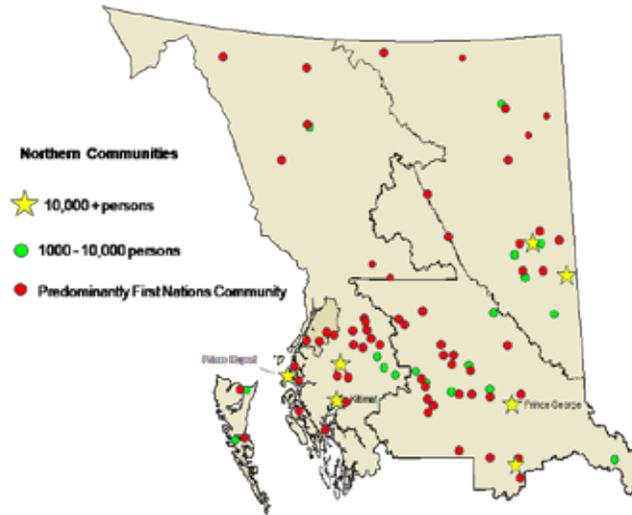


Indigenous health is holistic and seeks balance. At the heart of this view is an understanding that all things are connected and in relationship to one another – land, water, air, animals, individuals, families, and communities. Holistic health is a process that demands a broad and inclusive perspective for addressing health issues.



northern health
the northern way of caring

INDIGENOUS HEALTH

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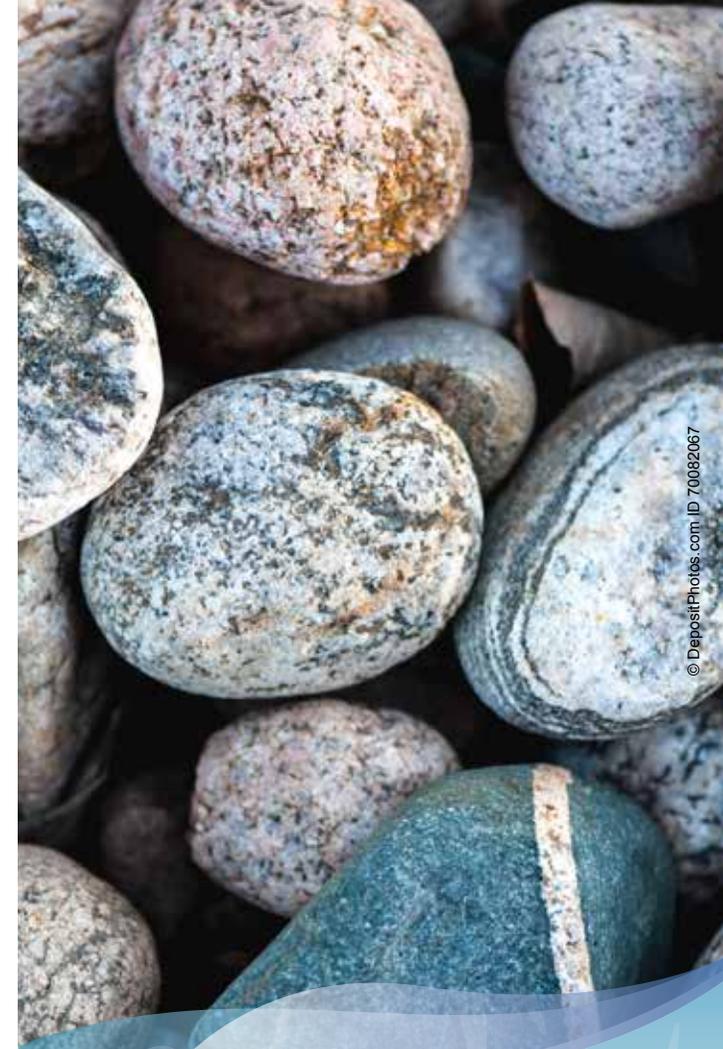


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INDIGENOUS HEALTH Programs and Initiatives



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Northern Health is committed to partnering with Indigenous peoples and communities, and to building a health care system that honours diversity and provides culturally safe services.

INDIGENOUS HEALTH

Indigenous Health supports Northern Health in its commitment to partner with Indigenous peoples and communities, and to build a health care system that honours diversity and provides culturally safe services.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Respect *diversity* and the unique interests of Indigenous peoples.
- Support the *inclusion and participation* of Indigenous peoples in the Northern Health care system.
- Incorporate *Indigenous knowledge(s)* and *holistic approaches*.
- *Facilitate* partnerships, collaborations and capacity building.
- Ensure *relevant* initiatives and activities by reflecting the needs of those being served.
- Build on the *strengths* of communities.

WHAT WE DO

Support cultural competency and safety

Supporting the health system to be more culturally safe for Indigenous people is one of our top priorities. All our programs and initiatives work towards respectful and inclusive health services for Indigenous people in northern BC.

Build capacity within Northern Health

Indigenous Health is a resource for Northern Health leaders and staff and can: facilitate relationships, identify resources and tools, participate on committees and working groups, and provide training and mentoring.

Partner with the First Nations Health Authority

Northern Health works in close partnership with the First Nations Health Authority. One of the key ways we collaborate is on the Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Committee as well as on a number of specific initiatives.

Support the Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee

This committee is part of the new First Nations health governance structure in BC and includes Northern First Nations, the First Nations Health Authority and Northern Health. Members work together on initiatives to improve health and wellness with First Nations peoples and communities in the north.

Support access to quality health services

Indigenous Health partners with Northern Health programs, communities, and the First Nations Health Authority on a number of levels to enhance access to needed services and to improve continuity of care. Aboriginal Health Improvement Committees and Aboriginal Patient Liaisons are important ways this work is implemented.

Undertake knowledge translation activities

Undertaking knowledge translation activities includes identifying information gaps and the best approach to address that gap, then developing and disseminating resources and undertaking initiatives in response. These are evaluated and revised as needed in an iterative process.

Support the employment of a representative workforce

A workforce that reflects the community, supports a culturally safe health system for everyone. This in turn supports increased access to health care and improved health outcomes. Indigenous Health is working with Human Resources and Recruitment to develop and roll-out a strategy to support a strong Indigenous workforce in Northern Health.

Collaborate with communities.

Indigenous Health connects local Northern Health leaders and staff with invitations to attend health fairs, recruitment fairs, and special events that support Indigenous peoples' health and wellness. We organize regional gatherings that bring together community members and service providers who participate on Aboriginal Health Improvement Committees, to learn about and address topics relevant for Indigenous peoples' health and wellness.

Evaluate our programs and initiatives

Evaluation is a critical part of our work and supports ongoing quality improvement.