



COVID-19 Information for Individuals & Families

Updated on October 23, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Canada Announces Contract to Buy a Canadian-made COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate

Federal Government Announces Investment in Canadian-made COVID-19 Vaccine

The Government of Canada announced an investment of up to \$173 million through the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) in Quebec City-based Medicago. The project will advance Medicago's vaccine through clinical trials. It will also establish a large-scale vaccine and antibody production facility to increase Canada's domestic biomanufacturing capacity.

The government has signed an agreement with Medicago to secure up to 76 million doses of their COVID-19 vaccine candidate, enough to vaccinate 38 million people. This is the first domestically developed vaccine candidate the Government of Canada has secured.

The government will also invest up to \$18.2 million in Vancouver-based biotechnology company Precision NanoSystems Incorporated (PNI). This investment will support a project to help advance the development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate through pre-clinical studies and clinical trials. The government is also providing up to \$23.2 million in funding through the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program to advance COVID-19 vaccine candidates in various stages of clinical trials.

At this time, there are three vaccine candidates currently under review and many others in clinical trials and in development. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Ontario Takes Steps so That Surplus Food Does Not Go to Waste During COVID-19 & Beyond

The Ontario government is investing over \$5 million to help food rescue organizations, First Nation communities and Indigenous organizations purchase refrigerated trucks, freezers, storage space and kitchen equipment so they can safely collect, preserve and distribute unused, high-quality surplus food from places like grocery stores and restaurants to those in need during COVID-19 and beyond, ensuring fresh food does not go to waste.

Details of the new Surplus Food Redistribution Infrastructure Program can be found by clicking [here](#). More information can be found [here](#).

Government of Canada Extends Deadline to Apply for the Disability Tax Credit

The Government of Canada announced that the deadline to apply for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) to receive the one-time payment has been extended to December 31, 2020. This one-time non-taxable and non-reportable payment of up to \$600, to support Canadians with disabilities, can be used to help with additional expenses incurred during the pandemic, such as:

- Expenses related to hiring personal support workers and accessing other disability supports
- Paying for increased costs for medical supplies and medication
- The purchase of personal protective equipment
- Higher costs associated with physical distancing and working from home
- The increased use of transportation and home delivery services to obtain groceries and prescriptions

Please click [here](#) for more information.