



Transforming healthcare for First Nations people in BC

Who we are

The First Nations Health Council (FNHC) is part of a unique Health Governance Structure that includes the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) and the First Nations Health Directors Association (FNHDA). Collectively, this First Nations health governance structure works to improve the health outcomes of First Nations people in BC.

The FNHC provides dedicated political leadership and advocacy to support the group's shared vision. The Health Governance Structure is guided by the **7 Directives, the first of which is "Community-Driven, Nation-Based,"** meaning that First Nations communities lead the development of health programs and services through meaningful engagement and collaboration.

The FNHC carries forward direction and priorities from Chiefs and leaders, including seeking approval on health governance decisions at province-wide Gathering Wisdom forums.

7 Directives



Directive 1

Community-Driven, Nation-Based



Directive 2

Increase First Nations Decision-Making and Control



Directive 3

Improve Services



Directive 4

Foster Meaningful Collaboration and Partnership



Directive 5

Develop Human and Economic Capacity



Directive 6

Be Without Prejudice to First Nations Interests



Directive 7

Function at a High Operational Standard



First Nations
Health Council

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP
AND ADVOCACY



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

PROGRAM AND SERVICE
DELIVERY



First Nations Health
Directors Association

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT



TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE
ON FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Our history

The Health Governance Structure belongs to First Nations in BC. Our journey began in 2007 following the signing of a series of agreements between BC First Nations, the Province of BC and the Government of Canada to address health disparities between First Nations and other BC residents.

The FNHC oversaw the transition to a new First Nations Health Authority, which assumed responsibility for the design and delivery of health programs and services for BC First Nations in 2013.

Our structure

The FNHC is regionally-driven by a 15-person Council, with three representatives from each of the five health regions: Interior, Northern, Vancouver Coastal, Fraser Salish, and Vancouver Island in BC. Each region determines its own selection process, including the length of term and appointment procedures for representatives.

This 15-member Council is representative of — and accountable to — First Nations in BC.



Working toward health transformation

Our work is grounded in the First Nations perspective on health and wellness — encompassing the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual aspects of life. The FNHC’s advocacy for BC First Nations is focused on transformation of health care for First Nations people, using a social determinants of health approach.

- **In 2018**, the FNHC signed a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding with BC and Canada that secured **\$30 million** to support community-based solutions — more than 50 projects have been funded to date.
- The FNHC also separately secured **\$60 million** from its Tripartite partners to repair, build and improve treatment centre infrastructure in BC.

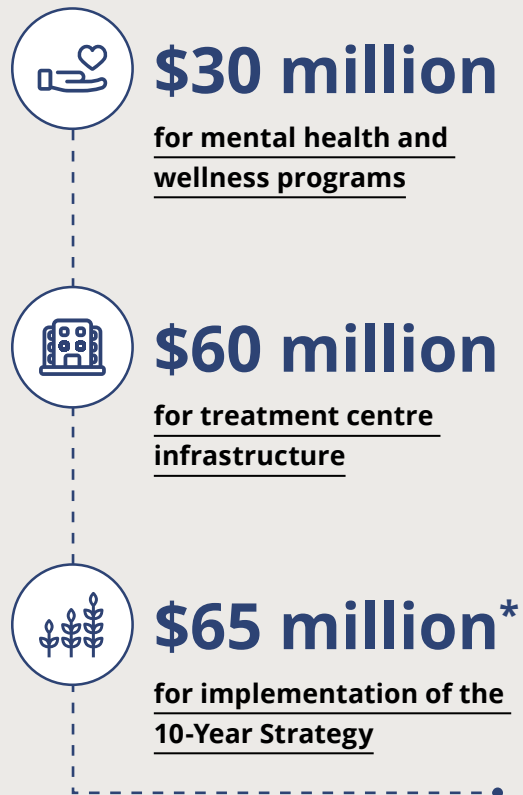
At Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey XII in 2023, Chiefs and leaders endorsed the FNHC’s new **10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health**.

This strategy is a framework to bring health care decision-making closer to home and stand up First Nations culture and traditions in health and wellness.

Canada and BC have both committed funds to implement the The 10-Year Strategy, supporting community-driven solutions.

Health improves when people and communities have the power to shape the conditions that affect their lives — policies, systems, and how resources are allocated.

FNHC Advocacy Results



* Includes \$50 million from the Government of Canada and \$15 million from the Province of BC. Additional implementation funding provided by the FNHA.



Our vision

The FNHC and its pillar partners at the FNHA and FNHDA hold a shared vision:

Healthy, Self-Determining and Vibrant BC First Nations Children, Families, and Communities.

Contact us

501-100 Park Royal South
Coast Salish Territory
West Vancouver, B.C. V7T 1A2

Toll free phone: 1-866-913-0033
Phone: 604-693-6500
FAX: 604-913-2081
Email: sharedsecretariat@fnha.ca

**Visit FNHC.ca and
Gathering-Wisdom.ca
for more information.**

Evolving the structure and mandate of the FNHC

The original mandate for the FNHC was to oversee transfer of health services to a newly-created FNHA and to make progress on the social determinants of health in reclaiming health and wellness for First Nations people.

As we seek input on how our provincial Council can best support system transformation and Nation-based approaches, Chiefs and leaders will vote on evolving the mandate and structure of the FNHC at Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey XIV in September 2027.

Our partners



First Nations Health
Directors Association
Sharing experience for community wellness



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness