

Subject: Debit Card Relief Funding

Number: IS-ETW/BFE-2016-009
IS-LEARNER-2016-009

Date Issued: May 11, 2016

Effective Date: Immediately

Issuer: Kevin Inkster
Acting Executive Director
Employment and Financial Program Policy

Distribution: Human Services Employment and Financial Supports Division
Human Services Common Service Access Division:
Common Service Delivery

BACKGROUND:

The Government of Alberta (GoA) will be issuing Debit Card Relief Funding to evacuees of the Fort McMurray and surrounding areas wildfires. Eligible adults will receive a one-time payment of \$1,250 and \$500 per dependent child to assist with their immediate housing needs and day-to-day purchases. Funds will be issued by debit card. [The Government of Alberta's Emergency Updates website](#) has a list of locations of where evacuees can go to apply for the payments.

The Minister has signed Ministerial Order No. 2016-17 that exempts compensation, from the GoA, for damage or loss caused by a disaster; any assets purchased with his compensation; and emergency payments from a charitable organization for a disaster for Income Support clients.

These payments will not affect Income Support program eligibility for applicants or recipients.

Income Support applicants or recipients who require emergency-related assistance after hours can call the 24-hour Emergency Income Support Contact Centre at 1-866-644-5135 or 780-644-5135 in the Edmonton Area.

INTENT:

To update policy to align with MO 2016-17.

POLICY:

Effective immediately, the following Ministerial Order has been posted:

[Ministerial Order 2016-17](#)

The following ETW/BFE policy sections have been updated:

[Income Exemptions](#)

[Assets – General Policy](#)

[Asset Exemptions](#)

The following Learner policy sections have been updated:

[100% Exempt Income](#)

[Exempt Assets](#)