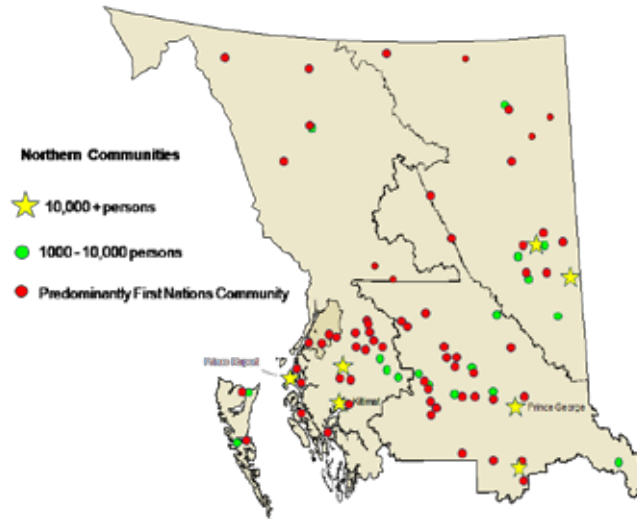


Indigenous health is holistic and seeks balance. At the heart of this view is an understanding that all things are connected and in relationship to one another – land, water, air, animals, individuals, families, and communities. Holistic health is a process that demands a broad and inclusive perspective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



INDIGENOUS HEALTH

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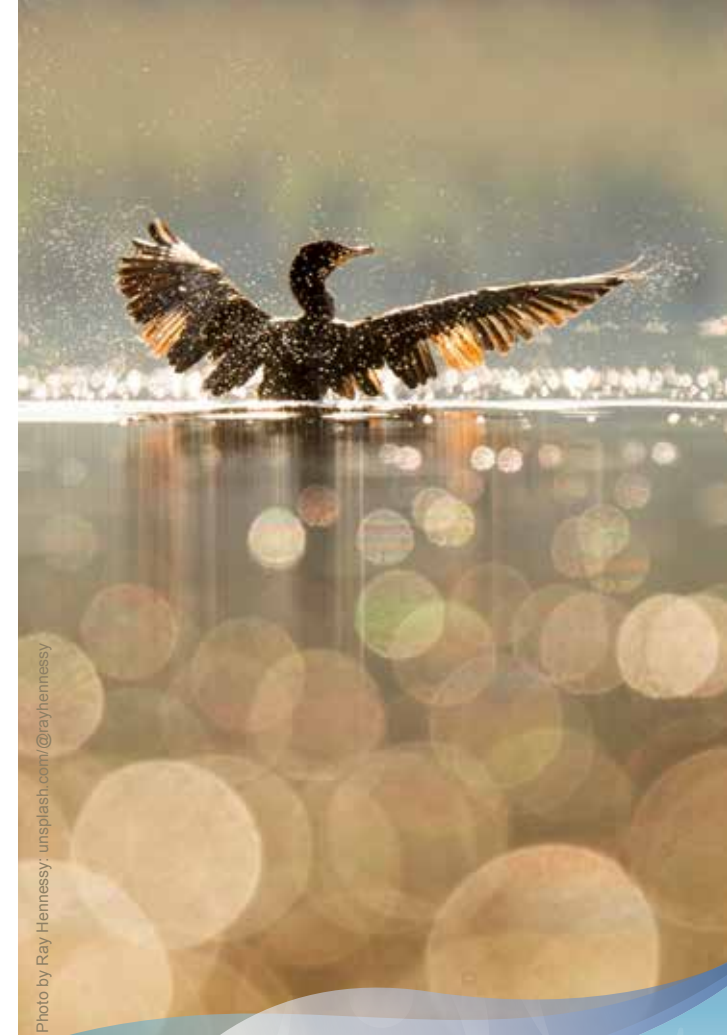


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Aboriginal Health Improvement Committees (AHICs)



northern health
the northern way of caring

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.

ABORIGINAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEES

In 2005, Northern Health initiated several Aboriginal Health Improvement Committees (AHICs) that have since increased to eight across the north. AHICs include local representatives from Indigenous communities and organizations, the First Nations Health Authority, Northern Health, and other sectors.

Building connections

AHICs provide opportunities for new and stronger connections, relationships, and cultural understandings between diverse communities and sectors all working for the health and well-being of Indigenous people and communities.

Indigenous peoples' perspectives and experiences

AHIC members bring perspectives and experiences from people who live in their communities and access their organizations. Through AHICs, Indigenous peoples' perspectives inform local priorities and solutions.

Collaborating on local initiatives

AHICs are action-oriented groups that support improved health and well-being with Indigenous people and communities through innovative and collaborative local initiatives. Many of these initiatives are focused on cultural safety.

AHIC REGIONS

- Lakes District AHIC
- North Coast AHIC
- Northeast AHIC
- NW East (Smithers and Area) AHIC
- Omineca AHIC
- Prince George and Area AHIC
- Quesnel and Area AHIC
- Terrace/Kitimat and Area AHIC

AHIC GATHERINGS

An inaugural gathering of AHICs took place on June 18-19, 2014 in Prince George for members to learn, share, reflect on practice, vision possibilities, and enhance and develop new partnerships and relationships. Following gatherings took place on September 22-23, 2015 and May 17-18, 2016. Reports are available that summarize each gathering.

LEARN MORE

www.indigenoushealthnh.ca/initiatives/AHICs

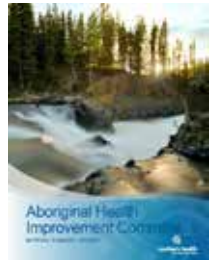


AHIC SUCCESSES

From 2014 through 2017, funding and resource support was provided by Indigenous Health to AHICs for patient journey and process mapping activities, as well as to develop local cultural resources.

Mapping patient journeys and health care processes

Mapping initiatives gathered information on health care experiences of Indigenous individuals and families. Gaps and challenges that were identified can be collaboratively addressed through local strategies and solutions.



This report summarizes the AHIC mapping initiatives.

Local cultural resources

Local cultural resources developed by AHICs are available for health practitioners to support their understanding of Indigenous community cultures, histories and contexts. This will build on existing Indigenous Cultural Safety training for Northern Health staff by increasing local knowledge.



This booklet summarizes the cultural resources developed by AHICs.