



Community Engagement Coordinator – Sub-Regional Caucus Report

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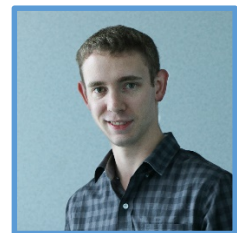
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Engagement Area: Finlay Hub

Communities Served: Tsay Keh Dene, Kwadacha

Sub-Region: North Central



Finlay Hub Initiatives

Kwadacha has accessed Regional Envelope Funding to operate a breakfast program for Elders with limited mobility. The intention of this program is to provide upstream care through improved nutrition, based on the philosophy that healthy Elders make for a healthy community.

Tsay Keh Dene will be utilizing its Regional Envelope Funding to help fund a Family Support Worker. The Family Support Worker will provide wraparound support to families in Tsay Keh Dene and will incorporate traditional practices into the services they provide.

Kwadacha was successful in obtaining funding for an all female roller derby program. This initiative not only increases the recreation opportunities available in community but also addresses a gap for female specific programming. As the program develops Kwadacha intends to reach out to other communities to see if they would be interested starting their own roller derby team so tournaments can take place.

Mobile Support Team Rollout

Currently the Finlay Hub is in the process of working towards implementing a Mental Health and Substance Use Mobile Support Team (MST) for the area. The Mobile Support Team will provide a continuum of services such as: prevention and promotion activities; intervention activities; consultation with urban Aboriginal populations on cultural interventions; and crisis response when communities are impacted by critical events. The MST will partner with existing community service providers to expand the scope of care in a way that best meets the needs of community members.

Opioid Support and Harm Reduction Program

The Opioid Support and Harm Reduction Program is a collaborative project between the Finlay Hub, FNHA, Northern Health and medical practitioners. The intention is to develop a network to provide the required supports, resources, and education to address opioid concerns and support harm reduction.

Kwadacha Trail Blazers

The Kwadacha Trail Blazers is an ambitious campaign by Elders to revitalize their traditional role as mentors and guides in the community. The Elder Trailblazers Project seeks to improve Elders' mental health by integrating Elders into the decision making process in harmonious collaboration with community leadership.



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The Elder Trailblazers Project is a direct response to the question: “How can a community be healthy when its Elders are not?” In keeping with traditional practices in which Elders had established roles in the community (from informing the movement of the community, through rites of passage and interpreting the seasons), Elder Trailblazers is intended to:

1. Integrate Elders into community decision-making processes.
2. Self-determine Elder priority areas, known as “trails”.
3. Develop specific, achievable actions for each trail.
4. Achieve real, observable change.
5. Begin internally, and then broaden the focus to representation with community partners.
6. Integrate capacity development, mental health and skill building workshops into delivery as/where needed.
7. Track progress and actively adapt the process based on current reality.

Improving Nurse Rotation Schedule and Reducing Turnover

The Finlay Hub has been successful in working collaboratively to improve the nurse rotation schedule and reducing the rate of turnover. This has led to reduced costs and better health outcomes for the communities as members are able to maintain a relationship of trust with their healthcare providers.

Nurse Practitioner Recruitment

The Finlay Hub continues to work collaboratively with Northern Health to recruit a Nurse Practitioner to increase access to primary care and reduce the amount of time members have to travel out of community to receive care. This is particularly important for the Finlay Hub given the isolation of the communities and challenges in leaving the community, especially in the winter.

New Health Centre for Tsay Keh Dene Underway

A new Health Centre is in the planning stages for Tsay Keh Dene and is expected to begin construction in the spring of 2018. The new health centre will provide much needed additional space for care providers, updated equipment and will act as a hub in the community. The construction of the facility will also benefit the community by employing local workers.

Finlay Hub Priority Snapshot

1. Increased access to primary care services
2. Additional cultural camps and programs (with a focus on knowledge transfer from Elders to youth)
3. Increased access to maternal health, family support and childhood development programs
4. Increased access to counselling for addiction and mental wellness
5. Further support for traditional medicines and practices (including workshops)