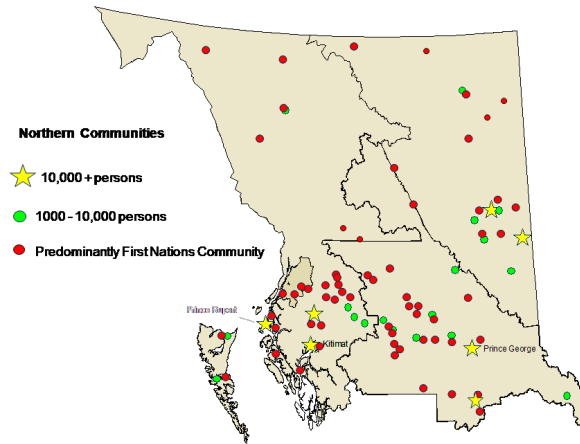


Aboriginal health is holistic and seeks balance. At the heart of this view is an understanding that all things are connected and in relationship to one another – land, water, air, animals, individuals, families, and communities. Holistic health is a process that demands a broad and inclusive perspective for addressing health issues.



Cover photo: "Totem raising near Terrace, BC" by Province of British Columbia licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0: [www.flickr.com/photos/bogovphotos/15985360975](http://www.flickr.com/photos/bogovphotos/15985360975)

Photo: Teepees near Fort St. John, BC (K. Mitchell-Foster)



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PM-GN-1003 (05/03/18)



# Aboriginal Patient Liaisons



Northern Health is committed to partnering with First Nations and Aboriginal peoples and to building a health system that honours diversity and provides services in a culturally relevant manner.

## Aboriginal Patient Liaisons (APL)

APLs are an important part of the health care team. They work to ensure First Nations and Aboriginal patients, clients, residents and their families have access to high quality, culturally appropriate care. They help to bridge the gaps between western and traditional medicine ensuring a holistic health approach.

The Northern Health APL program is implemented in partnership with community agencies, in Prince George, Carrier Sekani Family Services, and in Smithers, the Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society.

## Services Provided

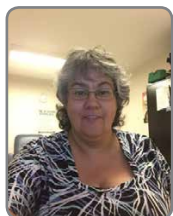
- Arrange for translation services
- Help patients understand health care processes, procedures and terminology
- Help to ensure admission and discharge planning goes according to patient needs
- Assist with Advanced Health Care Planning
- Facilitate communication and cultural understanding between patient and care providers
- Connect patient to end of life support
- Coordinate spiritual / cultural advisors
- Support and comfort family and friends
- Assist with referrals within NH and to community agencies
- Help link patients to non-insured health benefits
- Assist with transition to and within long-term care

## Referrals:

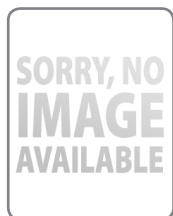
Speak with a health care provider for a referral or contact your local APL directly.



**Burns Lake**  
Lakes District Hospital  
**Lisa Puglas**  
250-692-2474  
lisa.puglas@northernhealth.ca



**Chetwynd**  
Chetwynd Primary Care Clinic  
**Iris Demontigny**  
250-874-7107  
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**Dawson Creek**  
Dawson Creek Health Clinic  
**Vacant**  
250-782-8501



**Fort St. John**  
Fort St. John Hospital  
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**Mary Wesley**  
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**Lyndsey Rhea**  
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**Smithers**  
Dze L'Kant Friendship Centre  
Bulkley Valley District Hospital  
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