



Tripartite First Nations Health Plan

June 22, 2010

An Information Bulletin from the Tripartite Strategy Council for First Nations eHealth

Dear First Nations Public Health Providers,

A project is currently underway to give all BC First Nations public health providers access to a secure, central, public health information system called **Panorama**. The project, called the **BC First Nations Panorama Implementation Project**, is a federally-funded, tripartite initiative of Health Canada, First Nations Health Council and the Province of British Columbia. The Tripartite Strategy Council for First Nations eHealth is committed to helping ensure this is a viable option for those communities and providers who choose to utilize Panorama.

Panorama – Description and Benefits

Using Panorama, health service providers will, over time, have the ability to input and receive the following information which will be up-to-date and at their fingertips:

- **Immunizations** – individual and mass immunizations, client forecasts, coverage reports
- **Family Health** – support, care and guidance in non-primary care areas including maternal/infant health, child health and assessments
- **Communicable Disease Case Management** – surveillance and management of reportable communicable diseases
- **Outbreaks** – aggregate and detailed information about communicable disease outbreaks
- **Notifications** – safety alerts related to allergies, adverse reactions/events
- **Work Management** – multiple bookings, team workloads, task management
- **Vaccine Inventory** – management of inventory levels, forecast of future demand

Panorama will replace the current provincial public health system, iPHIS, and will also be used by Health Authority public health providers and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC). By accessing Panorama to collect, share and manage clients' public health information, First Nations health providers can benefit by:

- using the same system, tools and information as their Health Authority counterparts; and
- having better access to appropriate client data, regardless of which agency is providing the service or which provider a First Nations client chooses to visit.





Implementing Panorama in BC First Nations Health Centres

Panorama is an option for First Nations Health Centres. The goal of the BC First Nations Panorama Implementation Project is to make access to Panorama available to all BC First Nations health centres wishing to use it; and, with input and decisions from the communities they serve, each health centre can determine whether or not to adopt Panorama. The BC First Nations Panorama Implementation Project team has begun visiting First Nations health centres, to share information about the Project, to learn from health centre staff about their priorities and how this new tool might help, and to begin exploring considerations for making Panorama accessible at First Nations health centres (e.g., connectivity, privacy and security policies, user training, etc.).

In summer 2010, an initial call for expressions of interest will be issued to identify health centres that are interested in being “early adopters” of Panorama. **This will not be the only opportunity for health centres to adopt Panorama.** While some health centres may be interested in being early adopters of Panorama, others may not be ready or may want more time to decide whether they are interested in using BC’s new public health information system. After the Project team works with “early adopter” health centres, a deployment schedule for other interested health centres will be developed.

The Project is hoping to work together with interested health centres, to understand their current needs and priorities and to support their adoption of Panorama. Additionally, the Project team will support coordinated use of Panorama between health centres, regional Health authorities and the BC Centre for Disease Control, with a goal of improving the continuity of public health service for First Nations clients.

To learn more about the BC First Nations Panorama Implementation Project please contact one of the following Project team members:

- Karl Mallory, Project Manager / karl.mallory@gov.bc.ca / (250) 818-7702
- Anita DiMaio, Ministry of Health Services Project Coordinator / anita.dimaio@gov.bc.ca / (250) 356-2489

Evan Adams, MD
 Aboriginal Health Physician Advisor
 Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport
 1515 Blanshard Street, 4th Floor
 Victoria, BC V8W 3C8

Michelle DeGroot
 VP Health Policy & Research
 First Nations Health Council
 1205-100 Park Royal South
 West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2

Shannon Waters, MD, MHSc,
 FRCPC
 Director of Health Surveillance
 First Nations and Inuit Health
 Health Canada
 757 West Hastings Street, 5th Fl
 Vancouver, BC V6C 3E6

