

Northern Health Healthy Communities E-Brief

January 2025

Brought to you by the [Northern Health Healthy Communities](#) team. We support local governments and community organizations in promoting health and well-being across Northern BC.

Share your opinion

Social Prescribing for Healthy Aging - Community Readiness Survey

Deadline: January 10, 2025

Is your community ready for social prescribing? Communities in BC without a Community Connector are invited to express interest in expanding this program, in partnership with United Way BC Healthy Aging. Learn more and complete the [survey](#).

Events and learning opportunities

Financial Barriers to Climate Action Implementation

Date: January 13, 2025 @10-11am PT

Financing climate action can be challenging for local governments. Hosted by Tamarack Institute, this free [webinar](#) will explore creative solutions and funding opportunities to support your community's efforts.

Building Social Connections in Practice

Date: January 15, 2024 @12-1pm PT

Join a national learning cohort to explore practical tools for fostering well-being in multi-unit housing. This three-part workshop series will cover:

- Design principles for social well-being
- Policy strategies for social and affordable housing

These workshops are based on years of research from [Hey Neighbour Collective and Happy Cities](#) and build on the [Building Social Connections Toolkit](#). Learn more and [apply](#) for a limited live spot.

Understanding Disordered Eating - How to Support the Youth in Your Life

Date: February 1, 2025 @10:30-12pm PT

Join this panel event to learn from youth with lived experiences and moderator, Carmen Kaufmann, an eating disorder specialist. Topics covered include identifying influences and warning signs for disordered eating, coping with social media and diet culture, and supporting conversations about disordered eating and body image with youth. Hosted by Embody, this [free event](#) is open to all.

Brain Waves Online Program for grades 4 to 6

Dates: Various dates in February 2025

[Brain Waves](#) is a free and engaging program aimed at promoting brain safety among elementary school students, in grades 4 to 6. This program is delivered to schools across Canada, with the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU) as the provincial delivery partner in BC. For more information and to register, please email bcinjury@bcchr.ca.

The Great BC School Food Cook-off

Dates: Now until March 1, 2025

There is an exciting cooking contest heating up this winter for BC students! Create a recipe as a class made with BC foods, get featured in a new digital cookbook, and win some great cash prizes. To learn more, visit the [Farm to School BC webpage](#).

Funding opportunities

BC Indigenous Food Pathways Program (Government of BC)

Deadline: January 10, 2025

The [Indigenous Food Pathways Program](#) provides strategic capacity-building funding. This funding can be used to create new projects, enhance existing programs, or improve group operations for Indigenous-led food systems and food security initiatives.

Transforming Systems Grants (Vancouver Foundation)

Deadline: January 14, 2025

These [grants](#) provide \$100,000 per year for three years to organizations addressing the root causes of inequality. The grants support efforts that prioritize intersectionality, allyship, and mutual liberation.

Tree Planting (Green Municipal Fund)

Deadline: February 4, 2025

The [Growing Canada's Community Canopies](#) initiative funds projects to plant the right trees in the right places, helping communities grow and protect their tree canopies. Planting trees benefits your community by capturing carbon, boosting biodiversity, and improving climate resilience and well-being.

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund: Public Notification and Evacuation Route Planning (Government of BC)

Deadline: April 25, 2025

This [funding](#) supports the development of Evacuation Route Plans and/or Public Notification Plans that provide information for First Nations, local governments, and community members in the event of an emergency.

Active Transportation Planning program grants (Union of BC Municipalities)

Deadline: September 30, 2025

Local governments with populations under 25,000 can [apply](#) for up to \$30,000 for active transportation planning.

Local Community Accessibility Grants (SPARC BC)

Deadline: Ongoing until March 2026

Municipalities and regional districts in BC can [apply](#) for up to \$25,000 to support persons with disabilities by removing barriers identified by local government Accessibility Committees or Accessibility Plans.

Regional Homebuilding Innovation Initiative (Government of Canada)

Deadline: March 31, 2026 or when funding is fully exhausted

The [Regional Homebuilding Innovation Initiative](#) supports the residential homebuilding supply chain in BC by advancing innovative homebuilding solutions and boosting manufacturing efficiency. It is part of a nationwide Government of Canada initiative investing \$50 million over two years.

#GreenMyCity Program (Green Cities Foundation)

Deadline: Ongoing

Apply for a [#GreenMyCity grant](#) to restore and revitalize public spaces like parks, community gardens, sports fields, and playgrounds. Community groups, garden clubs, and youth organizations are encouraged to apply.

Homelessness Community Action Grants Program (SPARC BC)

Deadline: Ongoing

Apply for one-time [funding](#) to support local planning and collaborative initiatives that address the needs of those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Nature Smart Climate Solutions (Government of Canada)

Deadline: Open until funding is exhausted

The [Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund – Emission Reductions Intake](#) funds projects that help meet Canada's 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan. Projects can include natural climate solutions, policy development, programs, incentives, and other tools to support emission reductions.

Northern Healthy Communities Fund (Northern Development Initiative Trust)

Deadline: Ongoing

Is your community nearby an LNG Canada or Coastal GasLink project? Apply for the [Northern Healthy Communities Fund](#) to help your community manage the economic growth from major economic development projects.

Secondary Suite Incentive Program (BC Housing)

Deadline: Open until funding is exhausted

Do you know any homeowners who want to help create affordable housing? The [Secondary Suite Incentive Program](#) offers up to 50% of renovation costs (up to \$40,000) to develop a secondary suite rented below market value for at least five years.

Transit Minor Betterments Program (Government of BC)

Deadlines: Open until funding is exhausted

Public transit helps people access jobs and education, especially those with transportation challenges. [Apply](#) for up to \$100,000 for projects that improve the transit experience, such as bus stop shelters, lighting, accessibility improvements, and signage. Local governments, First Nations communities or organizations, and non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply. Projects must be completed by March 31, 2025.

Northern Health Stories

Substance Use Prevention in the Robson Valley

Northern Health (NH) is excited to announce that Robson Valley has been selected as a pilot community for implementing the [Icelandic Prevention Model](#) (IPM) in Northern BC! The IPM is an international, evidence-based, youth substance use prevention initiative.....[continue reading](#).

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