

# Vision

Healthy, Self-determining and Vibrant BC First Nations Children, Families and Communities.

## Directive 1

Community-Driven, Nation-Based

## Directive 2

Increase First Nations Decision-Making and Control

## Directive 3

Improve Services

## Directive 4

Foster Meaningful Collaboration and Partnership

## Directive 5

Develop Human and Economic Capacity

## Directive 6

Be Without Prejudice to First Nations Interests

## Directive 7

Function at a High Operational Standard

## GROUNDING OURSELVES FOR THE WORK

### Tripartite Vision for the Future

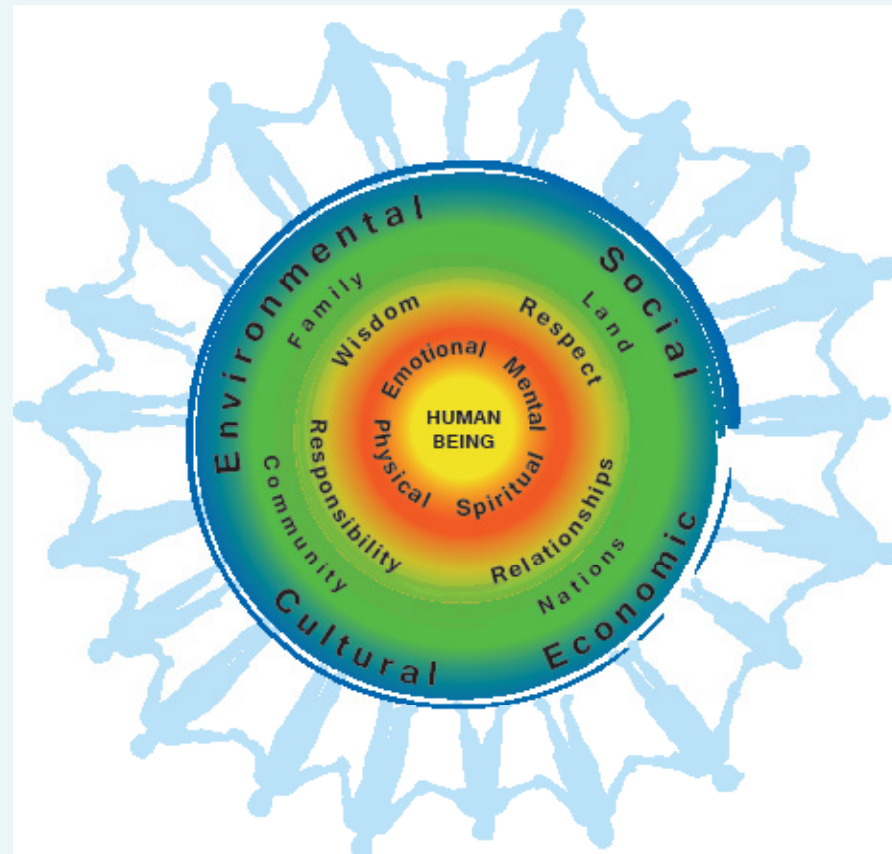
» The vision is a future where BC First Nations people and communities are among the healthiest in the world. We envision healthy and vibrant BC First Nations children, families, and communities playing an active role in decision-making regarding their personal and collective wellness. We see healthy First Nations people living in healthy communities, drawing upon the richness of their traditions of health and well-being. In this vision, First Nations people and communities have access to high quality health services that are responsive to their needs, and address their realities. These services are part of a broader wellness system – a system that does not treat illness in isolation. These services are delivered in a manner that respects the diversity, cultures, languages, and contributions of BC First Nations.

### Tripartite Partnership Principles

- » Lead with culture: Understand your Partners and where they come from.
- » Honour those who paved the way: Pay respect to, and honour the wisdom of, those that brought us to where we are today.
- » Maintain unity and discipline: Work for the common good of all; do not criticize one another; recognize that we all have a role to play.
- » Create strong relationships – be tough on the issues and easy on each other: Seek opportunity to create understanding and support one another’s dignity.
- » Engage at the appropriate level: Partners must have authority, skills, and knowledge to fully contribute.
- » Respect each other’s process: Seek understanding of, acknowledge and respect the validity of one another’s ways of working and decision-making processes, and provide assistance to one another in navigating these processes.

