



COVID-19

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT INDUSTRY MOBILIZATION PLAN

MARCH 25, 2020

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OVERVIEW

On March 20, 2020 the government of Canada announced a plan to mobilize industry, and to deploy resources to domestic manufacturers and businesses in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

This plan is focused on building domestic capacity, developing innovative solutions and procuring essential supplies. These goals will be achieved by;

1. Incentivizing Canadian companies to retool their manufacturing lines to produce critical health and safety supplies and equipment, such as personal protective equipment, sanitization products, diagnostic and testing products, and disease-tracking technology.
2. Refocusing existing industrial and innovation programs to prioritize the fight against COVID-19.
3. Reaching out to suppliers to identify and purchase equipment, supplies and services.

1. RETOOLING

Canadian companies are requested to contact ic.mid-dim.ic@canada.ca and offer details on how they can assist Canada in meeting the need for medical supplies. These companies should:

- Manufacture in Canada and/or have ready access to necessary inputs through its supply chain.
- Have equipment or facilities that can be rapidly retooled to meet medical needs, including for personal protective equipment, such as gloves, masks and surgical gowns; sanitizers; wipes; ventilators; and other medical equipment and supplies.
- Have skilled workers who are able to respond and who could be available for work in the current circumstances.

2. INNOVATION PROGRAMS

2.1. Next Generation Manufacturing Canada

NGen is preparing to issue a call for funding proposals to develop new capabilities and to rapidly increase the capacity for production of essential equipment and products such as:

- Virus screening tests
- Vaccines
- Therapeutic and symptom management treatments
- Personal protective equipment
- Hospital equipment, such as ventilators, IV equipment, hospital beds and ICU equipment, and equipment for remote facilities
- Cleaning and sterilization chemicals and equipment

Companies that are capable of producing these products, or any other items which can help to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, are requested to complete the COVID-19 Response Program [submission form](#).

2.2. National Research Council Industrial Research Assistance Program

The NRC IRAP was tasked with leveraging its existing relationships with thousands of Canada's most innovative small and medium-size businesses to address a range of Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada's medium-term needs for:

- Personal protective equipment
- Sanitization
- Diagnostic and testing
- Therapeutics
- Disease-tracking technology

Companies involved in developing or producing any of these products or technologies are requested to complete an [online registration form](#). NRC IRAP will fund promising projects, or bring promising solutions for procurement into Innovative Solutions Canada.

2.3. NRC COVID-19 Challenge Program

The newly established NRC COVID-19 Challenge Program will be composed of teams of government, academic and private-sector partners to address technology developments required to fight the COVID-19 virus.

Academic and government researchers, as well as private-sector firms interested in learning more about the program as it develops, are requested to [submit an expression of interest for challenge program collaboration](#).

2.4. Strategic Innovation Fund

The SIF was tasked with delivering direct funding support to Canadian companies for large-scale projects. Currently, however, there are no details regarding how this will be achieved. Information on program changes is expected to be announced on the [program website](#) in the coming weeks.

2.5. Innovative Solutions Canada

ISC was tasked with helping Canadian businesses speed up the commercialization of lifesaving products. While it was announced that this goal will be achieved in partnership with NRC IRAP, in the coming weeks ISC might release a number [challenges](#) related specifically to the fight against the COVID-19 virus.

3. GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

The government identified a number of priority products and services that are urgently needed to help fight the coronavirus disease. These items include:

3.1. Products

- Disposable N95 masks
- Disposable surgical masks
- Nitrile gloves
- Vinyl gloves
- Gowns
- Bottles of hand sanitizer
- Other prevention products

3.2. Services

- Guard / security services
- Nursing services
- Food services
- Laundry services
- Accommodation maintenance services
- Personal services
- IT support services
- Other services

Companies able to offer these items are requested to complete a [submission form](#) for COVID-19 products and services.

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