

## COVID-19 Funding Allocation

We have recently received information on the proposed funding being allocated to UFN from the Department of Indigenous Services (ISC). As specified in the information sent by ISC, the funding is to provide support to the community. Below is an excerpt from the ISC website regarding the funding.

*These new funds will flow directly to Indigenous communities and groups across the country and will provide Indigenous leadership with the flexibility needed to address the immediate needs in their communities as they prepare for and react to the spread of COVID-19. These funds could be used for measures including, but not limited to:*

- *support for Elders and vulnerable community members,*
- *measures to address food insecurity,*
- *educational and other support for children,*
- *mental health assistance and emergency response services,*
- *preparedness measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19*

*Regional, urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations need to apply through a call for proposals. This call will be opened soon and available on this web page.*

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198>

The funding is not intended to be an automatic cash payment for each community member. As stated in the document the funding is to provide supports as mentioned above. At this time this is a one-time payment and is intended to support the community for the duration of the crisis in the effort of combating the spread of the virus and support of individuals and the families of those that become infected with the virus.

That being said the Elders Council is meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup> and will provide input to the Chief and Council on the allocation and distribution of funds in a fair and equitable manner to meet the needs of the community.