



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

# Northern Regional Table Communique



On 10 April, 2014 the Northern Regional Table, with all three sub regions represented by elected political and technical members met to discuss and make long term decisions that will ultimately benefit First Nations citizens in the North. Participants updated the table with significant health related items from each area to be discussed further with Northern Health for action plans to be put in place to mitigate shortfalls and to increase efficiencies in First Nations Health care. The focus of the meeting was to prepare for the Northern Caucus session and review important documents for release to the Northern Communities.

## **Terms of Reference**

The Northern Terms of Reference was updated with the support of the FNHC Secretariat, and the draft document was discussed, and minor changes undertaken for presentation at the Northern Caucus.

## **Community Engagement**

As mentioned in the previous communique the Northern Regional Table made decisions surrounding the overall concept of how the North needs to move forward with Community Engagement starting in Fiscal 2015 (July 2014). The Northern Regional Table was very firm in their emphasis that the sub-regional allocation model would be maintained; but the effectiveness and efficiency of community engagement services could be improved. The FNHA- Northern Office will in turn, be working on this direction and developing an effective and efficient Northern Community Engagement Implementation Plan for this work and ensure clear communication (through the sub regional and regional caucus sessions) as this evolves.

## **Northern Relationship Framework**

The Northern Charter is a declaration as to how we want to work with Northern Health and Northern First Nations Communities within a relationship-based framework that is beneficial to all parties. A document was developed for distribution to at the Northern Caucus which will show how we are bringing overall decision-making closer to the Northern communities.

## **FNHA Regional Office Work Plan**

The NRT also made decisions around The Northern Office Regional Work Plan Summary, the document was reviewed and endorsed by the table. The work plan calls for very aggressive work to be completed on a comprehensive communications plan, Regional issue tracking plan, improving the partnership with Northern Health, and ensuring the community engagement strategy moves forward as per directions from the community.



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## **Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Plan**

NRT meets with the Senior level of administration from Northern Health three times per year to develop joint action plans for the benefit of First Nations Communities. The most aggressive and detailed of these action plans is the Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Plan which is moved forward through working groups that undertake specific tasks related to the plan. The working groups are populated by NRT members, Northern Health staff, and subject matter experts where possible. The overall purpose of the NFNHPC is to collaborate in the planning, implementation and evaluation of health services designed to improve health outcomes for First Nations peoples residing in the North.

## **Regional Office Update**

The Regional Director provided an additional operational update including the location of the Regional Office, which was established with the existing Northern Nursing and Environmental Health Office in December 2013. There was a posting for an Executive Assistant and a Regional Health Liaison for the North East and North Central, which is expected to be active by the end of May. There has been a Northern Team contact list developed for distribution to community so they know who to call in the north.

## **Regional Envelopes**

Effective April 2014, the overarching FNHA fiscal responsibility for Northern First Nations Health initiatives has been moved to the Northern Regional Office with the guidance of the NRT, which moves another level of decision-making closer to the communities being served.

## **Moving Forward**

Support the implementation of the Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Plan, ensuring that the actions and investments are in concert with the priorities of the region to improve the health of our populations.