

Healthier Northern Communities E-Brief

April 2022

E-brief survey: we want to hear from you!

The [Healthy Settings Team](#) is looking to improve the E-Brief, and we need your help! Share your thoughts by filling out this short, [5-minute survey](#).



For Your Information

COVID-19 vaccine: difference between 3rd dose and booster

The [CV-19 Indigenous Knowledge Translation Working Group](#) developed a resource on the differences between the 3rd dose and booster, titled “Each COVID-19 vaccine dose increases your protection against severe illness”. It’s available in [colour](#) and [grey scale](#).

Climate, Health, and COVID-19 in British Columbia

Public policy researchers have [set out to identify lessons](#) from the current COVID-19 pandemic that could help the province better understand and prepare for the likely health impacts on people’s physical and mental well-being due to climate change.

April is Oral Health Month in Canada

As we continue to focus on overcoming COVID-19 and keeping our communities healthy, let’s remember that maintaining good health includes [protecting our oral health](#).

International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

Date: April 6, 2022

[This day](#) recognizes the positive role sport and physical activity play in communities and in people’s lives across the globe. Sport can change the world; it is a fundamental right and a powerful tool to strengthen social ties, promote sustainable development, solidarity, and respect for all.

#highandlocked campaign

Parachute’s [national campaign](#) raises awareness about how to properly store cannabis edibles so children don’t inadvertently eat them.

A Roadblock to Reconciliation: A Call to Dismantle the Barriers that Driver's Licensing Presents to Indigenous Wellbeing and Safety

First Nations in BC and Canada have had to grapple with an overlooked truth for years: an inability to access driver's licensing strengthens the systemic inequality and marginalization experienced by First Nations. Read the report [here](#).

Time to think 15-minute cities for health and equity

The 15-minute city ensures necessities can be reached within 15 minutes of one's home without driving. This [report](#) from the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health explains the 15-minute city concept and highlights the many benefits of active transportation.

Share Your Opinion

Survey for BC foods teachers: SchoolFoodMatters

This survey is being conducted by The BC Coalition for Healthy School Food to better understand BC teachers perspectives around school food program for K-12 students. Results will be used to inform advocacy efforts related to the development of a universal school food program for BC and Canada. To fill out the survey visit the [link](#).

Survey: Indigenous Food Sovereignty

This [survey](#) is being conducted by Tea Creek on behalf of the Indigenous Advisory Council on Agriculture and Food to collect information on diverse examples of food sovereignty/security initiatives in different nations across BC. Participants will be included in a draw for a prize basket of local Indigenous-made products worth \$500.

Education Sector Consultation on Proposed 2022 BC School Food Guidelines

The Ministries of Health and Education are requesting feedback from school sector members (e.g., school administrators, school food program staff, Parent Advisory Council members, educators, etc.) on [proposed changes to the BC School Food and Beverage Guidelines](#). Webinars will be offered in April to provide an overview of the proposed changes. Feedback can be provided via the webinar or [survey](#).

Survey: National First Nations Homelessness Action Plan

The Assemble of First Nations aims to improve understandings of First Nations' experiences of homelessness and identify opportunities to better meet the needs of those who are affected by it. This [survey](#) asks for input from First Nations' community members, First Nations' leaders and staff, and service providers

Resources (toolkits, reports, websites)

Decriminalizing People Who Use Drugs: A Primer for Municipal and Provincial Governments

As the COVID-19 pandemic and the overdose crisis sweep across Canada, all policymakers have an obligation to adopt evidence-based measures that uphold the health and safety of people who use drugs. This [report](#) outlines how they can do this

Health of Canadians in a Changing Climate

This [report](#) is the first comprehensive study of current and projected risks from climate change to the health of Canadians since 2008. It was developed by a team of more than 80 subject matter experts from regional and federal health authorities across Canada.

Northern Health Rehabilitation Services

Northern Health has launched a website for the public to learn about available rehabilitation services, self-management, preparation for surgery, and engaging in physical activity while living with a chronic disease. Feel free to [explore and share this resource](#) with your networks.

Farm 2 School BC School Garden Mentorship Program

Farm to School BC is offering free monthly workshops to support K-12 educators in BC with creating and sustaining a thriving school garden. The next session is April 5th and will focus on "Classroom Growing." For more information visit their [webpage](#).

Climate Adaptation Maturity Scale Tool

Is your municipality being impacted by climate change through events such as flooding, permafrost melt, extreme temperatures and drought? Assess your current practices and track improvement using Federation of Canadian Municipalities' [Climate Adaptation Maturity Scale](#).

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Maturity Tool

Is your municipality ready and able to start reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions? The Federation of Canadian Municipalities' [Maturity Scale for Municipal GHG Emissions Reduction](#), also known as a readiness scale, is an evaluation tool that helps your municipality identify areas to improve your capacity to achieve emissions reductions.

