



Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa Canada
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Special COVID-19 Bulletin

To: All Members of the Yoruba Community in Ottawa

Dear community members:

The past couple of months have been quite challenging as our country and the entire world confront the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. The situation impacts our community to varying extent. Many of us are front-line workers that are performing essential services in the city to protect the health and safety of Canadians. We recognize that some of us may be struggling as we cope with impacts on our livelihood and wellbeing. We would like to encourage our community to take advantage of the federal and provincial governments' financial support for those who qualify for those benefits. Here is a list of benefits that have been announced by governments:

1. For those who have stopped working due to COVID-19, financial support is available through the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) which may provide temporary income support. Further details on eligibility requirements and how to apply can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>
2. The Prime Minister has also announced a new **Canada Emergency Student Benefit** that will pay \$1250 monthly to Canadian and permanent resident post-secondary students and graduates to make up for lost work and cut hours. Those who volunteer during the COVID crisis will also be given bursaries for the fall term.
3. In addition to the federal government support, provincial governments have also announced some level of financial support. Ontario government has introduced financial support for basic needs, temporary help for residential renting, and help with paying for electricity bills. Special institutional support for children, youth and families is also available. Additional information on Ontario government support can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-support-people>

Up-to-date information on the COVID-19 situation is available on [Canada.ca/coronavirus](https://www.canada.ca/coronavirus). You can also download the Canada COVID-19 app (<https://ca.thrive.health/>) for your smartphone for the most up-to-date information, recommendations, and resources. The app is a central resource for accessing personalized, trusted, evidence-based information about the COVID-19 pandemic across Canada.

The safety and welfare of our community during this crisis is of paramount importance to Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa. **A dedicated helpline (343-883-5891) has been set up for members of our community who have questions or need support for delivery of food or other supplies.** Aabo Olorun a wa pelu gbogbo wa o. Amin.

Executive Board, Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa

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