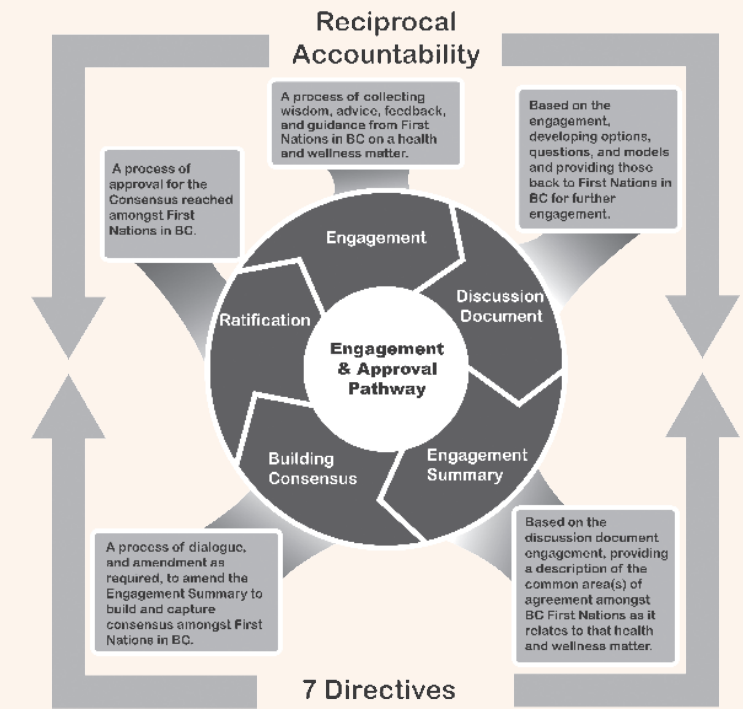
### First Nations Perspective on Wellness

» The First Nations Perspective on Wellness is a visual depiction of BC First Nations’ vision of: Healthy, Self-Determining and Vibrant BC First Nations Children, Families and Communities. The Perspective was developed based on guidance provided by, and the traditional teachings of, BC First Nations. It aims to create a shared understanding of a holistic vision of wellness, and meet individuals where they are at in their lives and wellness journeys. The Centre Circle represents individual human beings, recognizing that wellness starts with individuals. The Second Circle illustrates the importance of Mental, Emotional, Spiritual and Physical facets of a healthy, well, and balanced life. The Third Circle represents the overarching values that support and uphold wellness: Respect, Wisdom, Responsibility, and Relationships. The Fourth Circle depicts the people that surround us and the places from which we come: Nations, Family, Community, and Land. The Fifth Circle depicts the Social, Cultural, Economic and Environmental determinants of our health and well-being.



