

NEW – Food Security Planning Toolkit

In early 2020, BC Healthy Communities conducted research to identify local government and health authority needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the ways that they could support those needs through the recovery phase. Food security and insecurity were identified as key concerns. In response, BC Healthy Communities developed a series of [Rapid Action Resources](#) that explore food security and insecurity issues from a Healthy Communities lens, offering ideas for local government action in this area. Rapid Action Resources include: Community Food Production Part I; Community Food Production Part II; Working with NGOs & Food Banks; Local Food Systems



Resources (toolkits, reports, website)

Retooling for Climate Change

The Fraser Basin Council hosts this [first-stop website](#) on climate change adaptation. Here is the place to find top tools and resources for BC local governments, First Nations and the natural resource sectors as everyone prepares for the impacts of climate change, now and in the years ahead.

Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy

Equity is foundational to the development of healthy communities, and local governments have an important role in implementing and championing equity across social, economic, environmental, and cultural domains. But what exactly is equity? BC Healthy Communities' new [Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy Action Guide](#) tackles this question, and explores why applying an equity lens to community planning is not as simple as 'ticking a box'.

Online Courses, Programs, and Activities

Appetite to Play: Outside Play & Risky Play Online Workshop
Workshop dates: February – June, 2021

Appetite to Play has partnered with OutsidePlay.ca to create & offer an [online workshop](#) for early years' providers and caregivers that will build an understanding of the importance of outside play and risky play for healthy child development in the early years (0-5 years old), and develop the confidence and skills to support it in your settings! The cost for this module is \$19, and is worth 2 hours of professional development credit.

Winter Health & Fitness Week

Date: February 1 – 7, 2021

Organizers of June's National Health and Fitness Day have decided to host a week-long, winter-themed follow-up. There will be a photo challenge, an easy-to-follow schedule for daily workouts and community resources. Now is the time to embrace winter! [Visit the website](#) for more information.

Virtual Reconciliation Engagements

Interested in raising awareness about reconciliation for your community, organization or business? In light of the COVID-19 crisis, Reconciliation Canada is currently providing all our engagements online. They can provide a virtual gathering with our inspiring speaker to help engage reconciliation in a meaningful way. [Visit the website](#) for more information.

For Your Information

HPV Self-Collection Project: Northwest BC

It is estimated there are between 50,000-60,000 people who are overdue for Cervical Cancer screening in BC. Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) in partnership with the University of Northern British Columbia, the BC Centre for Disease Control, and the BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre is now offering a HPV Self-Screening option for Métis people who both self-identify and are Citizens of Métis Nation British Columbia in Prince Rupert, Terrace, Smithers and surrounding areas. This option will allow Métis people who are overdue for Cervical Cancer screening to receive both timely and culturally safe care without having to overcome some of the extreme barriers that we face on a daily basis in Northern BC. If you would like more information on the project, contact MNBC's HPV self-collection Project Assistant, Katina Pollard at kpollard@mNBC.ca or 250-242-1649.

Webinar: How Can we use a Health Crisis to Create Healthier, More Resilient Communities?

The Fraser Basin Council's [recorded webinar](#) features presentations by Jade Yehia and Dr. Shannon Waters. The webinar is part of the FBC's BC Regional Adaptation

Collaborative Program, which aims to strengthen regional capacity and increase action to advance climate preparedness planning and implementation.

Webinar: Reconciliation in a Time of Uncertainty

Dr. Robert Joseph, Hereditary Chief of the Gwawaenuk First Nation, explored the impacts of COVID-19 on reconciliation in Canada and the opportunities emerging from this crisis of working and being together in this [recorded webinar](#).

Funding Opportunities

New Poverty Reduction Funding Intake

Deadline: March 5, 2021

A new intake for the Poverty Reduction Planning and Action program is available. This program has [two funding streams](#): one to support the development or updating of plans that address poverty, and another that funds poverty reduction projects. Poverty reduction planning is eligible for up to \$25,000, and poverty reduction projects are eligible for up to \$50,000. Further program details can be found on UBCM's [website](#).

Small and Medium Business Recovery Grant

Deadline: March 31, 2021 or until the funds are fully allocated

The province has launched a [grant program](#) which will invest up to \$300 million in targeted financial support for some of the hardest hit small and medium-sized businesses in BC. Grants of \$10,000 to \$30,000 are available.

Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP)

Deadline: March 15, 2021

MCIP is a [five-year, \\$75-million program](#) that helps municipalities prepare for, and adapt to, climate change, and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and funded by the Government of Canada, MCIP is available to all municipalities and their partners.

Indigenous Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative

Deadline: September 30, 2021

The objective of [this initiative](#) is to increase economic development opportunities of Indigenous Peoples and communities in Canada by supporting Indigenous communities and entrepreneurs who are ready to launch agriculture and food systems projects, and others who want to build their capacity to participate in the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector.

First Nations Adapt Program

No deadline at this time

This [federal program](#) supports First Nations communities to assess and respond to climate change impacts on community infrastructure and emergency management. It prioritizes communities most impacted by sea level rise, flooding, forest fires, and winter road failures. Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge Grants

Deadline: June 1-30, 2021

The 2021 challenge will be following public health protocols and recommendations across Canada as it aims to inspire, motivate and support recovery and connection through physical activity and sport (in-person or virtually) and crown Canada's Most Active Community. Registration begins in January! For more information visit [ParticipACTION](#), or check out this [webinar](#) for more details on the challenge.

Northern Health Stories

Healing in pandemic times: Indigenous peoples, stigma, and COVID-19

Indigenous Health, Northern Health, and the National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health (NCCIH) present [this short animated video](#) addressing the ongoing issue of stigmatization experienced by Indigenous Peoples in the health care system. *Healing in pandemic times: Indigenous peoples, stigma, and COVID-19* is intended for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous audiences. The video was executive produced by Dr. Margo Greenwood, VP Indigenous Health, NH and Academic Leader for the NCCIH... [continue reading](#)

Haida Gwaii hospital staff recognized for commitment to quality care of mothers and newborns

Staff at Haida Gwaii Hospital and Health Centre - Xaayda Gwaay NgaaysdII Naay have been recognized for their exceptional commitment to high quality care and patient safety when it comes to delivering babies. In November, Salus Global granted the Haida Gwaii team the Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (moreOB™) award based on the following criteria: Team effectiveness and function; Leadership support and involvement; Quality and effectiveness of communication; Engagement and involvement of all professions; Application of knowledge to practice ... [continue reading](#)

Northern Health launches HealtheLife patient portal

Northern Health has launched the HealtheLife patient portal, where Northern BC residents who received care at a Northern Health hospital or urgent and primary care centre can view hospital-based health information, including COVID-19 results, online. Whether accessing the portal on a computer or smartphone, Northern BC residents can also view upcoming appointments, additional lab tests, and imaging results...[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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