

# Healthier Northern Communities E-Brief

July 2021

## Feelings First: Provincial campaign to raise awareness of social emotional development in the early years

The BC Healthy Child Development Alliance launched [Feelings First](#), a 13-week social media campaign to spread awareness and spark conversation about Social and Emotional Development (SED) in the early years. It's for parents and caregivers, early years providers, and the public at large. Join the conversation!



This campaign is for:

- **Parents and caregivers** – to support British Columbians who care for children aged 0-5 years in learning about and implementing SED into their daily lives.
- **Early years providers** – to supply learning tools and a standardized framework for further education on the topic of SED in the early years to share among their families and colleagues.
- **Public at large** – to encourage everyone to consider the role of SED in the early years, in an effort to draw greater attention to this topic in our society

Want to get involved? Follow the campaign and share with your friends, family, and network:

- [Feelings First](#) website
- Instagram and Twitter [@feelingsfirst.ca](#)
- Facebook: [Feelings First](#)

Have questions? Email [info@feelingsfirst.ca](mailto:info@feelingsfirst.ca)

## For Your Information

### Call for ideas to improve health and well-being for people in British Columbia

The Innovation Project at the British Columbia Ministry of Health is looking for innovative ways to improve the health and wellness of people in BC and they want to hear from you! [Fill out the survey](#) today and share your ideas with the Ministry of Health on how the province can improve health and well-being for all.

### From NIMBY to neighbour – Rewriting the Narrative on Homelessness in Mid-Sized Cities

[This project](#) examines how different groups of people in mid-sized cities perceive homelessness, use of space, public safety, and community integration. Specifically,

insights and perspectives of people experiencing homelessness, community representatives, and law enforcement are highlighted.

## Resources (toolkits, reports, websites)

### **Northern Health COVID-19 Community Toolkit**

To empower local partners to share helpful information, Northern Health has created the [COVID-19 Community Toolkit](#). A digital resource for community partners, the toolkit contains: links to factual sources of information about COVID-19 and vaccination; digital images suitable for sharing on the web through social media and by email; and printable posters and infographics. Help spread the word about the benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine and support your audience to get vaccinated by downloading and sharing these resources through your internal communications channels. If you have any questions about the toolkit, or suggestions for other materials that would support your organization in spreading the word, please email [healthpromotions@northernhealth.ca](mailto:healthpromotions@northernhealth.ca).

### **Report: Traditional Foods and Indigenous Recipes in BC's Public Institutions**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries is working across government and industry partners to bring more British Columbian food to provincial government institutions and facilities through the Feed BC initiative. This [report](#) summarizes a qualitative study of the barriers and facilitators to serving traditional foods and Indigenous recipes in public institutions in BC, with a focus on health care and post-secondary institutions. The study and the development of considerations and a webinar format to share with.

### **Report: Local Government in BC: A Community Effort**

In British Columbia, local government is a community effort. No matter where you live in BC, you and your neighbours benefit from local government. This succinct guide offers clarity on how local governments operate and how community members can get involved. [Take a read through this resource](#) or find it and other local government resources on the Union of BC Municipalities [webpage](#).

### **Resource: Connected Communities – Solutions for Social Isolation**

Social isolation is not a personal choice nor an individual problem, but one that is rooted in community design, social norms, and systemic injustices. [Socially Connected Communities: Solutions for Social Isolation](#) is a new report from Healthy Places by Design (HPbD) that offers five recommendations for creating socially connected communities, starting with public spaces, transportation, and housing. View the report,

as well as an additional document providing guidance for local government and community leaders, at the [HPbD website](#).

### **Toolkit: Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures 2021 dental kit**

Colgate has created a dental program toolkit for educators and dental professionals, which is full of easy-to-use classroom materials, toothpaste, and toothbrush sample for students in grades 1-2. These materials will support kids to learn healthy oral care habits. [Apply here](#) to receive your program kit.

## **Events and Learning Opportunities**

### **Course: Indigenous Canada Online Course**

This course is intended to explore key issues facing Indigenous peoples today from a historical and critical perspective. From the fur trade and treaties to political activism and arts, this free, 12 week [online course](#) offered by the University of Alberta highlights national and local Indigenous-settler relations.

### **Webinar: Integrating Health into Scenario Planning for Transportation & Land Use Applications**

This [on-demand webinar](#) showcases two projects that integrate physical activity and chronic diseases health outcomes with scenario planning tools.

### **Webinar series: Greenway and Trail Symposium**

The Greenway and Trail Symposium took place April 15-17, 2021 with each day centred on different themes, including: [Day 1](#) – Decolonization, race, diversity and trails; Indigenous perspectives on trails; [Day 2](#) – Trail, active transportation, and the climate; trail developments and projects in B.C. (case studies); trail and active transportation policies; [Day 3](#) – Building relationships and partnerships; and advocacy. These recordings can be accessed for FREE and at your leisure.

