

# COVID-19 and the Settlement Sector

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# AAISA COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Knowledge mobilization and advocacy
  - Sector, NSIC, and Minister meetings
  - First language resources for newcomer communities
- PPE Coordination
  - · Vendors, purchasing
- COVID-19 and re-opening support
  - Coordination
  - Information sharing
  - Policies



## COVID-19 AND NEWCOMERS

- Impacts on racialized and low-income communities
  - Studies show more than 2:1 ratio of racialized individuals affected vs. population composition
  - Also significant correlation between low-income households and COVID-19 rates
  - Also present in indigenous communities
- Social determinants of health play an important role
  - Affordable housing opportunities
  - Access to employment
  - Income supports
  - Educational opportunities



### COLLABORATIVE RESPONSES

- From the advocacy perspective
- In response to emergency needs
  - Cargill in High River
  - Community outbreak in Brooks
    - 10% of the population positive
    - · connecting service providers, major employers, health systems, and multiple levels of government
      - First language information on staying safe
      - Assess needs and deliver services to newcomers
      - Coordination with and between provincial government to ensure enough flexibility in existing agreements to address eligible services
      - Coalition of local funders including the United Way and Community Foundation provided resourcing for ineligible costs, such as ensuring food security and providing separate accommodations to facilitate quarantining impacted newcomers



# LOOKING AHEAD

- Pro-active Measures
- Systemic Changes
- Policy Changes

