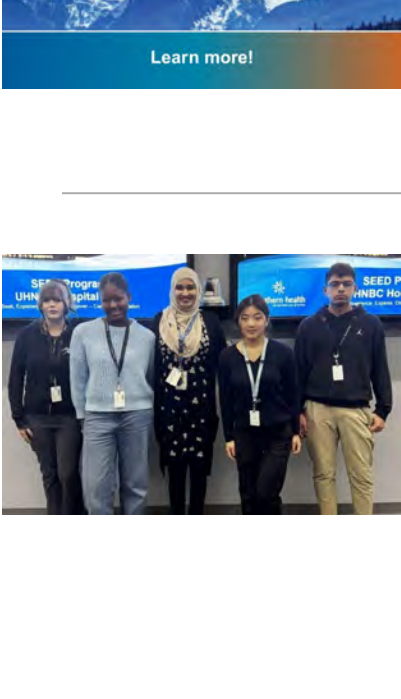


Welcome to the Northern Health community update! Stay connected as we bring you monthly updates and valuable insight into health care in the North.

Want more frequent updates? [Follow Northern Health on Facebook](#) where we share news, stories, tips and ideas on healthy living.

Organization and Community News



Northern Health launches Climate Change and Sustainability Roadmap

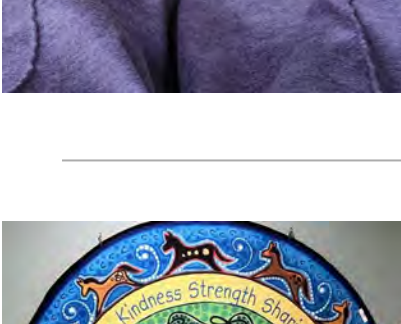
Northern Health is proud to announce the launch of its [Climate Change and Sustainability Roadmap](#), a bold five-year strategy (2025–2030) designed to amplify existing efforts to build a healthier, more resilient North.

The Roadmap outlines 18 key actions for the health authority across four focus areas, [read more on our website](#).



SEED program officially launches to inspire future health care workers

The Northern Health (NH) Student Practice Education team is once again collaborating with School District 57, the College of New Caledonia, University of Northern BC, Northern Health Volunteer Services, and Northern Health Recruitment in a joint effort to deliver our Seek, Experience, Explore, Discover (SEED) program. [Read more](#).



Rock Your Mocs Day – November 15

On November 15, we joined the worldwide movement celebrating Indigenous identity through moccasins. Rock Your Mocs Day began in 2011 as a grassroots initiative to celebrate Indigenous pride and unity. Today, it's recognized globally, encouraging Indigenous people everywhere to wear moccasins as a symbol of culture and resilience. [Read more](#).



Celebrating Métis identity: Louis Riel Day – November 16

November 16 was Louis Riel Day — a time to honour the life and legacy of Louis Riel, a visionary leader who fought for Métis rights, culture, and nationhood. His courage continues to inspire Métis people and allies working toward reconciliation today. [Read more](#).



Roll up your sleeves, BC, the 2025-26 vaccination campaign is here

People in BC are encouraged to protect themselves, their loved ones, and their communities from influenza, COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses, as the 2025-26 immunization campaign is underway.

"The respiratory virus season typically starts in mid-to-late fall and with this, we need to keep ourselves and our loved ones protected," said Dr. Martin Lavoie, deputy provincial health officer.

"Immunization remains the best protection against severe disease, complications and hospitalization. People should also take other measures, including staying home if they are sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and cleaning their hands frequently." [Read the full story here](#).

To learn more and find a clinic near you, visit the [NH COVID-19 and flu immunization clinic page](#).



