



BC Métis FEDERATION

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For Immediate Release

Via email and BCMF website

BCMF receives Phase Two funding from Indigenous Services Canada for COVID-19 support

(Vancouver, BC) BC Métis Federation announced today that they have received Phase Two funding from Indigenous Services Canada, to support members and local Métis communities impacted by the ongoing global pandemic.

BC Métis Federation President Keith Henry stated, "This is a very welcome relief from Indigenous Services Canada. We are very grateful that we are able to support our members, and local communities that have been hit quite hard by the pandemic ." BCMF has been collecting data on the effect of COVID-19 on its membership, and a report of preliminary findings was presented to the board of directors at the February 18th meeting. Key areas of impact identified were:

- Unemployment
- Housing
- Food Insecurity

President Henry continued, "Métis people in the province have been greatly impacted by the coronavirus spread, and we've been advocating for support at various levels of government. This funding comes in at a time when our communities have been stretched beyond their limits, and we look to get these funds into the hands of our people immediately. I urge all BCMF members to submit a support request form which we've made available on our website. If you applied for funding previously, you are still eligible and are encouraged to apply again. And if you are not sure if your membership is active, contact our membership department to confirm right away. We know folks are hurting right now and we are here to support our people first and foremost."

About BCMF

BC Métis Federation is a non-profit, provincial Métis organization representing approximately 3,500 Métis people in BC. The mandate of the BC Métis Federation is the well-being of its grassroots members, governed by a democratically elected Board of Directors and has partner communities in all regions of the province. The BC Métis Federation provides leadership and capacity on matters related to consultation, policy and other issues pertinent to its members.

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