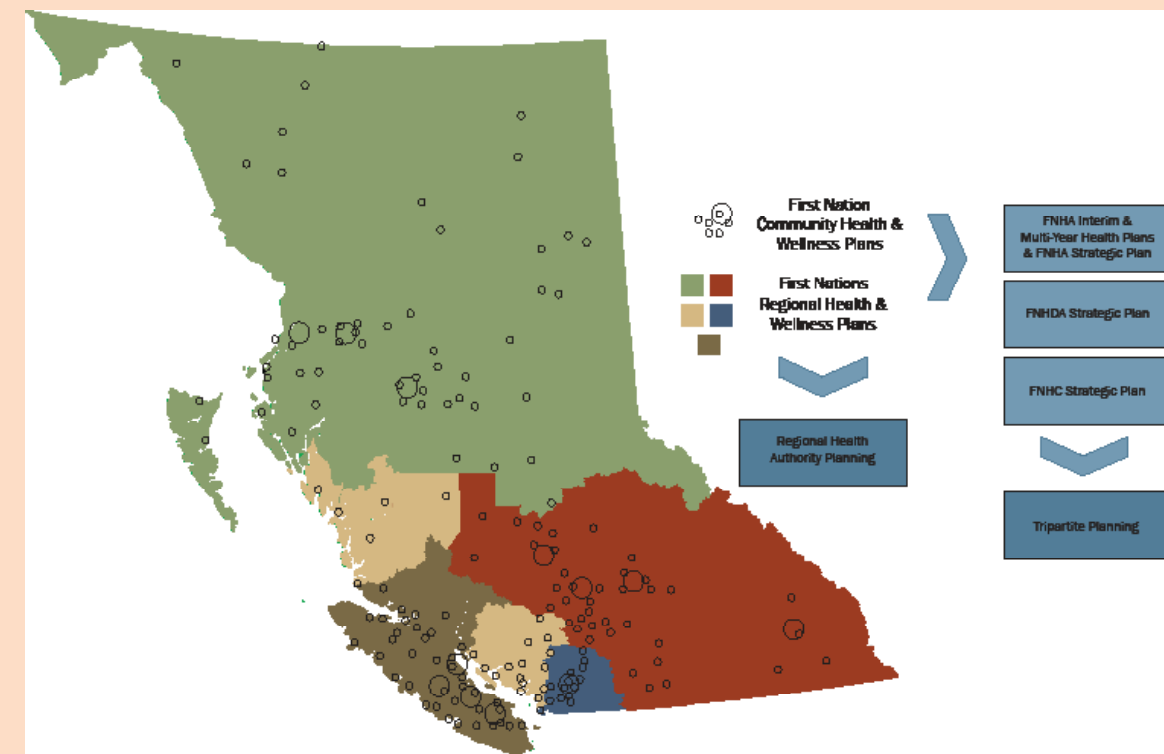
## ENGAGEMENT AND APPROVALS PATHWAY

Much of our success to date has been our ability to take guidance directly from BC First Nations through the Engagement & Approvals Pathway. Through the Pathway, community guidance informs regional perspectives, which then informs provincial consensus-building and strategic direction on specific issues, themes, and decisions.



## REGIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The planning approach for our First Nations health governance structure builds on the benefits of the Engagement and Approval Pathway, supporting First Nations to be involved and provide guidance and direction in a more strategic and comprehensive way at local, regional, and provincial levels.



## RESPECT

We believe that maintaining respectful relationships is fundamental to the achievement of our shared vision. Respectful relationships are built upon the recognition that we all have something to contribute as individuals, and participants in the First Nations health governance structure. Therefore, we commit to treating each other with dignity and generosity, being responsive to one another, and acknowledging that each entity has their own respective processes and practices. We are also committed to respectful interactions with First Nations, tripartite partners, and other collaborators.

## DISCIPLINE

We have the historic opportunity to achieve transformative change in First Nations health and wellness, and an obligation to make the most of this opportunity. This will require discipline amongst us, including through: loyalty to one another and our shared vision; upholding and supporting our roles, responsibilities, decisions, and processes; maintaining and nurturing unity and a united front; integrity and reliability in fulfilling our commitments, and accountability to one another for these commitments and contributions; and, solutions-oriented and active participation.

## RELATIONSHIPS

We believe that effective working relationships with First Nations, tripartite partners, and with one another are the foundation for achieving our vision and implementing our health plans and agreements. We commit to fostering effective working relationships and camaraderie underpinned by: trust; honesty; understanding; teamwork; and, mutual support. We also acknowledge that humour and laughter are both good medicine, and a good way to build relationships.

## CULTURE

We are here because of those that came before us, and to work on behalf of First Nations. We draw upon the diverse and unique cultures, ceremonies, customs, and teachings of First Nations for strength, wisdom, and guidance. We uphold traditional and holistic approaches to health and self-care and strive to achieve a balance in our mental, spiritual, emotional, and physical wellness.

## EXCELLENCE

We are humbled and honoured to have been asked by First Nations to work on their behalf to improve health and wellness, and have a moral and personal responsibility to strive for excellence. Excellence means that our outcomes are sustainable, that our processes are professional and transparent, and that we commit to learn continuously – through capacity development opportunities, from each other and from new, different and innovative models worldwide.

## FAIRNESS

We work to improve the health and wellness of all First Nations in BC. Our decisions reflect the best interests of all First Nations, and lead to just and equitable treatment amongst all First Nations communities, First Nations organizations, and across all regions of British Columbia. We are committed to make room for everyone, and are inclusive in our communications, information-sharing, and discussions.

