

Update from First Nations Health Council

www.fnhc.ca | November 2023

Healing Our Spirit Worldwide 2023

FNHC Chair Wade Grant and Deputy Chair Wenecwtsin (Wayne Christian) – along with the FNHC reps – played a pivotal role at the Healing Our Spirit Worldwide 2023 gathering. Two presentations were delivered to attendees, including the visionary plan of Chiefs and leaders to enhance the health and well-being of First Nations communities in BC through the journey of health governance, highlighting the resilience and self-determination of First Nations communities in shaping their own health.

A second session focused on the development of the 10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health, including success stories from communities reclaiming traditional ways of healing and wellness.

Did you miss the presentation? You can [find the presentations here](#).

Advocacy and Outreach

Recent activities include:

- October meetings in Ottawa after the recent Cabinet shuffle including the Deputy Minister (DM) of Environment and Climate Change and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC). Discussions were focused on the 10-Year Strategy, funding, and advocating for a BC-specific approach to distinctions-based health legislation.
- Panel at the AFN National Health Legislation Forum in June where FNHC Chair Wade Grant and FNHA CEO Richard Jock reinforced the need for ISC to consider BC's unique health governance structure in the development of distinction-based health legislation.
- Meetings with the BC Premier, Mental Health and Addictions DM, former CIRNAC Minister Marc Miller and ISC Minister Patty Hajdu and DM Gina Wilson.

Save the Date: Fall 2023 Regional Caucus events

[North](#)

November 7-9, 2023

[Fraser Salish](#)

November 21-23, 2023

[Interior](#)

November 14-16, 2023

[Vancouver Island](#)

November 27-30, 2023

[Vancouver Coastal](#)

December 5-7, 2023

Click on your specific Region for registration link.

Representative News

Willie Charlie of Sts'ailes was given a Grand Chief title by his community which was marked in ceremony. Said Grand Chief Charlie: "It's quite an honour and some additional responsibilities come with it and hope I can live up to those expectations. My family and Elders are strong in ceremony and culture and I know I can always go back to that." Jimmy Charlie and Uncle (Buster) Sylvester Joe taught Willie the history of his people.



Paul Sam (TELAXTEN) has been appointed as National Elder Advisor for the Canadian Red Cross Society board. TELAXTEN has worked with Canadian Red Cross since 2006.



Review: Final 10-Year Strategy and Final Resolution

As shared with Chiefs and leaders via email and a letter from the FNHC (available [online](#)), last spring's Gathering Wisdom XII resulted in the approval of the FNHC's **10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health: A Framework for the Future**. To review the final resolution and strategy document visit www.fnhc.ca/our-approach.



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