

# Northern Health - Healthy Communities E-Brief

October 2025

## Welcome to the Healthy Communities E-Brief!

This monthly newsletter is prepared by the [Healthy Communities team](#) to help local governments and community organizations in Northern BC stay informed about resources, upcoming events, and funding opportunities that support community health and well-being.

## Resources

### National Breastfeeding Week

October 1 to 7, 2025 is National Breastfeeding Week and this year's theme is "Prioritize breastfeeding: Create sustainable support systems". Visit the Northern Health [Breastfeeding and human milk webpage](#).

Explore the Breastfeeding-friendly public spaces: A **toolkit** for local governments for ideas to make public spaces more welcoming.

Toolkit



Show your commitment to support breastfeeding-friendly spaces by displaying a **decal**.

Request a decal

### Learning in Motion: Free physical activity and physical literacy resources aligned with BC curriculum

Explore Learning in Motion for free classroom resources and use PLAYBuilder to access 1,600+ games, 150+ lesson plans, and planning tools for Grades K–7.



Learn more

## Events and learning opportunities

Technologies to support older adults to live well and age in place

October 16, 2025

11:00 to 12:00 pm Pacific Time

More older adults in BC want to stay in their homes as they age and new technologies are making that safer and easier. Register for this webinar where you'll hear how these tools are being tested in BC homes and what they could mean for aging in place.



[Register for webinar](#)

**Indigenous Planetary Health and Health Systems webinar**  
**October 23, 2025**  
**10:00 to 11:30 am Pacific Time**

Learn how Indigenous Peoples' deep knowledge of the land can guide healthier communities and a thriving planet. Join the conversation and learn how these perspectives connect to planetary health and today's health systems.

[Register for webinar](#)

**Funding opportunities**

**October 2025**

**Enabling Accessibility Fund Youth Innovation Component (Government of Canada)**

**Deadline: October 6, 2025**

The Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) is looking for dynamic youth who want to demonstrate leadership and a commitment to their communities. Through this process, youth volunteer their time to build a more accessible Canada.



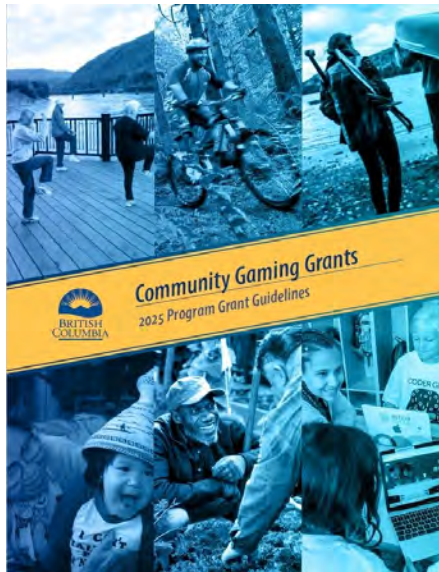
[Learn more and apply](#)

**Implementation projects: Adaptation in Action (Green Municipal Fund)**

**Deadline: October 9, 2025**

Local governments in BC can apply for grants of up to \$1 million to support projects that help communities adapt to the effects of climate change.

[Learn more and apply](#)



## November 2025

### Community Gaming Grants (Government of BC)

**Deadline: November 30, 2025**

The Community Gaming Grants – Human and Social Services stream is now open. Eligible groups can apply for up to \$125,000 locally or \$250,000 regionally to support inclusive programs for children, youth, families, seniors, and underserved communities.

[Learn more and apply](#)

## December 2025

### 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.

[Learn more and apply](#)

## Ongoing intake

### 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.

[Learn more and apply](#)

### 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.

[Learn more and apply](#)

### 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.

[Learn more and apply](#)



### Homelessness Community

### Indigenous Stewardship Fund Climate Emergency Fund Program (Indigenous Stewart Fund and First National Fisheries Council of British Columbia)

**Deadline: Ongoing or when**

### Education, health, and arts & humanities grants (The Molson Foundation)

**Deadline: Ongoing**

The Molson Foundation offers funding for projects in education,

## Action Grants Program (SPARC BC)

### Deadline: Ongoing

One-time funding is available for projects that address homelessness through planning and collaboration.

[Learn more and apply](#)

### funding is fully committed

This program provides rapid support for urgent, Indigenous-led environmental restoration projects that protect and restore salmon populations and their habitats. Applications for 2025 are now open.

[Learn more and apply](#)

health (like youth recreation and physical activity programs), and arts and humanities.

[Learn more and apply](#)

## Northern Health Stories



### Growing more than zucchinis: Competition cultivating connection in the North

In long-term care homes across northern British Columbia, a friendly competition is helping residents grow more than just vegetables. The annual zucchini growing contest, now in its third year, has expanded to more than 20 sites in nine communities, bringing together residents, staff, and families in a celebration of gardening, teamwork, and community spirit....[continue reading](#).



### Finding new purpose through volunteering: Hazel's story

At 72 years old, Hazel wasn't sure she wanted to volunteer. After decades of working in health care, she hesitated at the idea of "working for free." She had spent a lifetime caring for others, and now, in retirement, she questioned whether stepping back into the new Ksyen Regional Hospital (this time without a paycheque) was the right choice.....[continue reading](#).

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

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Northern Health acknowledges with gratitude that our work takes place on the territories of the Tlingit, Tahl'tan, Nisga'a, Gitksan, Tsimshian, Haisla, Haida, Wet'suwet'en, Carrier (Dakelh), Sekani (Tse'khene), Dane-zaa, Cree, Sauteau and Dene Peoples.



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