

## Chiefs and Leaders Approve 10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health

### First Nations Health Council holds Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey XII

**Coast Salish Territory** | Today, Chiefs and leaders at the Gathering Wisdom XII assembly and provincial health forum presented by the First Nations Health Council (FNHC) ratified a new 10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health: A Framework for Change (the 10-Year Strategy).

The FNHC's 10-Year Strategy reflects direct feedback from several years of engagement with Chiefs and leaders in BC on the social determinants of health. Development of the 10-Year Strategy stems from a commitment in the Tripartite Partnership [MOU](#) signed in 2018 by the FNHC, Canada and BC.

The 10-Year Strategy continues the work of the health governance structure in BC to transform health systems for First Nations people and improve health outcomes, with four priorities:

- Healing Approaches
- Cultural Infrastructure
- Nation-based Governance
- Sustainable Funding

The 10-Year Strategy responds to priorities of Chiefs and leaders in BC to: 1) to bring health care decision-making closer to home, 2) to stand up First Nations culture and tradition in wellness, and 3) to secure predictable and sustainable funding for community-based health and wellness approaches. The 10-Year Strategy is grounded in a set of 7 [Directives](#) which describe the fundamental standards and instructions for the health governance structure.

Gathering Wisdom forums – held every 18 months – manifest the commitments within the Tripartite BC First Nations Health Plan signed by the FNHC, Canada and BC that underpin the transformation of health and wellness for First Nations in BC. Work of the FNHC and its pillar partners, the FNHA and FNHDA, is rooted in a shared vision: Healthy, Self-Determining and Vibrant BC First Nations Children, Families and Communities.

**About the First Nations Health Council (FNHC)** The FNHC is one of four pillars of the First Nations Health Governance Structure in BC, along with its partners at the FNHA, the FNHDA and the Tripartite Committee on First Nations Health, which includes Canada and BC. The FNHC's advocacy journey began in the early 2000s, including the 2007 signing of the Transformative Change Accord to address health disparities between First Nations people and other BC residents. The FNHC's mandate is to oversee transformation of the health system, make progress on the Social Determinants for Health and advocate for First Nations decision-making in health and wellness. The FNHC provides political leadership for implementation of Tripartite commitments and supports the health priorities for BC First Nations. For information, visit [FNHC.ca](https://fnhc.ca)