Appropriate use of the emergency department and options for accessing health care

Emergency rooms in the North may be facing increasing strain. Help take the pressure off the doctors and nurses that serve our communities by seeking care through these options, when you can:

- Call your family care provider
- Visit an urgent primary care centre or primary care clinic if one is available in your community
- Check out [HealthLinkBC.ca](#) or speak to a nurse at 8-1-1
- Talk to your local pharmacist about their expanded services, and [book an appointment with a pharmacist](#).
- If you do not have a family doctor or nurse practitioner, book an appointment with the [Northern Health Virtual Clinic](#) at 1-844-645-7811
- Call 1-855-344-3800 to book an appointment with the [First Nations Virtual Doctor of the Day](#)

For life-threatening emergencies like chest pains, difficulty breathing, broken bones, or severe bleeding, the ER is the place to be. Call 9-1-1 for transport to your nearest available and appropriate facility. For more information, please visit our [service interruptions page](#).

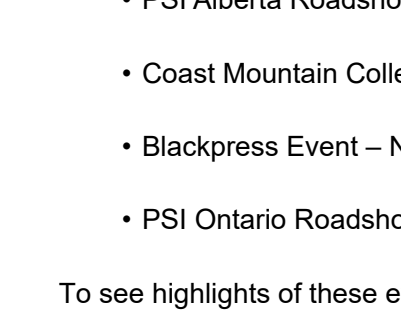
Health Human Resources (HHR)

The items in this Health Human Resources (HHR) section highlight some of NH's efforts to strengthen health care in the North by improving staff recruitment and retention as part of [BC's Health Human Resources Strategy](#).



Celebrating excellence: 2025 Nurse Practitioner Award recipients

In every corner of Northern Health (NH), nurse practitioners (NP) are making a profound impact—through leadership, education, research, and clinical care. This year, it is fitting that during National Nurse Practitioner Week we celebrate four exceptional individuals whose contributions exemplify the very best of what it means to be an NP. They were recognized in September during the regional NP community of practice and were each awarded a Nurse Practitioner Excellence Award. [Read the full story about the recipients](#).



Celia Evanson's legacy in Northern Health

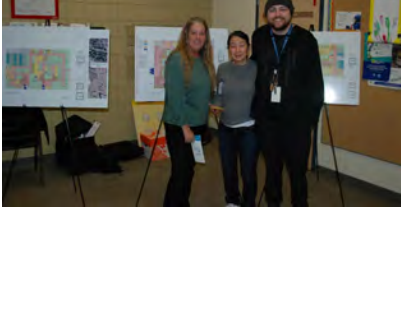
As we celebrate National Nurse Practitioner Week, we shine a spotlight on Celia Evanson—a pioneer, leader, and passionate advocate for rural health care whose career has helped shape the landscape of nurse practitioners (NP) in BC. [Read about Celia's career journey here](#).



Planning and Analytics team honoured for innovation in Human Resources

Northern Health's (NH) Human Resources (HR) Planning and Analytics Team has been recognized with a prestigious provincial award for their outstanding contributions to HR and labour relations.

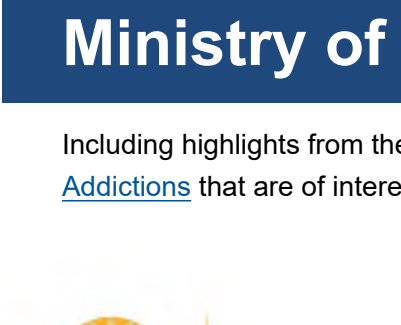
Presented by the Health Employers Association of BC (HEABC), the [Healthcare Employee Relations Awards of British Columbia](#) celebrate professionals who help create workplaces that support high-quality health care. This year, the award for Leading Human Resource and/or Labour Relations Practices in the health authority category was awarded to NH's Planning and Analytics Team. [Read more](#).



New pediatric education program available for nurses in Northern BC!

Northern Health (NH) spans nearly 600,000 square kilometers, serving over two dozen communities across the region. In every one of our facilities, dedicated nurses provide care to pediatric patients, even though training has traditionally focused on adult care.

We know that caring for children and their families comes with its own unique challenges. That's why we're thrilled to announce a new specialized education program designed just for nurses in Northern BC! This exciting initiative is grounded in the latest evidence-based practices and current standards of excellence. It's all about empowering our nurses with the tools, knowledge, and confidence they need to deliver exceptional pediatric care, right here in the North. [Read more about the program on our website](#).