## OUR VALUES

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### CITIZENS (ALL OF US)

- » Supporting personal health and wellness
- » Participating in community health processes
- » Keeping informed and actively seeking out available information
- » Upholding values

### HEALTH DIRECTORS

- » Administer contribution agreements
- » Participate as a member of the FNHDA and the Regional Caucus, including supporting decisions made through those forums

- » Share information on the health interests of the community from a technical perspective
- » Report meeting outcomes and share information with community
- » Engage respectfully and in a solutions/consensus-oriented manner with peers
- » Develop a productive working relationship with community leadership
- » Be open to training and development opportunities
- » Be a health and wellness champion

### CHIEFS

- » Participate in Regional Caucus and Gathering Wisdom forums, including supporting decisions made through those forums
- » Exercise voting authority at regional and provincial levels, in an informed manner and in the best interest of one's Citizens
- » Share information on the health interests of the community politically
- » Report meeting outcomes and share information with community
- » Engage respectfully and in a solutions/consensus-oriented manner with peers

- » oriented manner with peers
- » Develop a productive working relationship with health entities within the community
- » Be a health and wellness champion

### REGIONAL CAUCUSES

- » Share information related to individual First Nations or groups of First Nations within the Region
- » Provide guidance to the Regional Table
- » Provide guidance to the implementation of the Regional Partnership Accord
- » Approve regional-specific documents such as the Regional Health & Wellness Plan and Regional Caucus Terms of Reference
- » Provide direction for any regional-specific initiatives
- » Appoint representatives to the FNHC, and nominate individuals for the FNHA Board of Directors
- » Participate in consensus-building and engagement processes through the FNHC or FNHDA
- » Participate in processes to solicit regional perspectives and advice

### REGIONAL TABLES

- » Report to and perform work directed by the Regional Caucus
- » Engage in strategy development for the work of the Regions
- » Lead the development of Regional Health & Wellness Plans
- » Lead implementation of Regional Partnership Accord

### FIRST NATIONS HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

- » Share information with, and engage with FNHDA membership on FNHDA priorities, activities, and key decisions
- » Uphold a standard of excellence, the Directives and values in FNHDA business
- » Invest in the governance relationship with the FNHC and FNHA
- » Implement a process for timely and high-quality technical advice from health directors
- » Provide development, training, and support to health directors
- » Each Board member to participate in the FNHDA processes, and support the decisions made by the Board

