



ATIKAMEKSHENG  
ANISHNAWBEK

## **Atikameksheng Anishnawbek to receive \$20,000 for emergency food aid in the wake of COVID-19**

**Good Food Access Fund Grant will support Miijim Support Program.**

**Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, Ontario, May 8, 2020** — Atikameksheng Anishnawbek is pleased to announce it has received a grant of \$20,000 from Community Food Centres Canada's Good Food Access Fund. The grant will enable Atikameksheng Anishnawbek to support our Miijim Support Program, established as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

"The Good Food Access Fund aims to make sure that as many people as possible will be able to get the food that they need. And while we must deal with the current circumstances of COVID-19, CFCC remains committed to advancing policy change that addresses the underlying causes of food insecurity and poverty in Canada. We can't forget that structural inequity is at the core of so many of the challenges that Canadians face, a fact which painfully confronts us when an emergency like this occurs." Nick Saul, CEO of Community Food Centres Canada.

On March 31, 2020, a State of Emergency was declared by Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Gimaa and Council. One of the measures included closing the community borders in effort to keep the residents of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek safe at home. The impacts of transmission of COVID-19 in the community could be devastating due to overcrowded housing, chronic health conditions, and limited capacity to effectively address a community-wide outbreak. This grant will help support our members with access to healthy foods and basic supplies, reducing the need for residents need to leave the community.

Laurentian University, which is located on the traditional territory of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, has agreed to collaborate as a trustee. Laurentian University is committed to nurturing relationships with Indigenous communities and building strong partnerships. With a firm commitment to reconciliation, to nurturing relationships with Indigenous communities, and building strong partnerships, Laurentian University was excited to support this community initiative.

Funding is provided in part by the Government of Canada's Local Food Infrastructure Fund, as part of the Food Policy for Canada. The Fund aims to strengthen food systems and facilitate access to safe and nutritious food for at-risk populations.



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**Community Food Centres Canada**

Community Food Centres Canada (CFCC) builds health, belonging and social justice in low-income communities through the power of food. We work with 13 Community Food Centres and 183 Good Food Organizations in 175 communities across Canada. Our Good Food Access Fund was established to provide emergency relief during this time of national crisis to our most vulnerable neighbours. Learn more at [cfccanada.ca](http://cfccanada.ca) or follow @aplaceforfood.

