



THE FIRST NATIONS HEALTH TRANSFORMATION AGENDA

Diabetes Care and Management in Indigenous Populations in Canada

M. Addie Pryce
Director of Health
Assembly of First Nations
November 1, 2017
Edmonton, Alberta
Treaty 6 Territory





THE COMMITMENT

FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL COMMON STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ON SHARED HEALTH PRIORITIES:

“Recognizing the significant disparities in Indigenous health outcomes compared to the Canadian population, the federal, provincial and territorial governments are committed to working with First Nations, Inuit and Métis to improve access to health services and health outcomes of Indigenous peoples and discuss progress. At the national level, the federal government is committed to working with national First Nations, Inuit and Métis leadership in response to their identified health priorities (developed through the First Nations Health Transformation Agenda, an Inuit -Specific Approach to the Canadian Health Accord and the Métis National Health Shared Agenda). *At the regional level, federal, provincial and territorial Health Ministers commit to meaningfully engage and to working together with regional Indigenous organizations and governments. FPT Health Ministers commit to approaching health decisions in their respective jurisdictions through a lens that promotes respect and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.*”





TRANSLATING WORDS INTO ACTIONS

1. GETTING THE RELATIONSHIPS RIGHT

- The AFN facilitates and amplifies First Nations voices. Relationships must be established with First Nations themselves.
- The federal government and Provinces/Territories hold a responsibility for advancing First Nations health and supporting First Nations self-determination on health systems in accordance with inherent, Treaty and international rights, and in keeping with F/P/T commitments towards reconciliation.
- Relationships must be based on **shared decision-making** and **reciprocal accountability**.





TRANSLATING WORDS INTO ACTIONS

2. MEANINGFUL AND SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS

- Improving First Nations health will cost money; but, the long-term return on investment is significant across all sectors (health, social services, justice, etc.).
- Priority areas must be determined in partnership with First Nations within each respective jurisdiction.
- Shared decision-making related to investments ensures reciprocal accountability in program development, delivery and health outcomes.





TRANSLATING WORDS INTO ACTIONS

2. MEANINGFUL AND SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS CONT'D

Potential areas of shared interest **may** include:

- Permanent bilateral/trilateral governance tables which reflect First Nations authority
- Clarifying jurisdictional ambiguity
- Cultural humility/safety within P/T systems
- First Nations specific programming across all areas
- Establishing a network of First Nations patient navigators
- Traditional healing within P/T systems
- Support for the development First Nations health human resource capacity
- Supporting First Nations data initiatives
- Ensuring seamless transitions in care within and between systems
- Ensuring a continuum of mental wellness services
- Supporting Indigenous midwifery programs via funding and enabling legislation

Etc...





TRANSLATING WORDS INTO ACTIONS

3. FIRST NATIONS CAPACITY FIRST

- Too often programs meant to serve First Nations are guided primarily by government budget cycles, political imperatives to demonstrate movement, and risk-averse institutional inertia.
- Sometimes this means giving the responsibility for programs to existing infrastructures.
- However, the reach, impact and sustainability of any programs and services for First Nations health and wellness will increase exponentially when grounded in the principle of supporting and expanding First Nations capacity as a first priority.





REVISING THE COMMITMENT

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THE OPPORTUNITY

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT

Getting the Relationships Right: Health Governance in the Era of Reconciliation

February 13-14, 2018

Fairmont Royal York, Toronto

SUMMIT OBJECTIVE:

The First Nations Health Transformation Summit is an opportunity for First Nations, the federal government, and provinces/territories to come together to develop shared priorities and determine next steps towards closing jurisdictional gaps in First Nations health. Come and share/hear about important innovations in First Nations health systems governance from across the country.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- Federal/Provincial/Territorial Health Officials
- First Nations Leadership
- Health Innovators
- Professional Health Associations
- Health Directors

