



Summary: PHSA Priority Goals and Targets

In addition to providing specialized health services, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) carries out multiple roles including leading, partnering, informing, enabling and governing. Within these roles PHSA presents has developed priority goals and targets aligned with the Transformative Change Accord First Nations Health Plan.

PHSA Goals:

- Each PHSA agency has a designated senior sponsor for Aboriginal Health who will be accountable for Aboriginal Health and has the authority to allocate resources and implement initiatives. The designated senior sponsor is responsible for establishing an Aboriginal sub-committee within his/her agency and is responsible for disseminating communications within the agency. Each designated senior sponsor from each specialized health care agency is a member of PHSA's Aboriginal Health Sub-committee that meets regularly
- PHSA strives to increase the number of Aboriginal professional and skilled trades people in health professions and identify emerging employment opportunities through an Aboriginal Recruitment Strategy. PHSA has developed Aboriginal hiring objectives, targets, recruitment and retention plans, and is raising the profile of PHSA as an employer of choice. PHSA's recruitment services developed an online social networking site specifically for Aboriginal health nurses and Aboriginal Patient Liaisons to connect, mentor, and support their health career choices. PHSA's human resources department also supports the cultural competency online learning hubs
- PHSA has developed a 8 hour multi-level facilitated online Aboriginal cultural competency training program for all PHSA employees. The Indigenous Online Cultural Competency Training Program has been created, vetted, and piloted by a variety of PHSA agencies, Ministry, Health Canada, First Nations Health Council, Métis Nation of BC, Regional Health Authorities, and other Aboriginal Partners
- PHSA's Aboriginal Health Program has established a culturally appropriate, agency-wide feedback system to ensure Aboriginal cultural safety and improved access to services, including processes for verbal/oral feedback mechanisms. PHSA's agencies and departments now seek the assistance of PHSA's Aboriginal Health Program when providing Aboriginal health services

PHSA Communications Goals

- PHSA's Aboriginal Health Program collaborates with PHSA's communications team to develop an effective, coordinated communications strategy for various Aboriginal initiatives to ensure sharing of information and increased awareness and rationale behind Aboriginal specific initiatives. PHSA is working on establishing an Aboriginal Health Communications Committee
- PHSA Aboriginal Health is developing a portal/website to direct and support internal PHSA Aboriginal health queries and to support the public and Aboriginal partner information needs for PHSA information, contacts, plans and services. PHSA is also developing an Aboriginal women's health website with a focus on health recommendations and self-empowerment for healthy living

Collaboration with Aboriginal Partners

- Develop and implement chronic disease prevention and early detection strategies using plain language approaches, culturally appropriate materials and linking to related strategies developed through partners such as ACTNow
- PHSA collaborates with established research groups (respecting principles of OCAP: Aboriginal ownership, control, access and possession of research) to identify emerging and best practice service delivery models in areas including women's health, children's health chronic disease, and mental health and addictions. PHSA is currently working with BC Cancer Agency, identified First Nations communities and organizations as well as other PHSA agencies on an oral cancer research project
- Collaborates with partners and medical practitioners to promote sharing and application of standards, guidelines and protocols (as they develop) to facilitate consensus building within and between partners
- Leverage influence and the academic mandate of PHSA to assist in development of appropriate best practise models for service delivery for Aboriginal mental health, women's and children's health that include and are informed by our Aboriginal partners, academic research and aboriginal ways of knowing
- Integrate Aboriginal knowledge and practice into PHSA practice and ensure practice based models include an understanding of the importance of Aboriginal holistic health care knowledge. PHSA strives to ensure spiritual support and service providers (Elders, Healers) are available for effective long-term interventions. Ensure budgets and appropriate means of compensation are available for cultural healing practices

