




CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

Medical Emergency Travel Fund Policy

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Dän nätthe ada Kaaxnox
Chief Steve Smith

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Registrar of Laws
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations



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1.0 Introduction

1.1 *Vision of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations*

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

Vision Statement

*Dákwän Shadhäla yè Äshèyi Kwädän dá government yè,
dän shäw ghüle du n-däsäduye shí.*

Dän dèts'än shäw näkutth'et du n-läts'än näkune ní.

Kwädqy dän k'è, dákeyi shü dákeyi ye dákwänje shü ghàts'ukhí nü.



*We, the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations people and government
Shall promote a healthy, unified and self-reliant people,
While conserving and enhancing our environment and culture.*

1.2 Introduction

The Vision of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations has always called for self-reliant people. Self-reliance is the dependence on one's own powers and resources to the greatest extent possible, rather than those of others. At the same time, we recognize that emergency medical situations can happen. The Medical Emergency Travel Policy is a component of our "Supported Self-Reliance" approach of providing assistance during times of need.

This policy applies to travel costs associated with a Medical Emergency experienced by a CAFN Enrolled Citizen or their Immediate Family Members that reside within Canada.





1.3 Definitions

In this policy the following definitions will apply:

Applicant – a person who is requesting medical emergency travel funding and whose eligibility has not yet been determined.

CAFN Enrolled Citizen – means a CAFN Citizen that is eligible for all rights and privileges under the CAFN Final Agreement.

Immediate Family Member – means father and mother (biological or step), legal guardian, spouse, common-law partner, grandmother and grandfather, brothers and sisters (biological or step), children (biological, adopted or step), and grandchildren (biological).

Last Resort Fund – means that an Applicant has sought, researched, and applied for funding from other sources prior to applying to CAFN.

Medical Emergency – means an injury or illness that is acute and poses an immediate risk to a CAFN Enrolled Citizen or their Immediate Family, life or long term health, resulting from a sudden diagnosis and/or traumatic event.

Primary Support – means the Family Member, as nominated by the family, who will travel with or to the injured/sick Family Member to provide support during an emergency.

1.4 Scope

Yukon Government and NIHB have medical treatment travel programs. Other sources of financial assistance are also available to individuals. This policy is intended to be the financial resource of last resort, in medical emergency situations.

This Policy establishes the conditions of eligibility related to accessing funds intended to assist Citizens when immediate and serious medical emergency travel situations arise. These funds are available to assist with costs associated with transporting the patient to appropriate medical care, and/or costs associated with Family Member(s) travelling with the patient, or to be with the patient if the patient is outside of the community for an extended period of time.

Community Wellness Employees will be available to assist Citizens in accessing other sources of funding and in coordinating services with other agencies, if requested.

1.5 The Purpose of the Medical Emergency Travel Funding

To provide funding to Citizens or the Immediate Family of a Citizen for medical emergency travel expense.





2.0 Procedure

CAFN Enrolled Citizens, and their Immediate Family, who face medical travel emergencies must access financial assistance and coordination of travel from the following agencies **prior** to contacting CAFN.

1. NIHB
2. Yukon Government Insured Health and Hearing Services
3. Employer's insurance policy
4. Workers' Compensation (for injuries occurring in work situations)
5. Salvation Army and or other potential charitable providers

In the case of services and funding being denied by one of the above, the appeal and reapplication process can be aided by CAFN Community Wellness Employees.

CAFN will not duplicate services provided by other funders.

2.1 Application Process

The family of the individual facing the medical emergency will nominate a single Family Member to submit the application for Medical Emergency Travel Funds and represent the family with respect to any related decisions. This individual will be required to:

- Complete the Medical Emergency Travel Funding application form.
- Provided documentation, from a Health Care Professional, about the nature of the emergency.
- Provide authorization/approval or rejection letter(s) from other funding source(s).

Applications can be completed over the phone with a Community Wellness Employee.

For clarity, applications will not be processed and funds will not be released until a family spokesperson is identified.

The Community Wellness Department must receive all supporting documentation before an application is assessed. The Medical Emergency Fund Committee, comprised of the Community Wellness Administrative Assistant, Community Wellness Manager, and a representative from Finance will review the request immediately upon receipt of the completed application form and make a recommendation to the Director of Community Wellness.

The Director of Community Wellness will review the recommendation from the Committee and confirm the amount of funding required based on the information provided on the application form. If appropriate, the maximum amount of funds may be allocated and the family will need to manage the funds themselves to stretch them as far as possible rather than be limited to prescribed daily amounts for various expense categories.

In the absence of the Director of Community Wellness, or if the Director of Community Wellness is in a conflict of interest situation, the Executive Director will determine the eligibility of each Applicant.

The nominated Family Member will be the payee of the CAFN cheque.

The Director of Community Wellness will document the decision on the form and the Applicant will be notified immediately by the Administrative Assistant of any decisions that are made.





2.2 Validating Requests

In determining the eligibility of applications, the Director of Community Wellness may speak to attending health care personnel to determine the severity and duration of the health condition. The Director of Community Wellness will only seek the minimal level of information in order to grant the funding.

CAFN recognizes that confidential information is being shared by Applicants through this process and reminds all Employees that the Oath of Confidentiality applies to all information shared through this policy and process.

3.0 Medical Emergency Travel Fund Amounts

Upon approval of the application, funding may be allocated to the family of Citizens and Citizens facing medical emergency travel circumstances, as follows:

- For travel within the Yukon, funding may be approved up to a maximum of \$2,000.00 per year, per medical patient.
- For travel outside the Yukon, funding may be approved up to a maximum of \$3,000.00 per year, per medical patient.

These amounts are total annual amounts, not incident based.

Under exceptional circumstances the Director of Community Wellness and the Executive Director may exercise discretion with respect to this policy, however, the funds available will never exceed the maximums noted above.

Funds received for emergency medical travel assistance may only be used for the purposes identified in the application. Recipients may be required to produce receipts to substantiate their expenses.

CAFN reserves the right to recover funds that are not spent in accordance with this policy through appropriate collection actions.

4.0 Loan Repayment

The Medical Emergency Funds paid to an Applicant shall be considered a grant and not a loan, and are not required to be paid back to CAFN.

CAFN reserves the right to recover funds that are not spent in accordance with this policy through appropriate collection actions.

5.0 Advancement of Funds and Reimbursement Requirements

In the case that the primary funding for medical emergency travel is not available until completion of the travel (e.g. NIHB ground travel, YG subsidy), CAFN may provide an advancement of funding.

This amount will not exceed the approved amount from the primary provider.

Approval will only be given once reimbursement to CAFN is confirmed (i.e. CAFN is identified as the payee on the NIHB or other funding agencies).

Receipts may be required.





6.0 Reservations and Travel Arrangements

Flight and hotel reservations should be made through the approved funding agency. CAFN Employees will assist with travel arrangements when CAFN is the primary funder.

7.0 Ineligible Expenses

- Dental care
- Eye care
- Addictions Treatment for private clinics
- Cosmetic surgery
- Prescription Drugs
- Specialist appointments that are not directly related to the Medical Emergency
(Travel outside of territory not covered by NIHB)
- Mental Health Private Counseling