### **Webinar Series: Building Knowledge**

**Date: June 1 – October 28, 2021**

A number of factors affect housing demand in non-metropolitan areas of BC. Join the Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Northern British Columbia for this webinar series to learn how housing demand will be impacted in the coming years. Each webinar will focus on a specific region of the province with detailed information about population trends, housing stock, the housing market, and discussions about the opportunities, challenges, and strategies related to the housing industry. This presentation provides data that can be used by developers, builders,

planners, architects, and government in developing business models and strategic plans. [Learn more and register on the CDI webpage.](#)

## Funding Opportunities

### **BC Infrastructure Planning Grant Program**

**Deadline: July 16, 2021**

The Government of BC is offering support for projects related to the development of sustainable community infrastructure through the [Infrastructure Planning Grant Program](#). This grant program is open to municipalities and regional districts and is available year-round with regular processing deadlines. Some examples of projects include asset management plans, integrated storm management plans, water master plans, and liquid waste management plans.

### **BC Active Transport Infrastructure Grant Program**

**Deadline: July 31 2021**

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has announced the opening of the [B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program](#). This program supports goals set out in [CleanBC](#) and [Move. Commute. Connect.](#) – B.C.'s strategy for cleaner, more active transportation. This cost sharing grant program provides up to \$50,000 for network planning and up to \$500,000 for infrastructure construction/implementation for communities, including Indigenous communities or their local government(s) partners and communities with a smaller population tax base. For program details and to apply please visit [B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program](#). If you have any questions or require assistance with your application please contact program staff at [BCATgrants@gov.bc.ca](mailto:BCATgrants@gov.bc.ca) or by telephone at 778 974-5469.

### **Indigenous Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative**

**Deadline: July 31 2021**

This initiative supports Indigenous communities and their entrepreneurs who are ready to launch agriculture and food systems projects and others who want to build their capacity to participate in the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector. Projects under the initiative must be for the benefit of Indigenous Peoples and communities in Canada, as well as the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector. Visit the Government of Canada [website](#) to learn more.

## Neighbourhood Small Grants

**Deadline: Varies – November 9 for many communities**

The [Neighbourhood Small Grant \(NSG\)](#) program helps residents in communities across BC of any age, experience, or background take part in building community. Projects should bring your community together, build community strength and resilience, or tackle social isolation. Awards of up to \$500 are available to offset project expenses including products, transportation, or services. Projects can take place either online or in-person. All in-person events should follow your local public health guidelines. For more information visit the [webpage](#).

## Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund

**Open for monthly intakes**

The [Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund \(IPRF\)](#) is an Indigenous-led effort to respond to urgent community needs while taking a long-term view on building community resilience. An [Indigenous Advisory Council](#) governs the funds and approves all governance, resilience fund projects, communications, and fund-raising strategies and recommendations related to the work of fulfilling the purpose of the IPRF. Any Indigenous-led organization working to foster resilience in Inuit, Metis, and First Nations communities anywhere in Canada can apply for resiliency support ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000. For examples of eligible projects, see the [Applicant Guide](#).

## First Nations Adapt Program

**No deadline at this time**

This [federal program](#) supports First Nations communities to assess and respond to climate change impacts on community infrastructure and emergency management. It prioritizes communities most impacted by sea level rise, flooding, forest fires, and winter road failures. Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

## Northern Health Stories

### Why I got the vaccine: Derek MacDonald, Tumbler Ridge

Derek MacDonald, a heavy duty mechanic at the mine in Tumbler Ridge, shares why he got the COVID-19 vaccine... [continue reading](#)

### Why I got the vaccine: Looking forward to seeing my grandmother

Side effect I'd been hoping to avoid: inability to keep myself from shouting from the rooftops that I'd been immunized. Side effects I hoped for (I know, I know – but a gal can hope): sudden reversal of grey hairs; uncontrollable urge to start training for 10K

runs. Side effects I actually got: well, the first was gratitude - for too many reasons to list ... [continue reading](#)

### **Fort St John first responder shares why he got his shot**

First responder, Alex Teichroeb shares why he got the COVID-19 vaccine... [continue reading](#)

### **Physician highlight: Dr. Remi Oyedeji, Dawson Creek**

When Dr. Remi Oyedeji arrived in Dawson Creek from Nigeria in 2016, winning a community award was not something he had ever expected to happen. Born and raised on Nigeria's coast, in the bustling, seaside capital of Lagos, Dr. Oyedeji moved inland to study medicine after high school in 1997... [continue reading](#)

See the latest stories at [stories.northernhealth.ca](http://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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**To share information, articles or resources of interest to northern BC communities**, send an email to [healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca](mailto:healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca).

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