

## COVID-19 Vaccinations

In B.C. COVID-19 vaccinations are well underway. The COVID-19 vaccine is saving lives. Vaccines do more than protect the people getting vaccinated, they also protect everyone around them. The more people in a community who are immunized and protected from COVID-19, the harder it is for COVID-19 to spread. The current



immunization schedule developed for the North, in partnership with the First Nations Health Authority, Métis Nation BC, and Northern Health, is currently focused on phases one and two priority groups of BC's immunization plan (developed based on recommendations from the [National Advisory Committee on Immunization](#)), and on protecting those most vulnerable to severe illness, first. Find your community's vaccination schedule at [Northern Health's COVID-19 vaccine plan webpage](#). For more information on the vaccine and priority groups, visit the [Government of BC website](#) and the [First Nations Health Authority website](#).

## Resources (toolkits, reports, website)

### BC Alliance for Healthy Living Podcast: The Balance

The Balance [podcast](#) aims to promote and discuss chronic disease prevention research, campaigns, and programs with leading thinkers and researchers. Recent topics include EverybodyMoves: People with Disabilities, Food Insecurity, COVID Impacts on Physical Activity & Wellness, and more.

### Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy

Equity is foundational to the development of healthy communities, and local governments have an important role in implementing and championing equity across social, economic, environmental, and cultural domains. But what exactly is equity? BC Healthy Communities' new [Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy Action Guide](#) tackles this question, and explores why applying an equity lens to community planning is not as simple as 'ticking a box'.

## Events and Learning Opportunities

## **Webinar: A Response to “In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination in BC Health”**

**Date: April 16, 2021**

On November 30, 2020, the “[In Plain Sight](#)” report was released. The report found that Indigenous peoples in BC are exposed to widespread racism that often results in negative experiences at the point of care, inequitable medical treatment, physical harm and even death. In [this webinar](#), presenter Dawn Thomas will highlight some of the 24 recommendations made in the report to address systemic racism in the health-care sector, share some of her own experiences with the health-care system – and discuss some interventions and strategies that have been effective.

## **Webinar: Making Evaluation Attainable and Equitable**

**Date: April 16, 2021**

Join BC Healthy Communities and the Canadian Evaluation Society – BC Chapter on April 16 from 12:00–1pm PDT for our webinar, *Diverse Voices: Community-based approaches to making evaluation attainable & equitable*. We’ll explore the application of feasible, equitable evaluation principles in B.C. community settings, and the significance of reciprocity when engaging in community partnerships to collaboratively learn together. This webinar fulfills reflective and situational practice competencies for the CES Credentialing Program. Learn more and register: [planh.ca/EvalWebinar](http://planh.ca/EvalWebinar)

## **Workshop: Planning and Designing Healthy Communities**

**Date: April 23 – 24, 2021**

This two-day intensive [workshop](#) will introduce you to key principles and strategies for the planning and designing of healthy communities. Building on recent work and new research on the relationship between urban design and public health, your instructors will introduce you to the Healthy Built Environment (HBE) Linkages Toolkit and provide guidance on how to develop a health impact assessment. Featuring guest speakers from the Metro Vancouver public health community, this interactive course will be grounded in the practical demands of local government policy development, design and implementation.

## **Virtual Event: The End of Poverty – Tamarack Institute**

**Dates: May 5 & May 6, 2021**

What is the end of poverty? What will it take to end poverty in Canada? Join Tamarack’s Cities Reducing Poverty Network to explore Ending Poverty pathways and co-create a vision to end poverty for all Canadians. This virtual gathering is open to everyone, and will include inspiring keynotes, engaging panels and workshops, and daily small group discussions, each serving to help us collectively advance ideas for ending poverty. Elected officials from all levels of government, city staff, business leaders, funders,

poverty reduction collaborative leaders, community organizations, and experts with lived/living experience of poverty will teach and learn together. For more information visit the [Tamarack Institute webpage](#).

**Webinar series: From risk to resilience: A health equity approach to pandemic preparedness, response and recovery**

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the cracks in our health, economic and social systems that have disproportionately harmed the most marginalized populations. This 5-part conversation series is an opportunity for public health professionals, community health leaders, researchers and decision-makers to build our collective capacity to use a health equity approach in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from COVID-19 and future pandemics. Listen to the past recorded conversations from the series and register for future ones [here](#).

