

# Northern Health Healthy Communities E-Brief

July 2025

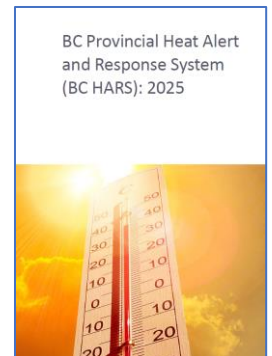
Welcome to the Northern Health Healthy Communities E-Brief. This monthly newsletter from the [Healthy Communities](#) team aims to keep local governments and community organizations in Northern BC informed about resources, events, and funding opportunities that support community health and well-being.

## Resources

### [Climate and health](#)

#### **BC Heat Alert and Response Systems (BC HARS) Guide**

Updated for provincial-wide use, this [guide](#) helps local governments and emergency planners prepare for and respond to extreme heat events. It's a key resource for building local heat alert systems.

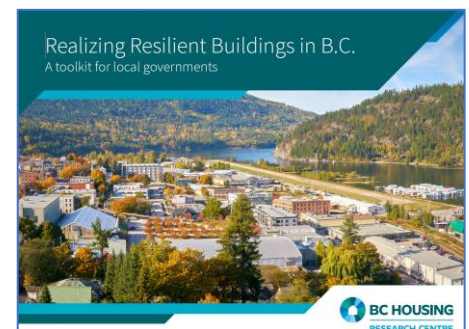


#### **Climate and Health in BC: From Risk to Resilience – Policy, planning, and research guides**

These new [guides](#) support planners, policymakers, and researchers in integrating health considerations into climate-related decisions across sectors. By doing so, they help build a more climate-resilient province.

#### **Realizing Resilient Buildings in BC**

This new [toolkit](#) helps BC municipalities and regional districts design more climate and earthquake-resilient buildings. It focuses on site-level risk reduction and includes strategies to support pilot projects and early adopters.



#### **ReTooling for Climate Change**

Explore sector-specific climate risks, actions, and resources through this helpful [website](#) designed to support climate adaptation across BC.

### [Injury prevention](#)

#### **ICBC's Road Improvement Program**

Have a road or intersection safety concern? Municipalities and road authorities in Northern BC can contact [David.Dean@icbc.com](mailto:David.Dean@icbc.com), ICBC's Road Safety Engineer, or [community@icbc.com](mailto:community@icbc.com). ICBC partners with municipalities and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to cost-share safety projects and offers free services like signage reviews and road safety audits.

## Indigenous health and well-being

### **Métis Nation BC Harm Reduction Coordinators**

These coordinators support Métis individuals by connecting them with culturally safe services, including counselling, treatment, harm reduction, Elder services, and community programs. They also organize gatherings and workshops and gatherings across BC, working with health authorities to promote open dialogue, strengthen cultural connection, and support community-led approaches to harm reduction. For more information, contact [harmreduction@mnbc.ca](mailto:harmreduction@mnbc.ca).

### **Métis Nation BC Regional Health Coordinator – Northern BC**

Jodie Dixon supports Métis Citizens and self-identifying Métis community members by connecting them with Northern Health professionals, Primary Care Networks, and Métis Nation BC programs and services. Jodie also identifies health promotion opportunities and programs; and provides Métis-specific health education and awareness. Contact Jodie at [jdixon@mnbc.ca](mailto:jdixon@mnbc.ca) or 250-242-1649.

## Physical activity

### **Municipal Guide to Promising and Best Practices for Disability Inclusion in Recreation and Physical Activity: Soft Launch**

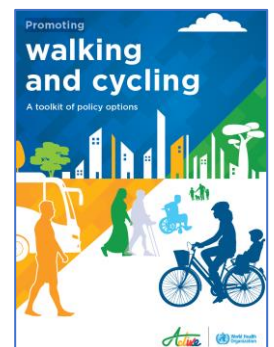
This [resource](#) provides 'how-to' practices for staff at all levels in municipal recreation to make sure people with disabilities are included in their programs and activities. The first practice areas are now available in French and English, with a full release coming in fall 2025.

### **Outdoor Recreation for Community and Economic Development**

Outdoor recreation drive well-being, economic growth, and revitalization of rural communities and regions. Developed by the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC, this [guidebook](#) for rural BC communities supports local planning for recreation that boosts both community and the local economy.

### **Promoting walking and cycling: A toolkit of policy options**

Walking and cycling offer significant benefits for public health, well-being, and the environment, yet remain underprioritized in many transport strategies. This [toolkit](#) from the World Health Organization (WHO) outlines seven interconnected policy options to improve safety and promote walking and cycling in your community.



### **Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Impact Calculators**

Need to show the value of a sport or recreation project? These dynamic new [tools](#) will help you calculate the monetary value of the health and economic benefits of sports, physical activity, and recreation programs and projects.

## Events and learning opportunities

### **Webinar: BC Transit, Mobility Justice, and the Challenges of Population Aging**

**Date:** Thursday, July 3, 2025 at 11:00 am PT

Join United Way BC Healthy Aging for a [webinar](#) featuring BC Transit representatives as they share how the agency is responding to the growing number of older adults using public and accessible transit. Hear what accessible transit looks like in rural and remote areas and learn about upcoming services enhancements and potential HandyDART expansions.

