



Health
Canada

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HEALTH SERVICES REFERENCE GUIDE

For First Nations and Inuit in Alberta



This guide was created as a reference for programs and services offered by Health Canada, First Nations & Inuit Health (FNIH) in the Alberta Region. It also includes descriptions of the programs and services provided by the Government of Alberta. This easy to follow guide provides regional information at your fingertips.

Health Services Reference Guide for First Nations and Inuit in Alberta

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Primary & Acute Care



Contact Information

- **First Nations & Inuit Health:**
780.495.2703
- **Dental Benefits:**
1.888.495.2516 or 780.495.2516
- **Medical Transportation:**
 - Calgary Referral: 1.800.292.5284
 - Edmonton Referral: 1.800.514.7106
or 780.495.2708
- **Non-Insured Health Benefits:**
1.800.232.7301 or 780.495.2694

Ambulance Services & Medical Transportation

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) provides transportation to access medically required health services at the nearest appropriate facility

- Land transportation, including ground ambulance and medical transportation, vans, is available in many First Nations communities
- Food, accommodations, flights and medically or legally required escort and interpreter services
- Transportation to treatments centres and traditional healers

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides transportation between approved facilities

Audiology

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) covers the cost of hearing assessments, fittings and follow-ups

Continuing Care

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's Assisted Living program provides support for home living and supportive living (levels 1 & 2)

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides aid for supportive living (levels 1 & 2), assisted living (levels 3 & 4) and for those living in long-term care facilities

Dental Health

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) covers dental services; some services require pre-approval
- NIHB pays some of the costs related to dental surgery for children, handicapped persons and medically compromised adults

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Seniors can access the Dental Assistance for Seniors Program
- Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan pays for medically required dental services

Dialysis Services

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- First Nations on-reserve can access transportation for dialysis treatment through NIHB

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides dialysis treatment



Hospital Services

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides hospital services, including medically required services, medication and accommodation



Optometry

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- NIHB covers the cost of eye exams for adults (19 – 64 years of age)
- NIHB provides coverage for eyeglasses every 24 months for adults or every 12 months for children

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan covers the cost of eye exams for children (under 19) and seniors (65+)



Pharmacy & Medical Supplies

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) pays for the lowest cost alternative prescription drugs and approved over-the-counter medication identified on the Drug Benefit List
- NIHB pays for some medical supplies and equipment, identified on the Medical Supplies & Equipment list

Podiatry

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Home and Community Care nurses can provide basic and advanced foot care

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan provides some coverage for individuals

Primary Care

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- A number of First Nations communities have physicians to provide services on-reserve
- Treatment services are provided at nursing stations in remote/isolated communities Nunee, John d'Or, Garden River, Fox Lake and Assumption (Dene Tha')
- First Nations communities can access some medical services through telehealth

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan pays physicians fees for medically required services



Health Promotion & Disease Prevention

Health Promotion &
Disease Prevention

Contact Information

- **First Nations & Inuit Health:**
780.495.2703

Birthing & Parenting

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program – First Nations and Inuit Component supports prenatal and post-natal care on-reserve
- Maternal Child Health & Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder programs provide parenting support in a number of First Nations communities
- First Nations and Inuit Health Branch – Nursing and Alberta Health Services have been establishing partnerships to support midwifery in pilot First Nations communities

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services offers prenatal programs targeting at-risk populations
- Alberta Health Services provides midwifery services in some areas

Oral Health

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Oral Health Care includes the Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI) and dental therapists who monitor children's dental health and provide fluoride application services in First Nations communities

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services promotes dental health and provides dental screenings in addition to other services to schools



Nutritional Health & Healthy Lifestyles

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program – First Nations and Inuit Component funds the provision of nutritional information and food supplementation to pregnant women and their infants
- Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative provides funding to support healthy living projects

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides a number of programs supporting healthy living for targeted population
- The Government of Alberta supports a number of healthy living initiatives for the overall population (i.e. Healthy U Campaign, Live Outside the Box, Community Choose Well Challenge, Healthy Weights Coordinators)

Sexual & Reproductive Health

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Communities can access funding for prevention activities from the Blood Borne Pathogens/Sexually Transmitted Infections program

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides services, including specialized clinics, at access points



Suicide Prevention

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Suicide prevention activities can be funded through the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy and Brighter Futures/Building Healthy Communities

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health & Wellness provides funding for suicide prevention activities in a number of First Nations communities
- Alberta Health Services provides some suicide prevention activities





Public Health

Public Health

Contact Information

- **First Nations & Inuit Health:**
780.495.2703

Environmental Public Health

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- First Nations and Inuit Health provides on-reserve environmental public health programs. A healthy environment includes safe water and food supplies, properly designed, constructed and maintained housing and community facilities, as well as suitable treatment and disposal of wastewater and solid waste
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada funds the First Nation Water Management Strategy, including funding for infrastructure development and upgrade as well as operations and maintenance

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides environmental health services

Communicable Disease Control

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- First Nations and Inuit Health has delegated authority for on-reserve follow-up on specific notifiable diseases including tuberculosis
- First Nations communities are expected to maintain communicable disease prevention activities, including monitoring the rate and spread of certain infectious diseases through screening, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of illness

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides communicable disease control activities off-reserve as well as tracing for sexually transmitted infections on reserve

Immunization

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- On-reserve, public health nurses provide immunization

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services public health nurses provide immunization off-reserve



A photograph of a man with a beard and glasses wearing a white cowboy hat, looking towards a young child. The child is holding a green plant. The man is wearing a blue jacket and yellow work gloves. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees.

