

Hand in hand towards cultural safety

2025 Virtual Events Calendar

National Indigenous Peoples Month 2025



On June 21, Canada will celebrate **National Indigenous Peoples Day**. First celebrated in 1996, this is a day to recognize and celebrate the cultures and contributions of Indigenous Peoples from across Canada.

Join us for a month-long celebration of Indigenous peoples living in Alberta by taking part in daily virtual events that celebrate diversity among Indigenous peoples and communities. This year's theme is Hand in Hand Towards Cultural Safety and is being hosted in collaboration with [Primary Care Alberta](#), [Acute Care Alberta](#), [Recovery Alberta](#) and [Assisted Living Alberta](#). This month, we are creating space to listen, learn and reflect on how healthcare providers can support Indigenous patients and families feel safe, respected and heard.

Learn more and take part in the celebration by visiting our [Together4Health](#) page.

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**Please note that this document will be updated as events are confirmed.*

For the most up-to-date event information, visit:

<https://together4health.albertahealthservices.ca/2025-nipm>

Week 1 (June 2 to 6)

Tues June 3	12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies See the recorded presentation here. <p>This June, we will host online and in-person events to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Month as we work <i>Hand and hand towards cultural safety</i>. Join us online to watch the Opening Ceremonies, which will be taking place live at the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital.</p>
Wed June 4	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Cultural Safety in Healthcare: Indigenous Patient Experience Sondra Baker & Kendra Deveau See the recorded presentation here. Presentation Slides <p>This presentation explores the importance of cultural safety in healthcare, particularly for Indigenous patients. It emphasizes that cultural safety is defined by the patient, not the provider, and requires recognizing systemic racism, power imbalances, and the legacy of colonial harm. Learners will gain practical insights and actions they can take to build trust, dignity, and equity for Indigenous patients across healthcare settings.</p>
Thurs June 5	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Patient Access to Indigenous Spiritual Ceremony Policy Jeff Beddome See the recorded presentation here. <p>The Patient Access to Indigenous Spiritual Ceremony Policy was enacted by AHS to ensure that all sites provide consistent access to spiritual ceremonies, no matter where in the province a patient is receiving care. The Policy, which will be applicable to all of the healthcare agencies, provides direction on how to respectfully honour Indigenous Spiritual Ceremony in a timely manner at a patient's bedside or designated space.</p>
Fri June 6	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Treaties and our Communities: We are all Treaty People Teddy Manywounds See the recorded presentation here. Presentation Slides <p>Historical and modern treaties are foundational documents that determine the rights of First Nations Peoples and historically established the partnership/understanding of our First Nations citizens and those new to the Lands we now call Canada (Turtle Island to some communities). The presentation will provide an understanding of Treaty as delivered by Teddy Manywounds, Director of Justice and Public Safety. This presentation will focus on understanding Treaty rights and utilizing human rights as a catalyst to effect positive change in our communities. We will focus on Public Safety in First</p>



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		Nations, Treaty rights, and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls crisis, MMEIP.
	1:30 p.m.	Weekly Closing Prayer We will close our week with a closing prayer, a summary of the week, and announce the weekly prize winners.

Week 2 (June 9 to 13)

Mon June 9	9:00 a.m.	Elder Teachings & Weekly Opening Prayer Start the week in a good way by joining us for traditional teachings and prayers from our Elders.
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Otipemisiwak Métis Government Carol Carifelle-Brzezicki & Emily Taylor See the recorded presentation here Learn more about Métis history, culture, programs, and services
Tues June 10	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Heritage, Culture & Cultural Safety in Emergency Medical Services Amy Barton See the recorded presentation here The presentation will be a panel interview with 1 interviewer and 3 panel members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1: Personal History & Experience (Listen) • Section 2: Indigenous Heritage and the EMS Workplace (Understand) • Section 3: Cultural Safety in Emergency Medical Services (Act) • Section 4: Reflection and Forward Thinking (Be)
Wed June 11	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Indigenous Directed Simulation Training for Anti-Racism in Emergency Departments Dr. Patrick McLane See the recorded presentation here This session will provide an overview of the Anti-Racism Simulation in Emergency Departments project developed with Indigenous partners, and recently tested with emergency care clinicians in one rural, and one urban site in Alberta. Panelists will describe the project background and preliminary findings, and discuss their experience developing and delivering the simulation sessions.
Thurs June 12	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Meet the Indigenous Education Team Click here to register and join We will start this presentation by meeting the Indigenous education team: a diverse group united by their collective knowledge, lived experiences, and commitment to cultural safety. The team supports initiatives to combat racism against Indigenous peoples and promote



