

This monthly publication is prepared by the [Northern Health Healthy Settings](#) team to provide information and resources for local governments and community organizations to promote and support community health across Northern BC.

For your information

October 1 to 7 is Breastfeeding Week in Canada

Did you know that employers in BC are expected to take reasonable steps to accommodate the needs of staff who breastfeed, chestfeed, or express their milk? October 1 to 7 is National Breastfeeding Week in Canada and this year's theme is "Enabling breastfeeding: Making a difference for working parents". What does this look like for your workplace? Get inspired and take action:

- Read a success story: [Breastfeeding in the workplace](#) - Northern Health Stories
- Get ideas from City of Vancouver's policy - [Breastfeeding in the Workplace](#)
- Review the tipsheet: [Make breast/chestfeeding your business](#) - Perinatal Services BC
- Share info for parents: [Returning to Paid Employment | La Leche League Canada](#)



Resources (toolkits, reports, websites)

Northern BC Healthy K-12 Schools Newsletter: Issue Five

The Northern BC [Healthy K to Schools Newsletter](#) provides an informative range of health topics and links to resources for school staff, students, and families. In this issue, learn about immunizations, food allergy curriculum, teaching tools, and much more. Contact the Northern Health [Healthy Schools Nursing Lead](#) if you have questions or ideas for future newsletter topics.



Events and learning opportunities

School Garden Mentorship Program

Dates: October 3 and 12, 2023

Are you a K-12 educator who is creating a school garden or reviving an existing garden? Join the Farm to School BC after-school [online workshops](#).

Strengthening the Mental Wellness of Children and Youth in BC

Date: October 13, 2023 at 10 am to 2:30 pm

Join a conversation and networking event in Prince George about the role of community partners (e.g., local governments, schools, community organizations, etc.) in strengthening child and youth mental well-being. This event is a continuation of the discussion that took place at the Public Health Association of BC's [Best Brains Event](#) in April 2023. To learn more and to register, email Emily.Faris@phabc.org.

Fall GoByBike Weeks

Dates: October 16 to 29, 2023

Ride into fall with GoByBike Weeks. Any ride counts: getting groceries, riding to and from work or school, and visiting the bike parks and trail rides. Register and log your total kilometers online at GoByBikeBC.ca for a chance to win prizes, including e-bikes. Are you a teacher? Visit the [GoByBike Week School Guide](#) for activity ideas that educate and engage students.

Relationship Infrastructure for Stronger Neighbourhoods: The Roles of Government and Social Leaders

Date: October 18, 2023

Join this free [webinar](#) about practical strategies and actionable steps for institutions and organizations to build relationship infrastructure with their community to foster a sense of belonging for all.

Appetite to Play online workshops

Dates: various dates in September 2023 to June 2024

Are you an early childhood educator and want to learn more about physical activity, outdoor risky play, and healthy eating for children 0-5 years old? Register for the Appetite to Play [Food and Physical Activity Online Workshop](#) and the [Outside and Risky Play Online Workshop](#).

Funding opportunities

Climate Action Events program

Deadlines: October 3, 2023 and December 4, 2023

Is your organization or group hosting a climate action event in BC? The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions may be able to help. The [Climate Action Events program](#) supports events that share knowledge and ways of knowing, build skills, and foster meaningful conversation to advance climate action within BC. The program offers \$2,000 to \$5,000 for eligible events.

IMAGINE Community Grants

Deadline: October 31, 2023

Planning a project that focuses on mental wellness, community diversity, harm reduction, climate action, food security, active living, or community safety? Northern BC community organizations, schools, Indigenous organizations, and local governments can apply for up to \$10,000 through the Northern Health [Imagine Community Grant](#).

Farm to School Grants

Deadline: November 15, 2023

Offering two types of grants: The 3K (\$3,000) and The 1K (\$1,000). Grants are designed to support K-12 schools in what is currently known as British Columbia in developing school food programs. The goal is to support more schools and communities in coming together around exploring, growing, harvesting, cooking, eating, and celebrating foods. [F2SBC Grants - Farm to School BC](#)

Youth Innovation Enabling Accessibility Fund

Deadline: October 10, 2023

Do you know a dynamic youth who wants to demonstrate leadership and impact the lives of people with disabilities in their community? Learn more about the [Enabling Accessibility Fund \(EAF\) Youth Component](#), which provides up to \$10,000 for youth ages 15 to 30.

Telus Indigenous Communities Fund

Deadline: October 13, 2023

Apply for up to \$50,000 for Indigenous-led social, health, and community programs through the [TELUS Indigenous Communities Fund](#).

Community Housing Fund

Deadline: November 17, 2023

Planning to develop low- and moderate-income rental housing units in your community? BC Housing is inviting non-profit and Indigenous housing societies, First Nations, housing co-operatives and municipalities to propose new [affordable housing projects](#) for the intake of the Building BC: Community Housing Fund.

Rural, Remote, and Indigenous Food Action Grants

Deadline: November 30, 2023

Planning a project that focuses on community food action? Learn more about the [Rural, Remote, and Indigenous \(RRI\) Food Action Grant](#) application and eligibility criteria. Starting on November 1, 2023, apply for up to \$50,000 through this grant program.

Indigenous Food Security and Sovereignty Grant

Deadline: December 1, 2023

Apply for the [Indigenous Food Security & Sovereignty \(IFS\) Grant](#), which provides non-repayable funding contributions to First Nation communities, Indigenous organizations, businesses, and entrepreneurs in BC that want to participate in and receive financial supports to develop, expand, or strengthen their Indigenous food systems and innovation to enhance sustainability and growth of the Indigenous agriculture and food sovereignty.

Food Security Emergency Planning and Preparedness Fund

Deadline: December 19, 2023

Apply for up to \$150,000 for emergency planning projects and up to \$2 million for emergency preparedness, infrastructure, and equipment projects through the [Food Security Emergency Planning and Preparedness Fund](#).

Community Gaming Grants

Deadline: Application deadlines vary

Did you know that the [Community Gaming Grants](#) provides \$140 million annually to not-for-profit organizations throughout BC to support their delivery of ongoing program and services? Learn how to apply for up to \$125,000 to help meet the needs of your community.

Climate Fund Finder

Deadline: Ongoing

Planning a climate action project? Need financial support? Not sure where to start? The [Funding Finder](#) is the tool for you. By answering a few questions, you'll be on your way to learning which programs fit your program best.

Northern Healthy Communities Fund

Deadline: Ongoing

Is your community nearby an LNG Canada or Coastal GasLink project? Apply for the [Northern Healthy Communities Fund](#) (NHCF) to help your community adjust to the economic growth expected to occur as a result of major economic development projects.

Rural Transit Solutions Fund

Deadline: Ongoing

Apply for the [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#), to help your local government or organization plan and design new or expanded transit solutions for your community.

Northern Health Stories

Preventing death by suicide: Creating hope through action

September 10 is World Suicide Day. This year's theme is "creating hope through action." Suicide can be prevented, and we can create a world where there is hope for the future...[continue reading](#).

See the latest stories at stories.northernhealth.ca.

E-Brief information

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

To subscribe, send a blank email to healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca with "subscribe" in the subject line.

To unsubscribe, send a blank email to healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

To share information, articles, or resources of interest to Northern BC communities, send an email to healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca. If you have any questions about our list and your privacy, please phone 250-637-1615.

