



"Data governance is a foundation of Nation Re-building. Our leaders work hard to promote positive change and they need access to data to show how well their community is doing in areas such as health and education, for example (Social Determinants of Health). When we have good data, we make good decisions; we can build sound plans and make good investments and this is good governance."

- Gwen Phillips, FNIGC Board member for BC and First Nations Health Council member



* FNIGC governance body oversees the implementation of National surveys such as REEES and the RHS.



For more information about the
First Nations Regional Health Survey (RHS)
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First Nations Regional Health Survey



A Survey for First Nations by First Nations

"The idea is for us to gather data that is meaningful to us.

Not just data for data's sake, but data that speaks to us and enables us to take firm action."

- Dr. Evan Adams, Chief Medical Officer

1. What is the Regional Health Survey?

The Regional Health Survey (RHS) addresses a comprehensive range of health status, wellness and health determinant measures for First Nations communities at-home/on-reserve and is broken down into three parts: adult, youth and child. When combined, these parts provide comparability to other Canadian surveys while addressing First Nations.

2. Why are we collecting this information?

FNHA has heard from communities and Nations that creating and communicating an accurate picture of community health and wellness is an important part of building responsive health and wellness plans. The data collected from this survey will support policy and program development and inform decision-making that reflects the needs of First Nations communities. RHS is by First Nations people for First Nations people.

3. What types of questions will I be asked?

The RHS contains questions that address health and well-being. It was developed holistically by First Nations people to make sure that the questions are relevant to life in your community. The RHS contains three separate questionnaires: one for children (up to 11-years-old), one for youth (12 to 17-years-old) and one for adults (18 years and older). Topics will include: senior's wellness, languages, household conditions, diabetes, longterm injury, health services, physical activity, oral health, and community wellness, among others.

4. How did you get my name?

Your name was randomly selected from your band or community membership list. This means that your name was chosen by chance which ensures that the people chosen to take part are representative of the entire population.



Chief Frank Wilson gifts Elder Leonard George at Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey VI.

5. How long will the survey take to finish?

The child survey will take about 30 minutes. The youth survey will take about 45 minutes. The adult survey may take up to 1 hour.

6. Where will my information go?

The FNHA is partnering with the First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC), a non-profit First Nations organization to deliver the RHS. Once the survey is complete information will be sent directly from survey laptop to FNHA servers. This information is kept completely confidential.

7. Who else is participating in the survey?

RHS is taking place in all five regions of BC with approximately 150 communities identified to participate. FNHA RHS Regional Coordinators manage the implementation of the survey in collaboration with the FNIGC.

8. Why is my participation in the RHS important?

Your participation in this survey is voluntary, but important. This survey provides information that directly supports First Nations communities and the FNHA to develop health and wellness programs and policies to improve the well-being of BC First Nations people. Our shared long-term vision is one of First Nations collecting, housing and using data relating to their own community well-being. The RHS is a key initiative that the FNHA can leverage to bring us closer to that vision. You can also change your mind about doing the survey at any time.