Updated BC Seniors' Guide

[The BC Seniors' Guide](#) is a resource to help us all plan for and live a healthy lifestyle as we age. Now in its 12th edition, the guide includes new sections and is available in more languages, most recently into Tagalog and Hindi, making it more accessible.

Events and Learning Opportunities

Visioning the Future: First Nations, Inuit, & Métis Population & Public Health **Date: April 8, 2022**

The National Collaboration Centre for Indigenous Health is hosting a [webinar series](#) which explores the determinants of health, a comprehensive framework for considering the health inequities Indigenous Peoples experience. In this session, Dr. Marcia Anderson will reflect on Indigenous peoples' inherent right to self-determination as a critical component of achieving health equity.

North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) – Convention **Date: May 3 – 6, 2022**

The theme of this year's [NCLGA Annual General Meeting and Convention](#) is *Inspired to Lead*, which reflects the spirit of resilience, internal strength, and commitment of our north-central BC leaders. Local government leaders from across the region are invited to attend to learn about and discuss important issues affecting northern communities and pass resolutions that will be advanced to other orders of government.

2022 FireSmart BC Conference

The BC FireSmart Committee is pleased to invite you to the [2022 FireSmart Conference](#) to be held in-person, May 11-12 in Kamloops BC. This year's theme is "building collaboration and community".

Funding Opportunities

Rural Transit Solutions Fund **Deadline: April 7, 2022**

The [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#) seeks to help Canadians living in rural and remote areas get around their communities more easily and connect with nearby communities. Eligible applicants can seek grants of up to \$50,000 in support of planning and design projects; up to \$3 million to help cover capital costs; and up to \$5 million to support zero-emission transit solutions.

Farm Credit Canada AgriSpirit Fund **Re-opening: April 2022**

Do you have a capital project that will enrich lives in your rural community? The FCC AgriSpirit Fund may provide between \$5,000 to \$25,000 to projects that qualify in a city or town of fewer than 150,000 people, or an Indigenous community. Learn more [here](#).

2022 Indigenous Peoples Day of Wellness Grants **Deadline: April 18, 2022**

First Nations Health Authority is providing [Indigenous Peoples Day of Wellness Grants](#) to support community-led celebrations and events, in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, 2022. This year's theme is Celebrating Generations: Honouring our ancestors, Elders, youth and our future generations through culture, language and traditions.

Strengthening Communities' Services Program **Deadline: April 22, 2022**

The [Strengthening Communities' Services Program](#) gives local governments and modern Treaty Nations additional capacity to support vulnerable people and help keep them safe and healthy during the ongoing pandemic.

Artists in the classroom **Deadline: May 2022**

[Artists in the Classroom grants](#) bring professional artists into schools for rich learning experiences. Artists, Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Parent Advisory Committees, and School staff can apply for the grant between \$3,500 and \$10,000.

Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund **Deadline: July 20, 2022**

The [Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund](#) is a contribution program intended to support public infrastructure projects designed to mitigate current and future climate-related risks and disasters triggered by climate change.

KidSport **Deadline: Ongoing**

The [KidSport grant](#) provides assistance to help children participate in local activities. Local chapters have different opportunities and deadlines for applications.

Partnership Funding Programs

Deadline: Ongoing

The [Vancity Partnership Funding Program](#) provides a variety of grants to support organizations working to further social justice and financial inclusion for marginalized communities.

First Nations Adapt Program – Government of Canada

Deadline: Ongoing

This [program](#) provides funding to First Nation communities, Indigenous organizations, and band or tribal councils located below the 60th parallel to assess and respond to climate change impacts on community infrastructure and disaster risk reduction.

PlanH Grants

Open: April 1, 2022

The [2022 PlanH](#) grants open for applications on April 1. There are two streams: up to \$5,000 for community connectedness projects, and up to \$15,000 for healthy public policy initiatives. More information is available in the [Application Guide](#).

Northern Health Stories

The many ways northern dietitians support sustainable food systems

March is Nutrition Month, and this year's theme from Dietitians of Canada is "[Ingredients for a Healthier Tomorrow.](#)" The focus is on all types of "ingredients" to improve our food systems, including food sovereignty, [food security](#), and sustainable food choices...[continue reading](#).

"Becoming a farmer made me a better dietitian" Dena Leier shares her story

March is [Nutrition Month](#), and this year's theme is [Ingredients for a Healthier Tomorrow](#)...[continue reading](#).

International Day of Happiness

Happy International Day of Happiness! Did you know this day existed? Since 2012, the United Nations has designated and recognized March 20 as the [International Day of Happiness](#)...[continue reading](#).

See the latest stories at stories.northernhealth.ca.

E-Brief Information

The Healthier Northern Communities [E-Brief](#) is produced by [Northern Health's regional Population and Preventive Public Health program](#).

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