

Tahltan-Iskut Community Engagement Area Communique



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

Fall 2015

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Community Engagement



Various updates are also a part of our regular meetings and most recently included information on: Mental Health Mobile Support Teams, upcoming training, past training and health initiatives.

Further to our work on Mobile Support Team, we now have a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) which is comprised of health representatives from community, FNHA and Northern Health. The first meeting was held in July 2015. These meetings will continue to support the implementation of a Mobile Support Team in our region.

In addition to this work, we are glad to share the news that support for Tahltan/Iskut Youth camps will happen for the summer Literacy Youth Camps and Cultural Camps.

Northern Health

In December 2014, it was announced that there were cultural funds available for the Northwest AHIC Cluster. To support cultural competency and strengthen the presence of culture, we decided to utilize the funding toward art work for the



Stikine Health Centre from various Tahltan Artists. We picked four pieces and these were purchased and framed by Northern Health. Special thanks to the partnership between Stikine Health, FNHA, support from Health leads & Northern Health- Cormac and Victoria Carter.

Some of the featured Tahltan Art at the Stikine Health Centre



Stikine Health Centre- Patient Mapping

Representatives from the North West (East) AHIC, Stikine Health Center health staff and physician, Iskut and Telegraph Creek Health Directors and staff, Northern Health, First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) Community Engagement Coordinators and other Tahltan staff gathered together in Dease Lake June 11, 2015 to undertake process mapping to explore common issues and challenges in accessing health services. The focus of this process mapping was the Tahltan communities' experience however, there was opportunity for input from the True North as the Community Engagement Coordinator from that area was present.

North Raven Dental

Northern Health is supportive of enhancing and providing health services in the North. North Raven Dental has proposed dates to visit in the Fall of 2015. Northern Health is providing space under their standard lease agreement process- this is confirmed, and credentialing/privileging to operate within NH facility- this is in process. Discussions are taking place between FNHA- Health Benefits, the

Northern Regional Director Nicole Cross, myself and Cormac to plan how the services for Dease Lake will work. Regular conference calls are taking place to ensure communication and that services run effectively.

Mobile Support Teams

As part of Phase One, there are Mobile Support Teams in development across the north who will be dedicated to providing mental wellness and substance use support to communities in the region. These teams will provide support through regular counselling, training and capacity development for current community counsellors and crisis response to enhance already existing mental health services in community.

The team serving your communities will consist of three new clinical health professionals that will work with and provide enhancements to the current services in the communities of Dease Lake, Iskut and Telegraph Creek.

To support the development of our region's team, I am assisting with the coordination of Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings that support the implementation of the Mobile Support Team. The PAC is comprised of health representatives from communities, FNHA and Northern Health.

Optometry Services- Vision Screening

Dr. Berry Lester will be visiting Stikine Health Centre on a regular basis with potentially, the same agreement that is being offered by Northern Health to North Ravel Dental (lease waved). This is to support the Communities in their priority for enhanced Primary Care. The first visit was scheduled for the Fall and in the future, every 6 months as needed. I will be working with FNHA Health Benefits for travel costs to support the clinics.

Health & Safe Relationships

The Northern First Nations Child and Family Services Council Society (NFNCFSC) partnered with the Red Cross and FNHA to deliver a four-day integrated training session to four Northern 1st Nations communities on the issue of family and domestic violence.

This training is to provide First Nations communities with important training and awareness on how each community can better support victims of family and domestic violence and prevent incidents of family and domestic violence.

Our region was identified for this training as it identified the issue of family violence and promotion of healthy relationships as part of its priorities. The training was held in Dease Lake with attendance from all three communities.

Aboriginal Health Improvement Committees (AHICs)

I attend every meeting held at the Smithers AHIC and have done so since the partnership of FNHA and Northern Health was further enhanced with the development of these committees. Our AHIC had developed a strong communication and network between communities and their partners in health.

We have participated in "Patient Health Process Mapping" which identifies the strengths, weaknesses and ways to improve on our health services for Aboriginal patients from home to hospital and returning for care. We are working on developing a handbook that includes all partners who support community health. We also reviewed Mental Health Process mapping and through this, Northern Health invited committee members to meet and visit all Mental Health sites communities can utilize.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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