the closure of bars and restaurants except for takeout and delivery only, restrictions on social gatherings of more than five people, and staff redeployment rules for long-term care homes and congregate settings like retirement homes and women's shelters. The government is also allowing drive-in religious gatherings.
- Ontario will be launching an independent commission into the provincial long-term care system, beginning in September. Details of the commission including terms of reference, membership, leadership of the commission and reporting timelines will be finalized in the coming months.
- Ontario completed only 5 813 tests yesterday, far below the goal of 16 000 each day.
- Premier Ford and Minister Lecce announced today that public and private schooling will stay closed for the remainder of the school year. In addition to this news, overnight camps will remain closed throughout the summer. Summer day camps will be allowed to open in July and August with strict measures in place, provided that trends continue to improve. Childcare centers will begin to open safely in Stage 2 of the recovery process.
- Minister Lecce has told the public that summer learning programs are ramping up, and that a plan for September will be released before the end of June.



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## Federal

- Canada will extend a costly emergency wage subsidy program until the end of August to help firms retain employees during the coronavirus outbreak.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said on Saturday he would look at possible ways to help airlines further, but laid out no new measures after Air Canada announced mass layoffs due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Ottawa has pledged \$100 million in funding to the Canadian Red Cross to support public health measures and enhance the group's capacity to respond to COVID-19, as well as future floods and wildfires.
- 14 Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members assigned to the military's COVID-19 response operation have been diagnosed with the novel coronavirus.
- The Canada-U.S. border closure has officially been extended until June 21.
- On Andrew Scheer's commenting on wanting more in-person sittings, Trudeau said that it is important to be cautious on reopening all aspects of the economy. He stressed that virtual sittings have been very effective and have allowed all voices to be heard, and that he is concerned that MPs from jurisdictions further away would not be able to attend in-person sittings.
- Trudeau announced today the expansion of the Canada Emergency Business Account to include family owned companies and those who use independent contractors.

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