Home & Community- Based Services

Home & Community-
Based Services

Contact Information

- **First Nations & Inuit Health:**
780.495.2703

Home Care

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Home and Community Care provides assessments and nursing services, as well as some personal care services, to eligible clients
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's Assisted Living program provides non-medical support to clients

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services offers assessment and nursing services, as well as some personal care services to eligible clients

Nursing

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- On-reserve, First Nations and Inuit Health provides public health nursing

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides public health nursing



Palliative Care

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- On-reserve, Home and Community Care may provide some level of palliative care

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides palliative care in a number of facilities
- Alberta Health Services provides support through programs such as Home Care

Rehabilitation Services

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services offers rehabilitation services

Respite Care

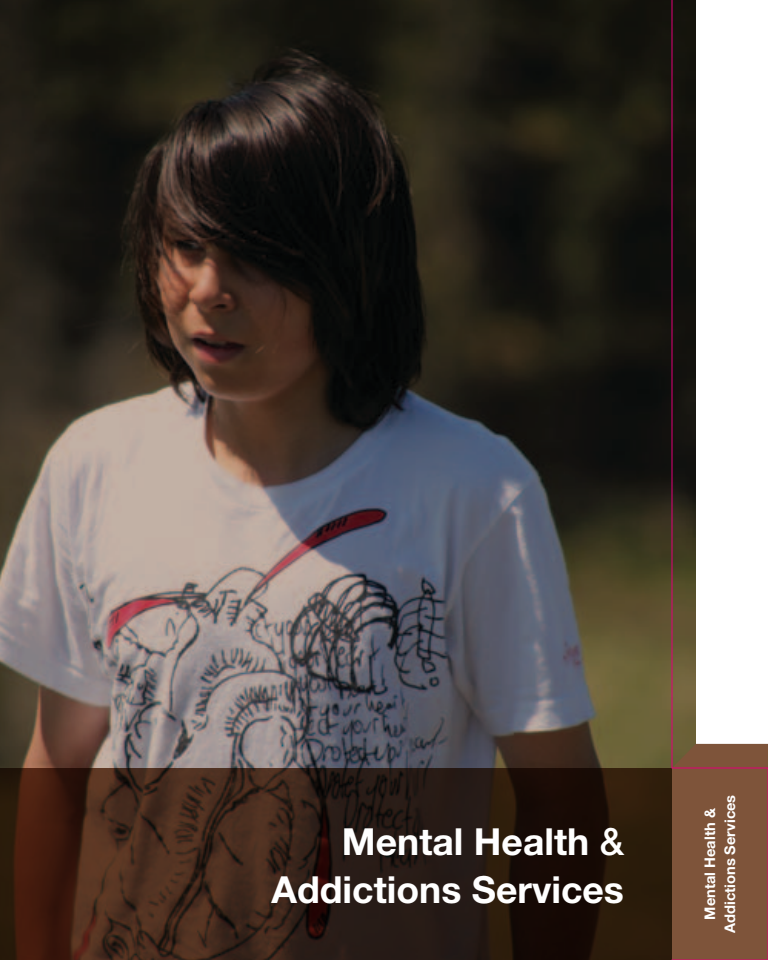
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- On-reserve, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada provides respite care by providing access to local daycare
- Home and Community Care provides in-home respite care

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services and the appropriate Child and Family Services Authority provide respite care





Mental Health & Addictions Services

**Mental Health &
Addictions Services**

Contact Information

- **First Nations & Inuit Health:**
780.495.2703
- **Indian Residential Schools
Resolution Health Support Program:**
1.888.495.6588
- **National Native Alcohol Drug Abuse
Program Referral Desk:**
780.495.2345 or 1.866.495.2345

Community-Based Mental Health

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Non-Insured Health Benefits pay for counselling sessions by pre-approved psychologists based on a treatment plan
- On-reserve, funding for the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy and Brighter Futures/Building Healthy Communities can be used to provide mental health services
- Both on- and off-reserve, the Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program provides professional and para-professional capacity

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides mental health services at a number of provision points

Addictions

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- On-reserve, all communities receive funding to operate the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and Youth Solvent Abuse Program for the delivery of community-based alcohol, drug and solvent abuse program
- Residential alcohol, drug and solvent abuse treatment programs are funded by the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and Youth Solvent Abuse Treatment Centre for adults and youth

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services provides counselling and residential treatment for alcohol, drug, gambling and solvent abuse addictions. The daily fee for residential treatment is waived for recipients on income assistance
- Residential youth treatment is provided free of charge by Alberta Health Services



Psychiatric Care

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- The Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan provides psychiatric care at government-funded mental health clinics, community agencies or hospitals
- Alberta Health Services provides institutional mental health services

Tobacco Cessation

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Health Services offers tobacco cessation programs

Contact Information

General Inquiries: 780.495.2703

Non-Insured Health Benefits: 1.800.232.7301

Website: www.hc-sc.gc.ca