### **Webinar series: Change for Climate Lunchbox Series recordings**

Curious how climate change differs from regular weather patterns? Wondering what you can do about climate change? This recorded [webinar](#) series explores key topics like climate change, energy efficiency, climate adaptation, and more.

### **Rise Up! Strengthening Food Systems and Environmental Stewardship project**

Led by the Public Health Association of BC (PHABC), the Rise Up! project invites youth aged 15 to 30 to get involved with BC's food systems through volunteering, learning opportunities, skill-building, and community connection. Applications are now open for youth volunteers, and host organizations can visit the [Rise Up! webpage](#) to learn more.

## Youth Indigenous artists opportunity

### **Call for submissions – Zine Art Contest for First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Children and Youth**

**Deadline:** July 28, 2025

The National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health (NCCIH) invites First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children and youth aged 5 through 18 to [submit](#) artwork that reflects their views on health and wellness. Selected pieces will be featured in a zine (mini magazine) titled *Expressions of Our Health: Perspectives of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Children and Youth*, published both online and in print. All eligible participants will be entered into a draw, for prizes totalling \$1,100.

## Funding opportunities

### **Event and Youth Initiative Grants (Canadian Race Relations Foundation)**

**Deadline:** July 4, 2025

Community organizations across Canada can apply for [funding](#) to support anti-racism events and youth initiatives.

### **Healthy Communities Grants (PlanH)**

**Deadline:** July 7, 2025

Local governments and Indigenous governments in BC can apply for [grants](#) to strengthen health equity and well-being in their communities. These grants support projects that foster community connectedness and healthy public policy.

### **International Overdose Awareness Day Grant (First Nations Health Authority)**

**Deadline:** July 14, 2025

The FNHA is offering \$2,000 community [grants](#) to support events, gatherings, or ceremonies on or around August 31, 2025, focused on wellness and harm reduction for First Nations in BC. Priority will be given to First Nations communities, health service organizations, and First Nations-led groups.

### **Work Experience Opportunities Grant (United Way)**

**Deadline:** July 15, 2025

United Way BC's [Work Experience Opportunities Grant](#) helps individuals on income or disability assistance gain hands-on paid experience at non-profits, building skills and improving job readiness. This province-wide grant also supports non-profits in delivering meaningful placements that benefit both participants and their communities.

### **Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program (Government of Canada)**

**Deadline:** September 12, 2025

The [Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program](#) supports First Nations and Inuit communities south of 60°N in developing community-led projects to assess and respond to the health impacts of climate change. The program aims to strengthen local capacity for climate and health adaptation.

### **Active Transportation Planning program grants (Union of BC Municipalities)**

**Deadline:** September 30, 2025

Local governments in BC with populations under 25,000 can [apply](#) for up to \$30,000 to develop active transportation plans. These plans help make communities safer and easier to navigate by cycling, walking, or using other forms of active transportation.

### **First Nation Funding Grants (New Relationship Trust)**

**Deadline:** December 5, 2025 or when funding is fully exhausted

These [grants](#) support First Nations in BC for a wide range of community-led projects, including [youth programs](#), [education](#), [language revitalization](#), [elder initiatives](#), and [nation building](#).

### **Local Community Accessibility Grant Program (SPARC BC)**

**Deadline:** Ongoing until March 2026

Up to [\\$25,000](#) is available for BC municipalities and regional districts to remove barriers for people with disabilities. Projects must be identified by local government Accessibility Committees or Accessibility Plans and completed by March 31, 2026.

### **Regional Homebuilding Innovation Initiative (Government of Canada)**

**Deadline:** March 31, 2026 or when funding is fully committed

This [initiative](#) supports the residential homebuilding supply chain in BC. It advances innovative homebuilding solutions and boosts manufacturing efficiency.

### **Community Housing Fund (BC Housing)**

**Deadline:** Ongoing or when funding is fully committed

This [fund](#) supports the creation and operations of mixed-income rental housing for individuals, couples, families, seniors, and people with disabilities, who can live independently without on-site support services. Eligible applicants include non-profit societies, housing co-operatives, and municipal housing providers.

### **BC Community Climate Funding Finder (Clean BC)**

**Deadline:** Ongoing

Looking for climate action funding? Try the [BC Community Climate Funding Finder](#) to find the right grants for your project.

### **Homelessness Community Action Grants Program (SPARC BC)**

**Deadline:** Ongoing

One-time [funding](#) is available for projects that address homelessness through planning and collaboration.

### **Northern Healthy Communities Fund (Northern Development Initiative Trust)**

**Deadline:** Ongoing

Communities near LNG Canada or Coastal GasLink projects can [apply](#) for funding to support social infrastructure and manage the economic growth from major development projects.

## **Northern Health Stories**

### **The Indigenous Care Team's Impact During Indigenous History Month**

Throughout June, Northern Health's (NH) Indigenous Care Team led and supported a wide range of events and activities across the region to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day and Indigenous History Month. ....[continue reading](#).

See the latest stories at [stories.northernhealth.ca](https://stories.northernhealth.ca).

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