

Community Engagement Coordinator – Sub-Regional Caucus Report

Date: September 6, 2017

Name of CEC Reporting: Sandra Garbitt

CEC Contact: 1-778-256-5071 / Sandra.garbitt@fnha.ca

Name of CEW Reporting: Alisa Froh

CEW Contact: 250-793-4138 / Alisa.froh@fnha.ca

Office Address: 10233 – 100th Avenue
Fort St. John, BC V1J 1Y8



Engagement Area: McLeod Lake Indian Band, Saulneau First Nation, West Moberly First Nation, Halfway River First Nation, Blueberry River First Nation, Doig River First Nation, Prophet River First Nation, Fort Nelson First Nation

Sub-Region: Northeast (Treaty 8 Territory)

Northeast Aboriginal Health Improvement Committee (AHIC)

In May 2017 the Northern AHICs travelled to Prince George for the All AHIC Gathering. The Northeast AHIC fed off the momentum generated there and started work on a couple of projects to enhance Cultural Competency in our health care facilities. The combined efforts and ideas from Blueberry, Doig, Fort Nelson, Halfway, Prophet, Saulneau, and West Moberly committee members led us to make a video, “Advice to our Health Care Providers” where community members will be asked what kind of advice they would provide to their doctor, nurse, etc.

The NE AHIC is working diligently with the Fort St. John (FSJ) Hospital and Dawson Creek Hospital to enhance the presence of Culture by way of art work. We have discussed several opportunities to bring in additional pieces and identify ways to better utilize the cultural room within the FSJ Hospital.

The Committee has been very focused on numerous goals and activities: Naloxone training, Patient Care Cards, Patient Journey Mapping, and a very useful Health Resources book which is used by Health Centres and hospital staff to help better understand what types of resources are available to patients when they return home.

We are also working diligently with our partners in ensuring that protocols for First Nations in the NE are reviewed by all the leadership in the Northeast, with the exception of MLIB. Once reviewed and approved this document can be utilized by frontline workers in the service industry, i.e. hospital staff. This will become a step in bridging the gaps between our communities and those who are unaware of the Nations in the area.



Mobile Support Team (MST) Phase 1

Our Phase 1 MST is a Mental Wellness Team where other Northern MSTs are aimed at supporting Primary Care initiatives consisting of nurses and doctors. The Northeast MST has been operational in Blueberry River, Doig River, Halfway River, Saulteau and West Moberly for over a year now. The team consists of 3 Clinicians and 1 Psychiatric Nurse. We are currently recruiting for the Psychiatric Nurse position and the Maternity Leave Clinician position. The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) is open to a Lead from each community along with representatives from both Northern Health Authority and the First Nations Health Authority. The PAC works through issues and concerns, and is currently working with communities on a Crisis Response Plan specific to each community.

Mobile Support Team (MST) Phase 2

The Phase 2 MST will serve Fort Nelson and Prophet River to help enhance existing services within community. We are currently in the engagement stage, where we work with each community to better understand each one's specific needs. McLeod Lake Indian Band is part of the Phase 2 MST, and this too is in the engagement stage. We look forward to the work that is unfolding.

Collective Culture Camp July 31 – August 5th

Upper Moberly (Saulteau First Nations and West Moberly First Nations)

Sandra and Alisa were invited to participate and support the collective Culture Camp this summer. It was a hot day when we drove up to the camp and we were greeted with smiling faces, teepees, and a lean-to under construction. This was the second invitation to Culture Camp with Saulteau and the team jumped at the chance to 'un-plug' and have some great down-to-earth conversations with community members. Alisa sat with youth and constructed dream catchers whilst Sandra played a game of bingo. Chatting sometimes focused on gaps in the realm of health and what has gone well in the past year. The FNHA team was taught some Cree words and enjoyed the Northern Lights in the evening. Already looking forward to next year!



Sacred Spirit Healing Spa – Teepee

Used to teach the 7 Teachings, this was set up for the entirety of camp and available for anyone to come and learn.

Scheduled Community Engagement

- Community Engagement Session (inclusive of all Health Leads) – **September 12**
- Halfway River First Nation – **September 25**
- Saulteau First Nations – **September**
- Sub-Regional Caucus – **October 3 & 4**
- Community Engagement Session (inclusive of all Health Leads) – **December 2017**