### FIRST NATIONS HEALTH COUNCIL

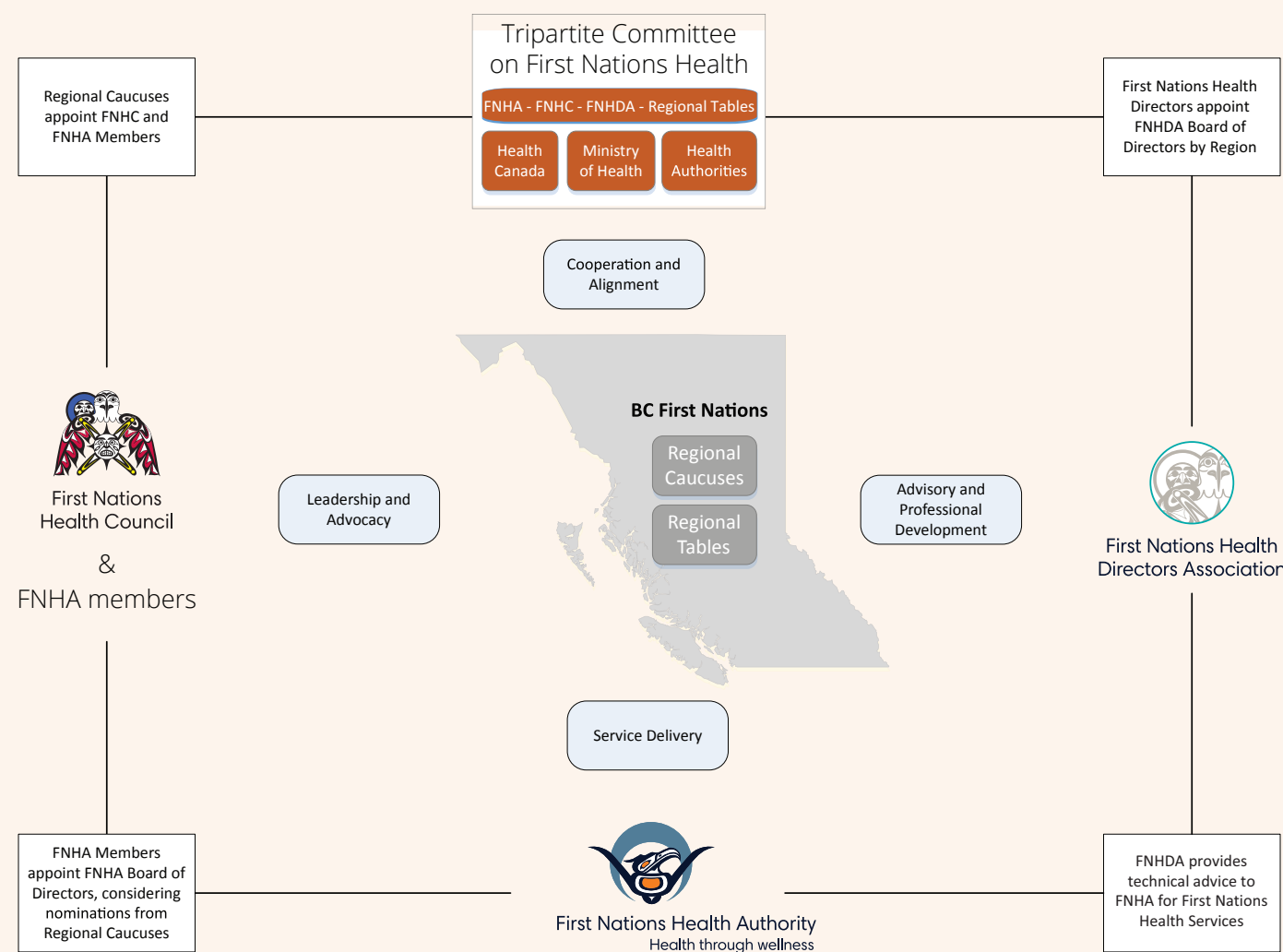
- » Report to and engage with First Nations leaders on FNHC activities and key decisions
- » Oversee the implementation of the health plans and decisions made by BC First Nations at Gathering Wisdom and Regional Caucuses
- » Uphold a standard of excellence, the Directives and values in FNHC business
- » Invest in the governance relationship with the FNHDA and FNHA
- » Implement a process for strategic-level decisions required from BC First Nations Chiefs
- » Each FNHC member to participate in FNHC processes and support the decisions made by the FNHC
- » Share the regional perspectives of BC First Nations with the FNHC, FNHA, FNHDA and tripartite partners in appropriate forums
- » Create space and achieve change for First Nations interests through advocacy, partnership development, and leadership

### FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY

- » Serve as a health and wellness partner to BC First Nations individuals in their health & wellness journey
- » Serve as a health and wellness partner to BC First Nations communities through contribution agreements, programs, services, and other initiatives
- » Implement the health plans and agreements
- » Take guidance from the political processes of the FNHC and the technical advice processes of the FNHDA
- » Provide regional capacity to support engagement and planning
- » Uphold the Constitution and bylaws, Directives, values, and meet all Corporate Governance Requirements
- » Invest in the governance relationship with the FNHC and FNHDA
- » Support First Nations interests through policy, programs, initiatives, and tools
- » Issue reports and undertake evaluations
- » FNHA Members oversee the good governance and strategy of the FNHA
- » FNHA Board of Directors hold legal liability for decisions related to the strategic direction, governance, and financial health of the FNHA

### TRIPARTITE PARTNERS

- » Implement the health plans and agreements
- » Partner and communicate in a timely and effective way about opportunities and impediments, and always with the intention of facilitating a positive outcome for BC First Nations
- » Support First Nations engagement and participation
- » Support coordination of services, seek solutions to service gaps and barriers
- » Seek opportunities for increased First Nations governance, management, and decision-making
- » Issue reports and undertake evaluations
- » FNHA Board of Directors hold legal liability for decisions related to the strategic direction, governance, and financial health of the FNHA



## RECIPROCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

First Nations traditional social systems were founded on the concept of reciprocal accountability – that each member of the community was accountable for their decisions and actions, and for their contributions to the community's wellness as a whole. These ancestral teachings are the underpinning of our definition and processes for reciprocal accountability.

BC First Nations collectively own the First Nations health governance structure and are together responsible for resolving concerns and issues, making key decisions, and celebrating successes. To make the system work, everyone has to perform their roles and responsibilities, and depend on others to do the same.