## Funding Opportunities

**Public Health Association of Canada: Vaccine Community Innovation Challenge  
Deadline: April 9, 2021**

The Vaccine Community Innovation Challenge encourages individuals and/or groups across Canada to help promote [vaccine confidence](#) in their communities. We invite you to submit your community-driven information proposals for creative and innovative campaigns that engage diverse audiences. Your actions can make a difference! Twenty finalists will be selected and will each receive \$25,000 to create and implement their campaign. At the end of the campaign, one winner will receive a grand prize of \$100,000. Visit the [PHAC webpage](#) for more information.

**Healthy Canadians and Communities Fund (HCCF) Fund  
Deadline: April 14, 2021**

The Healthy Canadians and Communities Fund (HCCF) encourages all sectors of society to participate in supporting healthy living. Priorities for the HCCF program include an expanded focus on addressing health inequalities; encouraging multi-sectoral participation in chronic disease prevention; and exploring new ways to address the risk factors for chronic disease. The HCCF builds on the former Multi-sectoral Partnerships to Promote Healthy Living and Prevent Chronic Disease (MSP) program by integrating successes and lessons learned. For more information, visit the [HCCF website](#).

**Northern Health: Resilient Communities Grant  
Deadline: April 16, 2021**

COVID-19 has created many challenges for northern communities and community service organizations: it has changed how you deliver services, communicate with members, and run programming. COVID-19 has also surfaced new, health and wellness needs within communities that organizations can address. The [Northern Resilient Communities grant](#) is a one-time support for groups and organizations who need assistance adapting their practices and/or responding to new community health and wellness needs. Grants are available for a maximum of \$5,000. For more details, visit our [webpage](#).

### **Northern Health & Positive Living Society – Peer Support Network Deadline April 30**

[Northern Health](#), in partnership with Positive Living North & Seasons House is pleased to announce a second cycle of [Peer Support grants](#). As we enter the second year of unprecedented dual health emergencies, Northern Peer organizations are uniquely positioned to support the needs of people who use substances and respond to changing circumstances in Northern communities. This grant seeks to deliver both operational and service delivery funding to enable these organizations to continue their critical work. It is open to independent peer organizations within Northern Health's geographic boundaries. The maximum grant amount is \$8000. For additional information regarding this granting stream, please contact [Peer.Grants@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Peer.Grants@northernhealth.ca)

### **United Way of Northern BC: Community Investment and Impact Funding Deadline: May 3, 2021**

The United Way of Northern BC would like to invite you to submit your application for our Community Investment & Impact fund for the 2021-2022 cycle! United Way of Northern BC's current priorities for investment focus on projects that address root causes or systemic issues, offer rich opportunities to align the work with multiple community partners, enable evidence-based approaches, and capitalize on community energy. For more information and to apply, visit the [UWNBC webpage](#).

### **Northern Healthy Communities Fund: Northern Development Initiative Trust Deadline: May 14, 2021 (next of four funding round)**

The Northern Healthy Communities Fund (NHCF) supports initiatives that assist healthy, sustainable, and resilient communities facing rapid and large-scale economic development and associated need for enhanced social service readiness. Given the immediacy of current economic development activities, the NHCF is focusing on communities adjacent to the LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects. For learn more, visit [Northern Development](#).

## **BC Healthy Communities PlanH Grants Deadline: June 1, 2021**

Support is coming for Indigenous and local governments in B.C. who are striving to create equitable policies and processes. The PlanH Healthy Communities Grant Program is offering 30 grants for 2021 across two funding streams: Community Connectedness (20 grants of \$5,000) and Healthy Public Policy (10 grants of \$15,000). Both grants also include customized supports from BC Healthy Communities staff. More details on the types of projects eligible under each stream are in our [application guide](#).

## **Northern Health Stories**

### **Northeast residents share why they chose to get vaccinated**

The past few weeks have been a busy and exciting time as more and more Northerners receive their [COVID-19 vaccines](#). Learn why two long-term care residents in the Northeast chose to get vaccinated... [continue reading](#)

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics – call centre now open for some age groups**

The Northern call centre is open as of today, Monday March 8, for seniors aged 90 and older, Indigenous peoples aged 65 and older. The call centre will operate 7 am to 7 pm PST, seven days a week, and clinic locations will be confirmed at the time of booking. Note there is some variation for some communities – please visit the [Northern Health vaccine webpage](#) to see what age groups are eligible to call and book in each community... [continue reading](#).

See the latest stories at [stories.northernhealth.ca](https://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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