

2017 - 2018



**ATLANTIC POLICY CONGRESS
OF FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS SECRETARIAT**

**HEALTH RESEARCH AND COORDINATION
2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

Completed By:

Jarvis Googoo, Director of Health

Atlantic Policy Congress (APC) of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat

153 Willowdale Drive

Dartmouth, NS

B3V 0A5

Executive Summary

Atlantic Policy Congress (APC) of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat is a policy research organization that analyzes and develops culturally relevant alternatives to federal policies that impact on the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Innu and Passamaquoddy communities and people.

The work of APC continues to focus on the important needs of the communities for funding and basic services to meet the growing health needs in every community.

This report will outline the following work completed under health research and coordination services:

- Health Partnership Meeting Cycle;
- Health Directors' Meetings;
- Health Conference;
- MMAYC activities;
- Nursing Policies;
- Other Health Policy Activities; and
- Overall management of the APC Health Staff.

This annual report will demonstrate the progress completed from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018.

Work Plan Activities

Objective #1: Administer the Atlantic First Nations Health Partnership (Health Partnership)			
Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe
<p>1. Coordinate the logistics for all Health Partnership Meetings, its committees, and other working groups.</p>	<p>PUBLIC HEALTH AND PRIMARY CARE COMMITTEE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three regularly scheduled PHPC Committee meetings, one extra meeting to discuss budget 2017 funding, and an e-vote to accept funding recommendations; • Seven PHPC Sub-committees (Healthy Child Development, Healthy Living, Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Strategic Action Plan, Communicable Disease Control, Home Care, Jordan’s Principle, Health Assessment and Surveillance) solicited ideas from Health Directors and proposed funding initiatives to the Committee; • Received direction on work priorities from the Health Directors and Health Partnership meetings • Tracked the progress of expanding First Nations representation on Provincial/federal bilateral committees; • Updated the committee work plan for the year; • Provided guidance and oversight around FNIHB program planning; • Lead committee on the development of the new Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Strategic Action Plan; 	<p>Director of Health, Health Policy Analyst, Mental Wellness Project Manager, NIHB Navigator and Health Partnership Coordinator</p>	<p>April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued oversight regarding Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care funding;• Continued oversight regarding Jordan's Principle funding including the approval of the regional advisory committee terms of reference;• Continued tracking PHPC work as it pertains to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action;• The seventh First Nations and Inuit Health status report was published with help and engagement of the PHPC committee and the region's Health Directors on the collection of Data and development of indicators for the FNIHB Atlantic Health Status report;• Drafted and proposed to the Health Partnership the final report for the Child and Youth Strategic Action Plan.• Received updates on the Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program for Southern First Nations, FASD Indicator Data, Canada's updated Food Guide for First Nations, and the Olamoltinetj Wollatomuhtine tobacco control project;• Continued to maintain an inventory of healthy child development training programs that may be culturally safe for potential implementation in the region;• Provided oversight and engagement on regular project funding for the coming fiscal year.		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaged on future new Budget 2017 investment funding, new midwifery funding, and future Tobacco Control funding in the Atlantic Region; • Finalized and completed the annual Committee Self Assessment. <p>MENTAL WELLNESS COMMITTEE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three regularly scheduled Mental Wellness Committee meetings, one extra meeting to discuss budget 2017 funding, and an teleconference to discuss/accept suboxone wrap-around treatment funding recommendations; • Received direction on work priorities from the Health Directors and Health Partnership meetings • Four working groups (Capacity and Training, Treatment Accountability and Governance, Treatment Services Diversification and Enhancement, and Mental Health and Addictions Medical Transportation) met several times; • Updated the Committee Work Plan • Provided guidance and oversight in regard to the Treatment Centre Infrastructure Assessment; • Received updates and presentations on alternative pain management tools/ medical cannabis, Mental Wellness Teams that received developmental funding, the new Chronic Disease Prevention and Management 		
