



## Programs to help Inuit deal with impacts of COVID-19

On April 8, the Nunatsiavut Government announced details of a number of initiatives aimed at assisting Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, residing in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area, deal with impacts associated with the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. *Programs for Upper Lake Melville and the Constituency of Canada will be announced soon.*

### Emergency Food Supplement Support Program

The purpose of this initiative is to ensure individuals and families impacted by COVID-19 and those most vulnerable to the virus have sufficient nutritious food to support their health and wellness. Adequate nutrition is crucial for maintaining good health and having the ability to fight off infection.

### Emergency Heat Subsidy

This program is designed to assist Labrador Inuit with heating their homes during the pandemic. It will subsidize the cost of acquiring and accessing wood, furnace and stove oil, and electricity. Provisions are being made to pay harvesters to provide wood to Inuit communities, as well as to financially assist those who are able to access their own wood.

### Harvesters Support Program

The goal of this program is to ensure community freezers are adequately stocked with country food for distribution to those most vulnerable to COVID-19, particularly elders. Funding will be provided to harvesters to cover costs associated with accessing country food. As well, provisions are being made to allow Labrador Inuit and harvesters to trade/barter country food they current have for gasoline, snowmobile oil and ammunition. Those who are able to harvest country food, but unable to do so because of financial constraints, will be able to apply for a gasoline allowance.

### How to apply

Beneficiaries and wood and country-food harvesters wishing to apply for any of these programs are asked to contact the following in their respective communities during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday):

Community	Contact person	Contact numbers
Nain	Rutie Dicker	709-922-2942
	Mary-Adelaide	709-922-1268 or 709-680-4060
	Brenda Dicker	709-897-4679
Hopedale	Vanessa Gauntlett	709-933-3637
	Dawn-Rose Winters	709-933-3311 or 709-933-3777 (ext. 221)
Postville	Ruth Jacque	709-479-9867
	Jessica Sheppard	709-479-9736
Makkovik	Carol Gear	709-923-2001 or 709-923-2182
	Michelle Dyson	709-923-2009 or 709-923-2412
Rigolet	Paula Sheppard-McLean	709-947-3383 (ext. 206) or 709-947-3449
	Lisa Bennett	709-947-3328