Climate change affects physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health in First Nations communities in BC. The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) is offering project funding that First Nations in BC can apply for as part of the FNHA’s new Indigenous Climate Health Action Program (ICHAP).

ICHAP funds community-driven projects that help strengthen community resilience related to climate change impacts on health.

**ICHAP funds can be used for:**
- Developing a strategy or plans to reduce climate change impacts on health and wellness,
- Training and skill building,
- Creating communications materials, and
- Hiring a sub-regional climate change and health coordinator to coordinate efforts in planning and strengthening community resilience (requires collaboration of multiple communities).

**Project funding application will be assessed on the basis of its:**
- Focus on climate health,
- Youth engagement,
- Incorporation of traditional knowledge,
- Potential ability to strengthen community climate health resilience through new knowledge and skills, and
- Integration with or connection to existing community plans.

environmental.health@fnha.ca
ICHAP funding is available up to $100,000 per year per project, but a higher amount will be considered for larger sub-regional partnerships. Projects of any duration lasting until March 31, 2022 can also be considered.

**Background:**
First Nations’ deep cultural connection to the land, water and air make many BC First Nations more susceptible to climate impacts on health and wellness. These impacts are magnified by the negative effects of colonialism on the social determinants of health.

ICHAP offers funding that can be used in many different ways. The unique culture in each community determines what makes the community healthy.

ICHAP funding can support assets and needs mapping, strategy development, or planning activities related to improving climate resilience, such as ensuring access to traditional harvests, food sovereignty or clean water. ICHAP funding does not cover community emergency management planning projects or major infrastructure investments. FNHA will arrange two funding calls per year for community-driven climate health projects.

The ICHAP Guidelines for proposals are available to assist communities in preparing their request for program funding. Requests for funding can be submitted through the Climate Change and Health Specialist at environmental.health@fnha.ca