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	<p>Strategic Action Plan, First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework Community Crisis Planning, Prevention, Response, and Recovery, Land Based Service delivery model, and Computer Based Training for Cognitive Behavioural Therapy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received updates on the projects to support victims of family violence and provided advice on future funding; • Continued to provide guidance and direction to the joint AFN-NIHB National Review; • Continued to work towards implementation of the Mental Health and Addictions Strategic Action Plan by further developing progress measures; • Administered Capacity and Training funds (Recommended FNIHB contract directly with the Thunderbird Partnership); • Received presentations on FNIHB Atlantic progress and preliminary plans regarding the TRC Calls to Action; • Completed the Committee Self Assessment • Assisted in the development of the 2018-19 FNIHB MOP by identifying priority areas for future funding opportunities. • Developed a 5-year plan to utilize the new “Budget 2017” funding opportunities. <p>NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three regularly scheduled Non-Insured Health Benefits Committee meetings; 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated the Committee Work Plan and Multi Year Business Plan. • Received direction on work priorities from the Health Directors and Health Partnership meetings • Continued to coordinate Atlantic-Region feedback for the Joint AFN-NIHB National Review; • Continued to provide guidance and direction on the projects to support victims of family violence; • Provided guidance on the collection of Data and development of indicators for the FNIHB Atlantic Health Status report; • Received presentations on the NIHB Appeals Process, NIHB Navigator work, The Elder Care Working Group, NIHB Dental department and scope of practice, Medical Cannabis, • Provided guidance for the development of a new Elder Care Working Group Terms of Reference Document; • Continued to advance/Implement the Elder Care Strategic Action Plan; • Provided guidance and oversight in the development of funding to provide traditional healer services to First Nations Clients. • Advised on issues related to the use of dental therapists in communities; • Continued investigation into the available resources for First Nations interpreters/liaisons in provincial hospitals; 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received presentations and provided feedback/guidance on new Jordan’s Principle funding; <p>HEALTH PARTNERSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three regularly scheduled Health Partnership meetings; • One Special meeting in June, 2017 to discuss a possible topic of investigation (CBT4CBT) • Received regular reports on the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative (AHHRI), Bilateral Committees, and the Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF); • Received regular reports from the Health Directors Co-Chairs; • Received regular reports from the 3 Committees Co-Chairs; • Received regular updates on the Mi’Kmaq Maliseet Atlantic Youth Council (MMAYC); • Received regular financial updates on project funding from FNIHB; • The Health Partnership recommended for National approval for \$1,225,227 in Mental Wellness discretionary funding for FY 2018-19 based on the 2018-19 FNIHB Operational Plan; • The Health Partnership recommended for National approval for \$2,982,460 in PHPC projects based on the 2018-19 FNIHB Operational Plan; • Developed a new Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Strategic Action Plan; 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafted the final report for the Child and Youth Strategic Action Plan; • Maintained guidance and oversight for the First Nations Control Models Working Group; • Maintained guidance and oversight for the four approved projects to support victims of family violence; • Maintained guidance and oversight over Jordan’s Principle funding in the Atlantic region; • Received presentations from the AFN, the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and PEI departments of Health as well as the Vitalité, Horizon and Health PEI Health Authorities; Integrated Service Delivery project through the Government of New Brunswick, Service Canada, Canada Mortgage housing Corporation; FNIHB/INAC (ISC) Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Medical Cannabis. • Provided guidance and engagement to the Federal Government on the transformation from two separate departments to the new single department of Indigenous Services Canada. <p>SUPPORT MEETINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized three Health Partnership Co-Chairs agenda planning sessions (one meeting in advance of each Health Partnership meeting); • Organized three First Nations Caucus agenda planning sessions (one meeting in 		
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	<p>advance of each Health Partnership meeting);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized three Committee Coordination Group meetings to delegate tasks that cross the boundaries of one particular committee into another (one meeting after each cycle); Organized three Health Partnership Policy Group meetings to address policy concerns in Health Partnership operation (1 meeting after each cycle). <p>First Nations Control Models</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six regularly scheduled FNCM Working Group meetings Planned and facilitated seven regional pre-engagement sessions Planned and facilitated a regional Forum in March 2018. 		
2. Complete Health Partnership Policy Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided policy support for the Health Partnership and its committees and working groups; Treatment Service Diversification and Treatment Centre Governance Working Groups joint meeting held; Two-day training session for mental health and addiction work force focusing on self-care and professional practice identified as a priority; and Training took place in January/February 2018. 	Director of Health and Mental Wellness Project Manager	April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018
Objective 2: Conduct three Atlantic Health Director meetings			
Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe
1. Complete three Atlantic Health Director meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three meetings were held in Moncton, NB; 	Director of Health, Health Policy Analyst,	April 1, 2017 –

