

Treating People Who use Substances with Respect Improves Health Outcomes and Saves Lives

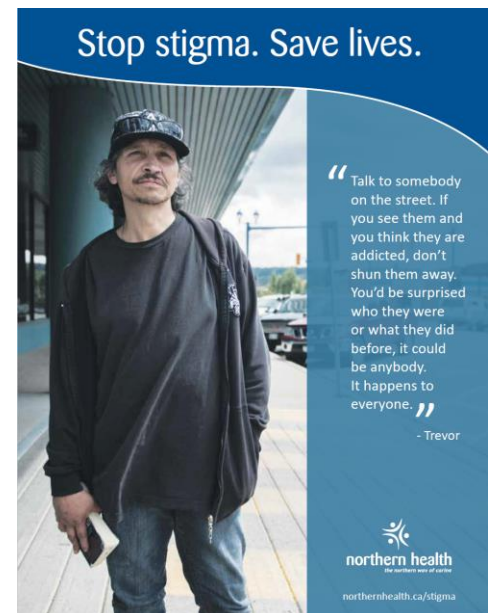
Stigma against people who use drugs results in discrimination, impacts health, and contributes to toxic drug deaths in our communities. By health authority, in 2022, the highest [rates](#) were in Northern Health (53 deaths per 100,000 people). We all have a role to play to challenge stigma. Local governments and community organizations can play a supportive role by modeling anti-stigma messaging to communities, supporting overdose prevention services, and removing barriers to accessing services for people who use drugs.

Check out the following anti-stigma resources.

Northern Health: The [Stop Stigma. Save Lives](#) project shares the words of 12 people with firsthand or family experiences of drug use.

BC Centre for Disease Control:

- Toward the Heart shares the video "[Language Matters: Creating a Safer Space with Less Stigma.](#)"
- The Compassionate Action is an anti-stigma campaign that offers 5 modules with a series of interactive case study videos. These videos build upon the [Compassionate Engagement](#) modules and are designed to engage people who use drugs and encourage collaboration and respect.
- The Peer2Peer Project [videos](#) highlight stories of people with lived experience within communities that use substances.
- Subject Matter Research Lab released the animated video "[Beyond Stigma Video](#)" to explore the impact of stigma.



For Your Information

October 1-7 is Breastfeeding Week in Canada

Have you considered how your organization and community can be more supportive of breastfeeding? Consider [ordering](#) a free [window decal](#) from Northern Health and having a conversation with your colleagues about how to [welcome families to breastfeed any time, anywhere](#). Visit the Northern Health [breastfeeding-friendly spaces](#) webpage for more details.



Share Your Opinion

Feedback Needed on Food Costs and Climate Change Impacts (Paid Opportunity) **Deadline: October 14, 2022**

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) is seeking 8 remote communities to share stories and experiences about food access, availability, affordability, and the impacts of climate change on food. To qualify, residents must travel by car up to 50km or 30 minutes one way or travel by ferry or plane to access most of their groceries; or food access must be greatly impacted by a climate emergency (e.g., wildfire, flood) in the past. The stories will be shared publicly and inform policies, programs, and funding related to food access in remote communities. Each community that participates will receive \$1000. Visit the [BC Food Security Gateway](#) for more details. Contact [staff](#) to express interest.

Call for Youth Storytellers! (Paid Opportunity) **Deadline: November 18, 2022**

The [Young Canadians Roundtable on Health](#), in partnership with The Sandbox Project, [Healthy Debate](#) and the [Healthy Communities Initiative](#), are looking for youth ages 12 to 25 for the continuation of the project called “In Their Own Words - Reflections by Youth on the Pandemic.” Stories will be published on Healthy Debate to amplify youth voices and generate awareness of the youth pandemic experience to fellow Canadians.

Resources (toolkits, reports, websites)

Promising Models of Community-Based Seniors’ Transportation in British Columbia

This [report from United Way British Columbia](#) offers case studies, featuring Dawson Creek, that profile promising models of seniors’ transportation, and demonstrates what factors facilitate or impede the success of these services. Researchers used extensive selection criteria to select six services that covered a diverse set of models and geographic contexts.

Smoke-Free Housing Resource Site Now Available

The [Smoke-Free Housing BC website](#) was recently launched to promote smoke-free policies in multi-unit housing. This site provides tools and resources to educate housing providers to create and enforce smoke-free policies and to support residents to address complaints of second-hand smoke exposures.

Events & Learning Opportunities

GrowABLE: How to Use the Community Garden Accessible Toolkit

Date: October 4, 2022

Want to learn how to make your local community garden more physically accessible? This [webinar](#) will review aspects of the [Community Garden Accessibility Toolkit](#) that can help you with building or adapting your community garden.

Living Life to the Full for Youth – Interactive Mental Health Course

Dates: October 6 to November 24, 2022

In this 8-week online free [course](#), a trained facilitator will guide you through interactive exercises and provide you with practical tools to help you understand your feelings, thoughts and behaviours, and what to do about them.

