

COVID Federal Request for Assistance Health Surge Capacity

Health Portfolio

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Province/Territory identify needs for addition surge capacity

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A request for Federal Health Surge Capacity Assistance sent to PHAC COVID Support for:

- High Consequence Pathogen Rapid Response Team
- Outbreak Emergency Crisis Management
- COVID Testing Assistance Response Team
- Federal Laboratory Surge Capacity
- Contact Tracing Support
- Safe Voluntary Isolation Sites Program

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Appropriate organization/lead is informed of the resource request (Triage)

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RFA assessment and prioritization within 24 hours

- Health RFA Assessment team is convened (HC/PHAC)
- A recommendation to the executive is developed

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Decision/governance process is activated

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Decision is shared with the requestor

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Identification of resources by respective areas/services

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Mobilization of experts/services

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Reporting from the field

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RFA termination

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After-action activities

- Lessons learned
- Improvement Plan



COVID Federal Rapid Surge Capacity

In addition to Health Portfolio existing core services....

High Consequence Pathogen Rapid Response Team (HCP - RRT)

- Team of technical experts with experience in outbreak assessment and response deployed for outbreak management within 24-72 hours of a request.
- Provide key technical assessments across multiple fronts (epidemiology, occupational health, infection prevention, risk communications, etc.)
- Determine ongoing needs, scope and requirement for federal deployment or surge capacity.

Outbreak Emergency Crisis Management

- Through federal funding, Canadian Red Cross (CRC) provides a Civilian Humanitarian Workforce (CHW) to deploy anywhere across the country, including Northern, isolated and remote communities
- The services include epidemic prevention and control, health emergency response units (e.g. field hospitals), emergency care services in living environment such as long term care facilities, contact tracing support (e.g. case management directly or virtually), emergency relief services for isolated Canadians (including financial assistance), and mental health psychosocial support.
- The objective is for CRC to build the capacity to provide support for up to 7 outbreaks.

COVID Testing Assistance Response Team

- A rapid response team composed of regional experts that could be deployed on an as-needed basis to fill gaps in the surge or targeted testing, including in Northern, remote and isolated communities.
- The CTART will leverage the CRC's expertise
- Services include: COVID-19 testing and mobile module support, and community mobilization through distribution of information and logistical support.
- One team currently available, and nine additional teams will be created.

Federal Laboratory Surge Capacity

- The National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) is establishing satellite hubs in existing federal facilities to enhance provincial and territorial testing capacity and perform diagnostic analysis.
- The NML satellite labs will offer services that include performing diagnostic analysis and relaying test results to public health authorities.

Testing Machine and Equipment

"to be confirmed"

Contact Tracing Support

- Coordinated by Statistics Canada, federal employees to provide contact tracing services under guidance and direction from provincial or territorial public health authorities.
- Services include: First calls and subsequent calls for contact elicitation and support, as well as follow-up with individuals in quarantine.

Safe Voluntary Isolation Sites Program

- Federal support to up to six voluntary isolation sites in Canada's large urban centres.
- Targeted support to individuals who lack the space and means to undertake effective isolation because they live in housing that may be crowded or have insufficient space for proper distancing from household contacts.
- Funded cities will provide a centralized location where eligible individuals can safely self-isolate for the required period and be supplied necessary services including, for example, transportation to and from the site, lodging, meals and incidentals such as bedding and other necessities for residents, as well as security and cleaning.

Request for support to be centrally received and managed by PHAC at PHAC.COVID.Support-ASPC@Canada.ca