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APC organized all the logistical arrangements including venue rental, catering, development of the agendas, meeting packages, and completed minutes (June 14 and 15, 2017; October 18 and 19, 2017; and February 21 and 22, 2018); • The Health Directors received regular updates on the Health Partnership and its committees and provided feedback for the Health Partnership Committees; • The Health Directors received regular updates on the Mental Health and Addictions Strategic Action Plan and the development of its implementation phase; • The Health Directors received regular updates on the APC Health Department, including all ongoing projects housed at APC and APC staffing; • The Health Directors were engaged to assist with the development of a new Chronic Disease Strategic Action Plan; • The Health Directors were engaged on how best to distribute new “Budget 2017” funding; • The Health Directors were engaged on how best to allocate training funds for this fiscal year; • The Health Directors have continued to develop a new TOR; • The Health Directors retain two co-chairs to chair the Health Directors meetings and observe Health Partnership meetings. 	NIHB Navigator, Health Partnership Coordinator and Health Admin Assistant	March 31, 2018
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 attendees participated in the Health Directors meeting on June 14 and 15, 2017. • 38 attendees were at the October 18 and 19, 2017 meeting. • 48 attendees were at the February 21 and 22, 2018 meeting. • The Health Directors received special presentations on Medical Cannabis, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Drug Plan information sheets, Climate Change and Health Adaptation, Opioid Challenges, Compassion Fatigue and Self Care, The Community Based Reporting Template, e-health strategies and the development of a new regional e-health framework, continued engagement on Jordan’s Principle, Correction Services Canada, Direction 180, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. • The Health Director meetings result in greater participation of the Health Directors in the Health Partnership structure; greater input into the project-development and planning process, greater awareness of FNIHB policy and planning decisions; increased feedback on upcoming decisions by FNIHB; and, increased understanding of the role of the APC Health Directors. • All meeting agendas, minutes, and other meeting materials are available upon request. 		
Objective 3: Organize and host an annual regional health conference			
Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe

<p>1. Organize and host an annual regional health conference.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APC hosted its annual health conference from November 7 to 9, 2017 at Crowne Plaza Moncton, located in Moncton, NB; • The theme of this year's conference is "Building Wellness through Reconciliation: Moving Forward on the Calls to Action." • MC was Allan Polchies Jr. • Plenary left y Carol Hopkins and then Todd Leader. • Lifetime service awards and recognition were given at the conference during an evening banquet; • There was a trade show at the event and many other workshop presentations at the Health Conference; and • A complete copy of the coordinators' report which includes all the presentation. 	<p>Director of Health and Health Partnership Coordinator</p>	<p>April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018</p>
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Objective 4: Support the activities of the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Atlantic Youth Council (MMAYC)

Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe
<p>1. Host regular MMAYC meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new MMAYC council was elected; • The new council met in-person and via teleconference. Meeting materials are available upon request. 	<p>Health Policy Analyst</p>	<p>April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018</p>
<p>2. Assist MMAYC in carrying out the activities of MMAYC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Health Policy Analyst provided logistical support to facilitate the activities of MMAYC. • A revision to the Terms of Reference was initiated. 	<p>Health Policy Analyst</p>	<p>April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018</p>
<p>3. Network with local First Nations youth councils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When possible, MMAYC extends invitations to local youth to observe MMAYC meetings. 	<p>Health Policy Analyst</p>	<p>April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018</p>

Objective 5: Support the further development of Provincial First Nations Nurses Policies

Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe
1. Update First Nations Nurses Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None undertaken in 2017-2018. Nursing policies available upon request. 	Health Policy Analyst	April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018
Objective 6: Conduct other health policy activities in conjunction with First Nations and/or FNIHB			
Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe
1. Update Atlantic Chiefs, Health Directors/Technicians and other relevant stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight monthly newsletters completed. Health excerpts available upon request. Presentations to APC All Chiefs. Briefing notes for APC Chiefs and senior management. <u>Mi'kmaq Maliseet Nations News</u> articles: introducing new staff, Health Conference. These articles resulted in greater awareness of the work of the APC Health Staff. Distributed health policy documents via email to increase understanding and awareness of emerging and existing health issues. Liaised with Atlantic Chiefs, Health Directors/Technicians, and other relevant stakeholders to update them on emerging and existing issues as well gather feedback for Health Partnership and other coordinated health approaches for addressing Atlantic health policy issues. <i>Outcome: Increased understanding of Atlantic health policy issues; increased awareness of potential solutions; and greater knowledge of health decisions made by Health Partnership.</i> 	Director of Health, Health Policy Analyst, NIHB Navigator and Health Administrative Assistant	April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018
2. Other policy support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in health policy tables such as NS Tripartite Health Committee, Dalhousie University, and Heart and Stroke. 	Director of Health, Health Policy Analyst, and Mental	April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018

		Health Project Manager.	
Objective 7: Overall management of the APC Health Staff			
Activities	Results Achieved	Staff Responsible	Timeframe
1. Management of staff activities and evaluation of performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of day to day activities of the health department were completed by Director of Health. Overall management of APC was completed by the Executive Director. • Annual performance evaluations were completed for all applicable staff. 	Director of Health	April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018

For additional information or to request full meeting packages of meetings, please contact Jarvis Googoo via email at jarvis.googoo@apcfn.ca