

October 1, 2024

## **RE: Update to Engagement Timeline for Consensus Papers at Gathering Wisdom**

Dear Chiefs, leaders, Health Directors, and technical leads,

On behalf of the First Nations Health Council (FNHC), we are writing to inform you of important updates to the engagement timeline leading up to Gathering Wisdom for A Shared Journey XIII (13).

The FNHC is currently engaging to inform the development of two consensus papers that were originally intended for consideration at Gathering Wisdom XIII (13) in June 2025:

- BC First Nations-specific principles to guide provincial and federal health-related legislation; and
- Evolving the FNHC's role and governance structure within the broader First Nations Health Governance Structure, to reflect input from evaluation participants as well as the FNHC's updated focus to move from transfer to transformation.

At the FNHC Quarterly Meeting in July, the FNHC reviewed feedback from Spring 2024 Regional Caucus and it was clear that more time is needed to engage on those important and complex topics in a good way.

In response, the FNHC agreed on a new plan to extend the engagement timeline to allow for more engagement and build consensus on these complex topics.

### **Next Steps:**

1. **Ongoing updates:** The FNHC will provide updates at each Sub-Regional session and Regional Caucus.
2. **Gathering Wisdom XIII (13):** The FNHC will present a Summary of Engagement on the evolution of the FNHC within the Health Governance Structure for further feedback. The FNHC will also present draft documents for discussion on BC First Nations-specific principles to inform provincial and federal health-related legislation. There will be NO voting at this time.
3. **Extended Engagement:** The engagement process will continue throughout fall 2025 and spring 2026 to continue to build consensus across communities. The FNHC will present draft consensus papers at the Fall 2026 Regional Caucuses.
4. **Gathering Wisdom XIV (14):** The extended timeline will lead to Gathering Wisdom XIV (14) in 2027, where the two consensus papers will be brought forward to Chiefs and leaders for a vote.

Chiefs' input and leadership is essential as we work together to shape the future of the First Nations Health Governance Structure in BC and influence any future health-related legislation.

Thank you for your continuous support and commitment to advance our shared vision of *"Healthy, self-determining and vibrant First Nations children, families and communities in BC"*. If you have any questions or require further information, please email us at: [fnhcengage@fnha.ca](mailto:fnhcengage@fnha.ca).

Sincerely,



Wade Grant  
Chair



Wenecwtsin (Wayne Christian)  
Deputy Chair

CC: First Nations Health Council representatives  
Dr. Sheila Blackstock, Board Chair, First Nations Health Authority  
Richard Jock, CEO, First Nations Health Authority  
Keith Marshall, President, First Nations Health Directors Association