



Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee Communique

On June 13, 2013 the Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee (formerly Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Planning Committee) met for the third time since the signing of the Northern Partnership Accord in May, 2012. The focus of this meeting was a joint review of the Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Plan Implementation Framework and associated Implementation Approaches.

At this session the committee agreed to change the name of their committee from the Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Planning Committee to the Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee. This new name better reflects how the work of the committee will be undertaken-that is to focus on a partnership that supports meaningful improvements in the health of First Nations people in the North. The Committee was also pleased to officially include Dr. Margo Greenwood as a member of the committee, in her new role as the Vice President of Aboriginal Health with Northern Health. With these changes included, the Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee Terms of Reference was formally approved.

Margo Greenwood reviewed the Northern First Nations Health and Wellness Plan Implementation Framework. The Framework provides a comprehensive overview of the work in the Northern Region including specific actions identified in the Northern Partnership Accord along with other activities related to implementation. The previously named Approaches for Actions were also reviewed starting with a renaming of them to Implementation Approaches. The original Approaches have been refined, streamlined and further developed. Each of the Implementation Approaches highlights a specific piece of work (as identified in the Implementation Framework) to be collaboratively undertaken. The Committee directed the technical team (comprised of FNHA and NH representatives) to further develop the Urban/Away from Home Implementation Approach and add a Mental Wellness and Substance Use Implementation Approach.

There are now 13 Implementation Approaches which will be further categorized, prioritized and developed. One of the most significant considerations in determining priority Approaches is to decide which ones will have the greatest impact given the current realities of the partners. Relationships amongst the Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee members continue to grow as partnerships and collaborations are realized in implementation. A clear dedication to the work and supportive communication from all parties lays a strong foundation upon which to proceed. The strength of these partnerships, including First Nations communities and NH employees and stakeholders, will become even more evident as we move towards implementation.



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness



First Nations
Health Council



northern health
the northern way of caring