

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

Drug overdose advisories

Northern Health (NH) Population & Public Health issues overdose advisories. For more information, go to [NH News](#). To sign up for text-based drug alerts, text JOIN to 253787. Please distribute broadly within your networks.

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program

SAFER helps make rents affordable for BC seniors with low to moderate incomes. SAFER provides monthly cash payments to subsidize rents for eligible BC residents who are ages 60 or older. Learn more about the [SAFER program](#) or contact BC Housing toll free at 1-800-257-7756.

Share your opinion

Canadian Trans Youth Health Survey 2024

The Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre (SARAVYC) are a team of health researchers from the University of British Columbia working to improve the well-being of LGBTQ+ lives. Are you between 14 and 25 years old and live in Canada? Do you identify as trans or non-binary, or feel your gender doesn't match your body? Complete this anonymous online survey about your physical and emotional health. Please share widely with your networks: saravyc.ubc.ca/CTYHS2024

Resources (toolkits, reports, websites)

A new travel option for Northern BC – Bus the North!

Bus the North is your go-to hub for affordable travel across the North. Whether you're planning a family weekend getaway, a medical appointment, or a Northern BC adventure, there are options to get you there. Visit: www.busthenorth.ca.

Wildfire smoke information (BC Centre for Disease Control)

Poor air quality can be harmful to health, especially for those with chronic conditions like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart disease, diabetes, and for pregnant people, infants and children, and older adults. For more information on how to stay safe in smoky conditions visit the [BCCDC Wildfire Smoke page](#).

Events and learning opportunities

ParticipACTION Community Challenge

Dates: June 1 to 30, 2024

Get ready to participate in the [ParticipACTION Community Challenge](#) this June to get active, connect with others, and help your community be crowned Canada's Most Active Community and win \$100,000 to support local sport and physical activity initiatives.

Equity in Action: How leaders can champion inclusive policymaking in Northern BC communities (Northern Health & PlanH)

Date: Postponed until further notice

Are you a local government leader or elected official? Register for this free [webinar](#) to learn about the Equity Continuum, where you are at, and how you can apply it to your policies, programs, and planning processes. Discuss local initiatives and discover valuable tools and resources that you can use to advance equity in your communities.

Working together to build dementia-friendly communities

Date: June 19, 2024, at 1-2 pm PDT

Register for this free [webinar](#) to learn about the importance of dementia-friendly communities, its social and physical attributes, the role of community members in working together to build inclusive communities.

Funding opportunities

2024 PlanH Healthy Communities Grant

Deadline: July 4, 2024

The grants, administered by BC Healthy Communities, are offered across two funding streams. The Community Connectedness funding stream offers grants of up to \$5,000 each for projects that foster relationship-building among community members and create long-lasting social networks. The Healthy Public Policy stream provides grants of up to \$15,000 each for projects that seek to develop new or amend existing policies to improve the health and well-being of community members. Learn more and apply for the [2024 PlanH Healthy Communities Grants – BC Healthy Communities](#).

Falls Prevention and Healthy Aging Grant (Northern Health & Pacific Public Health Foundation)

Deadline: June 30, 2024

Learn more about the new [Northern Health Falls Prevention and Healthy Aging Grant](#) and [apply](#) for up to \$10,000 for projects that support falls prevention and healthy aging efforts in your community. Local governments, Indigenous community governments, and community organizations are encouraged to apply. This grant was made possible by support from the [Pacific Public Health Foundation](#).

Indigenous Food Security and Sovereignty Grants (New Relationship Trust)

Deadline: December 1, 2024

Get your application ready for the upcoming [Indigenous Food Security and Sovereignty Grant](#), which provides non-repayable funding contributions to First Nation communities, Indigenous organizations, businesses, and entrepreneurs in BC that want to develop, expand, or strengthen their Indigenous food systems.

#GreenMyCity Program (Green Cities Foundation)

Deadline: Ongoing

Apply for a [#GreenMyCity grant](#) to support the restoration and revitalization of any publicly owned land, including parks, community gardens, sports fields, playgrounds, and public open spaces. Garden clubs, associations, neighbourhood groups, service clubs, and school/youth groups are encouraged to apply.

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 adjust to the economic growth expected to occur as a result of major economic development projects.

Homelessness Community Action Grants Program (Social Planning and Research Council of BC)

Deadline: Ongoing

Learn more about the [Homelessness Community Action Grant Program](#) and apply for one-time funding for local planning and collaborative initiatives that better respond to the needs of those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

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](#) provides money to help homeowners develop a new secondary suite on their property to be rented out for below market value for at least five years. Homeowners who qualify will receive up to 50% of the cost of renovations, up to a maximum of \$40,000.

Seed Funding program (Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation)

Deadline: Ongoing

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) [Seed Funding Program](#) provides financial support for individuals or organizations involved in the initial phases of creating an affordable housing project. Apply for up to \$350,000 in interest-free loans.

Northern Health Stories

In May we celebrated National Nursing Week. Follow the [link](#) to read more about some of our Northern Health nurses like Veronica Largo, an internationally educated nurse working in Dawson Creek BC. Veronica is in the process of getting her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in BC. During a recent interview she was asked:

“How has nursing impacted your life?”

“Nursing has transformed me into a more accountable person. Dealing with people’s lives is both an honour and a challenge. Thus, nurses need to have a skill of empathy with responsibility. The caring trait goes beyond hospital premises; it becomes a part of your personality and automatically emerges whenever the situation demands it”....[continue reading](#).

See the latest stories at stories.northernhealth.ca.

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