Spotlight on our people: Amanda Twigg, GoHealth BC travel nurse

Amanda Twigg, an emergency department (ED) trained registered nurse (RN) from Manitoba, has been a full-time travel nurse for almost three years and has been working with [GoHealth BC](#) for over a year. She loves travel nursing because of the freedom that comes with being able to create her own schedule, allowing her to take time off to travel the world.

"Thanks to travel nursing, I only have two more continents to visit before I have seen them all," said Amanda. [Read Amanda's story on our website](#).

Recruiters on the road

NH's staff and physician recruitment teams have been out in full swing, sharing what kinds of opportunities set Northern BC apart. The recruiters have attended or presented at:

- PSI Alberta Roadshow – Calgary and Edmonton – Nov 2 – 7
- Coast Mountain College, Prince Rupert – Nov 12
- Blackpress Event – November 13
- PSI Ontario Roadshow – Toronto and Ottawa – Nov 23 - 29

To see highlights of these events and conferences, check out [Northern Health Careers](#).

Capital Projects



Dawson Creek & District Hospital – Project update: October 2025

The October 2025 edition of the Dawson Creek & District Hospital Replacement Project Quarterly Newsletter is now available on Let's Talk DCDH!

This edition features a project status update with some "fun" facts, construction progress photos, an update on operational readiness, recent engagement initiatives, an exciting community opportunity for retail food and beverage services in the new hospital, results from the recent artist call-out, and more! [Read more](#).



Dawson Creek & District Hospital Foundation launches \$3 million campaign to bring an MRI to the new hospital

The [Dawson Creek & District Hospital Foundation](#) is proud to announce the launch of a bold and transformative campaign to raise \$3 million to bring the first community-driven and publicly funded Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine to the South Peace region.

The campaign, titled "Create a Clear Picture", will support the purchase of a full body MRI to be installed in the new Dawson Creek and District Hospital, which will be open for patients in Spring 2027. [Read more](#).

Connecting with our teams: Highlights from the NIHU transition drop-in session

On November 12, nearly 70 staff members joined us for the Northern Interior Health Unit (NIHU) transition drop-in info sessions. This was a chance to grab a coffee, connect, and learn what's ahead as we prepare the [NIHU for relocation and the Acute Care Tower project](#). [Read more](#).

Northern Health Story Highlights

The [Northern Health Stories site](#) is a great place to read about what's going on in Northern Health – people, places, projects, and more! Here are some recent highlights:

- [Precision under pressure: The role of a respiratory therapist](#)
- [OT Month: Flexible scheduling enhances Northern BC client care](#)
- [7 months in: Liquid Goldie at the Terrace donor human milk collection depot](#)
- [This calendar may help prevent dementia](#)
- [HIV Care – helping people one step at a time](#)

Ministry of Health highlights

Including highlights from the [Ministry of Health](#) and [Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions](#) that are of interest to all BC residents:

- [Province taking action to strengthen involuntary care, better support patients](#)

Public Health

Northern Health Communities E-Brief – November 2025

The E-Brief is a monthly newsletter sharing resources, learning opportunities, and grant funding that supports community health in Northern BC. [Check out what's new for November 2025](#).

To subscribe to this monthly newsletter, please email healthcommunities@northernhealth.ca with the subject line "subscribe."

Overdose Prevention and Response

Toxic drug alert: Dawson Creek – November 7, 2025

Northern Health and First Nations Health Authority are issuing a Toxic Drug Alert for the community of Dawson Creek. A blue 'rock chunk' like substance being sold as 'heroin' has been linked to an increase of overdose events.

This substance is highly toxic, causes heavy and prolonged sedation, and requires more naloxone to reverse. Overdoses happen when the substance is smoked and/or injected. For more information, [visit our website](#).

In response to the toxic drug emergency, a text message alert system has been implemented across Northern Health. The system sends text alerts with timely information and up-to-date resources to people who use drugs, those who support them, and community members. It's a public health measure to prevent drug poisonings and deaths and provides. Opt-in by texting **JOIN to ALERTS (253787)**. [More information](#).

Text alerts for toxic drugs available in the North