Take Me Outside Day (TMO)

Date: October 19, 2022

Take Me Outside Day helps to raise awareness about outdoor learning by encouraging teachers to take their students outside. Check out the [website](#) to find many events, ideas, upcoming and recorded workshops to help make outdoor learning more fun and accessible.

Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into Your Municipality

Date: October 25, 2022

In the midst of COVID recovery, many city leaders are looking to the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) to mainstream the principles of equity and sustainability into decision-making, while also laying foundations for the transformations called for in “building back better.” This [webinar](#) explores ways to integrate the SDGs into local government strategic planning.

2022 UBC International Road Safety Symposium

Dates: October 31 & November 1, 2022

The UBC Bureau of Integrated Transportation Safety and Advanced Mobility (BITSAM) and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) invite you to take part in the [UBC International Road Safety Symposium](#). International experts will join local government and provincial experts to discuss their experience and recent research on effective solutions in the BC and Canadian context.

Funding Opportunities

BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program

Deadline: October 21, 2022

Active transportation infrastructure [grants](#) are available for Indigenous and local governments. Funding is available for cost-sharing for active transportation network planning (up to \$50,000) and infrastructure (up to \$500,000).

FireSmart Community Funding & Supports

Deadline: October 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023

The [FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program](#) provides funding to local governments and First Nations in BC to increase community resiliency by undertaking community based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire. There is a webinar scheduled on October 13 to help returning and new applicants understand the changes to the program. Please [register](#) in advance.

Farm to School BC Grants

Deadline: November 13, 2022

Farm to School BC grant season has returned for the 2022-23 school year, opening on Monday, October 3, 2022. In support of school communities launching farm to school projects, Farm to school BC offers two grant options and a Grant Writing Workshop webinar on October 20. Visit the [Farm to School webpage](#) to register and learn more.

Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training

Deadline: November 25, 2022

[Funding](#) is available for local governments and First Nations in BC to provide emergency management personnel with cultural safety and humility training, to partner with and assist Indigenous communities during emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

ChildCare BC New Spaces Fund

Deadline: January 2023

The [ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund](#) provides funding to create new licensed child care, helping families access, affordable, quality, and inclusive child care as a core service they can depend on, while strengthening communities throughout British Columbia.

Northern Healthy Communities Fund

Deadline: Ongoing

Eligible local governments, First Nations and non-profit organizations that provide supports and services to people in expanding communities near the Coastal Gaslink and LNG Canada projects can apply for project funding through the [Northern Healthy Communities Fund](#). Since its beginning, 46 projects have received funding totalling more than \$5 million.

First Nation Adapt Program

Deadline: Ongoing

This program provides [funding](#) to First Nation communities, Indigenous organizations, and band or tribal councils located below the 60th parallel to assess and respond to climate change impacts on community infrastructure and disaster risk reduction.

Indigenous Climate Health Action Program

Deadline: Ongoing

Indigenous Climate Health Action Program (ICHAP) funds climate action projects that are community driven and focus on health and wellness outcomes. ICHAP is now accepting [expressions of interest](#) for projects starting spring 2023 onward.

Government of Canada: Natural Infrastructure Fund

Deadline: Ongoing

The Government of Canada is accepting applications for new projects through the [Small Projects Stream of the Natural Infrastructure Fund \(NIF\)](#). The \$200 million NIF supports building community awareness of the value of natural infrastructure. It will bring noticeable benefits to communities across Canada by improving access to nature, providing cleaner air and water, protecting and preserving biodiversity and wildlife habitats and mitigating carbon emissions.

Reaching Home – BC Rural and Remote Homelessness Strategy

Deadline: Ongoing

The [BC Rural and Remote Homelessness Strategy Funding](#) is available to communities who are not currently part of an existing Reaching Home funding program, to support projects that reduce and prevent homelessness. Eligible projects can run between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023.

Northern Health Stories

Respiratory illness season is coming: What you need to know this fall

As the leaves change colours and temperatures drop, the start of fall also signals the start of respiratory illness season. These illnesses include cold, influenza (flu), and yes, COVID-19. Here's what you need to know when it comes to protecting yourself and others against them...[continue reading](#).

Food marketing: How are you being influenced?

Food marketing is all around us. It shapes the choices we make about the products and brands we buy. Imagine you're shopping for food for your family and are faced with all the messages on product labels: Organic? Fortified with iron? With countless options, what should you buy? It can feel overwhelming...[continue reading](#).

Remembering those who've lost their lives to overdose, and introducing the regional peer coordinator

This year marks the 21st anniversary of International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD). Every year on August 31 we grieve publicly, train and educate people on overdose prevention, and advocate for better drug laws and policies. Hawkfeather Peterson (They/Them) is a substance user and works for Northern Health as a regional peer coordinator...[continue reading](#).

See the latest stories at stories.northernhealth.ca

E-Brief Information

The Healthier Northern Communities [E-Brief](#) is produced by [Northern Health's regional Population and Preventive Public Health program](#).

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