Agency and Program Specific Initiatives

- Support the Aboriginal Perinatal Nurse Consultant in her lead role in the development and implementation of the Aboriginal Maternity Access Project to improve maternal health services for Aboriginal women and bring birth “closer to home and back into the hands of women”
- Work with targeted PHSA agencies to establish culturally competent Aboriginal Patient Liaisons (BC Cancer, BC Children’s and BC Renal) to assist Aboriginal patients and their families navigate the health-care system
- Work with PHSA’s Women’s Health to find ways to develop, promote and provide cancer screening clinics for Aboriginal women, work with existing groups and emerging women’s health councils to support and develop Aboriginal women’s health priorities and increase off-site patient housing supports through partnership development with housing agencies
- Collaborate with BC Cancer Agency and Aboriginal partners to develop an appropriate plain language information package identifying ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle as well as prevention and early detection awareness and increase culturally specific cancer screening
- Continue to support the implementation of the Renewing Our Response to HIV/AIDS initiative
- Work with BCCDC to:
 - provide professional support to the newly created epidemiologist position at the First Nations Health Council
 - establish an additional educator position to support the community education and awareness activities
 - support the established and developing HIV/AIDS prevention education and awareness projects and programs, support Aboriginal people with an Aboriginal TB nurse position
 - collaborate with Aboriginal groups and internal structures to address environmental health issues impacting Aboriginal people
- In partnership with BC Mental Health and Addictions Services, collaborate with Aboriginal partners and the Ministry of Children and Family Development’s Community Mental Health Services in the development of the Provincial Aboriginal Mental Health Strategy, and initiatives to reduce youth suicide and substance misuse in Aboriginal communities as well as supporting Aboriginal community agencies in best practices development through collaborative learning partnerships, information, and knowledge exchange and mentoring programs
- With Child Health BC, other partners including government and Aboriginal partners, PHSA will establish regional programs in partnership with local and regional health authorities and highlight Aboriginal child and youth health

needs in a province-wide child and youth health forum, and identify opportunities to support child and youth health programming

- Collaborate with Aboriginal groups and BCCDC in data gathering and analysis areas that help strengthen public health and communicable disease prevention while decreasing health disparities for Aboriginal people
- Collaborate with Aboriginal partners to engage in the PHSA Centres for Population and Public Health in determining involvement in the Centres implementation and developing mechanisms that ensure participation to address factors impacting Aboriginal health
- Collaborate with Aboriginal partners and the Health Authority Renal Programs (HARP) to develop a plain language information package. In addition to information around healthy lifestyle, include strategies for prevention and/or slowing disease progression, and early detection as well as specific information for dialysis options
- Increase Aboriginal participation in the organ donation program through a culturally appropriate awareness campaign
- Collaborate with internal and external partners to provide information on factors leading to cardiovascular disease, and methods for reducing risk

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PHSA Aboriginal Subcommittee Members

PHSA Aboriginal Health Director: Leslie Varley - Chair

PHSA Executive Sponsor for Aboriginal Health: Leslie Arnold

Agency leads for Aboriginal Health:

BC Cancer Agency: Dr. Mark Elwood, Pam Tobin
BC Centre for Disease Control: Dr. Gina Ogilvie
BC Children's Hospital: Dr. Bob Peterson, Mary Lou Mathews
BC Mental Health and Addictions: Leslie Arnold, Shannon Griffin, Peter Coleridge, Lynn Cook
BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre: Dr. Jan Christilaw, Cheryl Davies
Provincial Renal Agency: Dr. Michael Copland, Dr. Nancy Craven, Donna Murphy-Burke

PHSA Corporate leads:

Public and Population Health: Dr. John Millar, and Lydia Drasic
Human Resources: Mark Allen,
Recruitment: Carol Jeffs, Judy Clark
Research Institute: Dr. Stuart MacLeod
Chief Nursing Officer: Sherry Hamilton
BC Injury Prevention: Dr. Ian Pike
Patient Quality Care: Mary MacKillop
HIV/AIDS: Janice Duddy
SFU Faculty for Public Health: Dr. John O'Neil

Aboriginal Program Leads and staff, Agencies:

BCCDC: Melanie Rivers, Chee Mamuk Program Manager
BCPNHP: Lucy Barney, Aboriginal Perinatal Health Consultant
BCW: Lerinda Swain, Aboriginal Health Coordinator

Ministry and Aboriginal Partners

Sauna Miller, Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport
Michelle DeGroot, First Nations Health Council
Tania Davoren, Métis Nation British Columbia
Paul Lacerte, BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
United Native Nations
BC Aboriginal Network on Disabilities Society