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[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

Infection Prevention and Control Canada Welcomes Federal COVID-19 Intervention

March 11, 2020—WINNIPEG

"Today's announcement of \$1-billion in federal funding to help Canadians deal with the spread of COVID-19 is a positive step," said Jennifer Happe, a Director of Infection Prevention and Control Canada. "The measures announced today by the Prime Minister will make it easier for Canadians to do the right thing and stay home if they are sick."

Over recent weeks, Infection Control Professionals (ICPs) in settings across the health care spectrum have taken precautionary measures and provided advice to patients and the public as cases of COVID-19 have risen.

"As much as we appreciate the federal government's support, the most important support we can get comes from members of the public," Happe added. "We need people to take the most important precautionary steps diligently in this context to limit the spread as much as possible and to keep additional pressure off the healthcare system."

The Public Health Agency of Canada has spearheaded efforts to make Canadians aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 and the risk factors for transmission.

"At this time, we wish to commend the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Minister of Health for their hard work on this developing issue," Happe added. "We strongly urge Canadians to rely on trusted sources of information like PHAC and their provincial Chief Medical Officer of Health regarding this quickly developing situation."

IPAC Canada has committed its homepage as a compilation of trusted and up-to-date resources for Canadians: https://ipac-canada.org/

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