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		cultural understanding. We're excited to share our perspectives and educational work to foster respect for Indigenous cultures and teachings. To end, the team will share knowledge on cultural safety, allyship, and introduce examples of great initiatives that use these principles in practice.
Fri June 13	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	ReconciliACTION – Indigenous Talent Acquisition Chantel Caza & Carmen Belanger Click here to register Discover how the Indigenous Talent Acquisition team at Alberta Health Services fosters reconciliation with a focus on increasing Indigenous representation in the healthcare workforce. Guided by a commitment to cultural safety, we work to build respectful relationships and integrate Indigenous perspectives in all aspects of our work. We will explore our key focus areas, including culturally safe candidate support, building trust through partnerships and collaboration, implementing inclusive recruitment strategies, and promoting equitable hiring practices.
	1:30 p.m.	Weekly Closing Prayer Click here to register We will close our week with a closing prayer, a summary of the week, and announce the weekly prize winners.

Week 3 (June 16 to 20)

Mon June 16	9:00 a.m.	Elder Teachings & Weekly Opening Prayer Click here to register Start the week in a good way by joining us for traditional teachings and prayers from our Elders.
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Indigenous Support Line – Caring for people across Alberta Billie-Jo Onespot Click here to register This home grown Indigenous based toll-free phone service is a nationally recognized support that connects Indigenous callers with Indigenous listeners. The Indigenous listeners will answer callers' questions and help them get culturally appropriate care. They also help guide callers on each step of your healthcare journey, Callers (including health professionals) can call the support line about any health concern. Callers never have to take their healthcare journey alone as help is available to find the right service, including translation for 23 different Indigenous languages.



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Tues June 17	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Forward Together: The Path of Partnership, Reconciliation and Action to Improve Cancer Care Deb Allatt Click here to register Please join members of Cancer Care Alberta's Walking Together Team to learn about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The commitment made by Cancer Care Alberta to strengthen Indigenous cancer care through partnership and collaboration • See a quick overview of actions taken to strengthen care in the last 18 months • Learn about our micro-learning strategy for staff education and • Important next steps!
Wed June 18	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>An Indigenous Olympian's Journey Justina Di Stasio Click here to register Justina will be sharing her story as a Métis woman completing in the Olympics and highlighting how cultural safety is applicable to the space.</p>
Thurs, June 19	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	<p>Inuunivut (Our way of Life) Atsinak Bishop Click here to register Join Atsinak Bishop and learn as she talks about the Inuk way of life. Atsinak will be talking about how she grew up, the traditional way of living and culture of Inuit.</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>A Conversation about the Virtual Opioid Dependency Program (VODP) Salma Maggs, Vanessa Braat and Jessie Heidt Click here to register Opioid addiction is a complex health problem in Alberta and many other provinces. Indigenous people have been hit hard by opioid poisoning mortality and many Indigenous communities still do not have access to life-saving opioid medication and addiction treatment.</p> <p>This session will be an opportunity to learn more about the Virtual Opioid Dependency Program and how it is trying to partner with Indigenous communities to get them the services they need to flatten the curve of opioid poisoning mortality.</p>
Fri June 20	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Cultural Safety from a Cree perspective Colleen Jobin Click here to register Colleen's presentation is about cultural safety in the healthcare system from her perspective and how we can make a difference by following</p>



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		some recommendations that she will be sharing. This includes stories and how Indigenous Health can help you at different sites in Calgary, Edmonton and the North.
	1:30 p.m.	Weekly Closing Prayer Click here to register We will close our week with a closing prayer, a summary of the week, and announce the weekly prize winners.

Week 4 (June 23 to 27)

Mon June 23	9:00 a.m.	Elder Teachings & Weekly Opening Prayer Click here to register Start the week in a good way by joining us for traditional teachings and prayers from our Elders.
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	An introduction to Indigenous Sports & Games Click here to register
Tues June 24	12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Closing Ceremonies Click here to register As we conclude National Indigenous Peoples Month 2025, join us online to watch the Closing Ceremonies which will be taking place live at the Alberta Hospital in Edmonton.



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