

Celebrating Resilience through Reconciliation

2021 Events Calendar

2021 AHS National Indigenous Peoples Celebrations Events Calendar

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

This year, AHS is ***Celebrating Resilience through Reconciliation*** throughout the month of June.

As we continue to journey through the COVID-19 pandemic, all events will be online. Learn more and take part in the celebration by visiting our [celebration page](#).



Jump to see what's happening when by clicking the hyperlinks below:

[May 31 to June 4](#)

[June 7 to June 11](#)

[June 14 to June 18](#)

[June 21 to June 25](#)

[June 28 to June 30](#)

If you need any assistance registering for the events or would like more information, please contact us:

Indigenous Wellness Core
IndigenousWellnessCore@ahs.ca

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May 31 to June 4

Mon, May 31	9:00 a.m.	Opening Prayer Circle, Teachings and Song Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Start the week in a good way by joining us for a prayer led by Elder Dale Awasis.
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies MC Dr Esther Tailfeathers, Senior Medical Director, Indigenous Wellness Core, AHS
Tues, June 1	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Bridging the Gap for Indigenous Children’s Services Sherri Di Lallo, Manager, Awasisak Indigenous Health, AHS
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Maskekosak Inikey Tamasowin – Land of Medicines, Walking Together Enoch Cree Nation Lynette Avery - Executive Director, Mamowicitowin Amanda Morin - Councillor & Divisional Lead, Mamowicitowin <i>“Reconciliation starts with us as individuals.”</i> Enoch Cree Nation will highlight the courage of their community members very personal, powerful healing journeys and how these raw and real stories can/are helping others to begin their healing process.
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	G4 Health – Our Nation’s First Margo Dodginghorse, Health Director Stoney Nakota Tsuut’ina Tribal Council / G4 G4 Health Supports the Stoney Nakoda and Tsuut’ina First Nations in providing advocacy and capacity building efforts. We focus on the nations needs first and then work with stakeholders to find connections and solutions in advancing the health and wellbeing of our members. The G4 Health Team will share their journey to date and key highlights and visuals.
Wed, June 2	12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Métis Settlements General Council 101 Blake Desjarlais, Director of Public & National Affairs, Métis Settlements General Council
Thurs, June 3	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) 101 Indigenous Services Canada

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May 31 to June 4 (continued)

Fri, June 4	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Inuit culture and light of quliiq (oil lamp) Goota Desmarais, President, Inuit Community Development & Education Foundation</p> <p>Goota will provide a traditional education session on Inuit culture through prayer, interactive discussion and singing of our national anthem in Inuktitut.</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Highlights & Closing Prayer Elder Emil Durocher</p>

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June 7 to June 11

Mon, June 7	9:00 a.m.	<p>Opening Prayer Circle, Teachings and Song Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Start the week in a good way by joining us for a prayer led by Elder Dale Awasis.</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Quality of Care for First Nations Members in the Emergency Department Lea Bill, Executive Director, Alberta First Nations Information Governance Centre Patrick McLane, Senior Researcher, Emergency SCN, AHS</p> <p>Emergency care services are an important health resource for First Nations persons. Working collaboratively with First Nations partners, academic researchers and health authority staff, this mixed-method study investigates First Nations emergency care in Alberta. In this presentation, we share qualitative results of interviews with physicians and nurses who work in emergency care, as well as results of ongoing analysis of health systems data. We provide recommendations for improving emergency care of First Nations members for individual healthcare providers, emergency departments and health systems.</p>
Tues, June 8	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Unconscious Bias & its impact on Cultural Safety Karen Brooks, Senior Patient Engagement Consultant, AHS Randall Bell, Senior Advisor – Indigenous Populations, AHS</p> <p>The objectives of this session are to become aware of our own world views and biases. In this session, we learn about the relationship between bias and systemic forms of oppression (e.g. racism), and the importance of cultural safety for people who are different to you.</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Four Winds: Indigenous Patient Navigation Model (Methodology) Kienan Williams, Assistant Scientific Director, Indigenous Health, AHS</p> <p>This presentation will focus on the co-design methodology with Indigenous communities in the South Zone and the impact on the overall project implementation.</p>
	2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<p>Little Wonders Presenter: Natalie Winn-Dempsey, Miskanwah Moderator: Lisa L'Hirondelle, Indigenous Hospital Liaison, AHS</p> <p>Little Wonders is a parented, early literacy, music and play program offering designed for families and their children from birth up to age 6 years old. This program has a distinctive rhythm and energy that perfectly captures the attention of young children and reflects traditional ways of connecting spiritually, socially and emotionally. Little Wonders is a program offering where parents & caregivers can delight in watching and interacting with their children in culturally rich environment. This program is offered throughout the year by the Tawaw Family Resource Network at Miskanawah.</p>

June 7 to June 11 (continued)

Wed, June 9	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Four Winds: Indigenous Patient Navigation Model (Nurse Perspective) Chloe Crosschild, Indigenous Patient Navigator, AHS This presentation will focus on implementing an Indigenous Patient Navigation service in the South Zone and be presented from the Indigenous nurse in the role.
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	ESim Indigenous Health Project Simon Ross, Senior Advisor, Cultural Competency, AHS
Thurs, June 10	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Honouring Life Updates: Enoch Cree Nation
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Stories from South Zone: AHS Staff Highlights
Fri, June 11	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Supporting Indigenous Peoples in Continuing Care Orezy Imomoh, Lead, Provincial Seniors Health and Continuing Care, AHS Join us in learning how Alberta Health Services is working to improve the quality of care that Indigenous seniors receive from home care, in Designated Supportive Living and Long Term Care sites across the province. Providing quality care to Indigenous peoples involves supporting their individual physical, psychological, spiritual and emotional needs by working to provide culturally appropriate care that acknowledges their belief systems, background, history, community and experiences.
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Inuit Culture Atsinak Bishop, Indigenous Cultural Helper, AHS
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Highlights & Closing Prayer Elder Emil Durocher

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June 14 to June 18

Mon, June 14	9:00 a.m.	<p>Opening Prayer Circle, Teachings and Song Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Start the week in a good way by joining us for a prayer led by Elder Dale Awasis.</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Indigenous Talent Acquisition Christine Traeger, Manager, Talent Acquisition, Students, Diversity & Inclusion, AHS</p>
Tues, June 15	11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Health Co-Management 101 Indigenous Services Canada</p> <p>What is Health Co-Management between First Nations and the First Nation Inuit Health Branch? Learn more about this unique structure, how it operates, the partnership process between these groups that focus on improving the health of First Nations in Alberta. Learn how AHS departments could strengthen their connections with children and youth, health promotion, health protections, mental health and non-insured health benefits.</p> <p>Session will be followed by retirement presentation to Dr Wadea Yacoub</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	<p>Retirement presentation to Judith Hockney Click here to join</p>
	2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<p>Little Wonders – children’s playtime Presenter: Natalie Winn-Dempsey, Miskanwah Moderator: Lisa L’Hirondelle, Indigenous Hospital Liaison, AHS</p> <p>Little Wonders is a parented, early literacy, music and play program offering designed for families and their children from birth up to age 6 years old. This program has a distinctive rhythm and energy that perfectly captures the attention of young children and reflects traditional ways of connecting spiritually, socially and emotionally. Little Wonders is a program offering where parents & caregivers can delight in watching and interacting with their children in culturally rich environment. This program is offered throughout the year by the Tawaw Family Resource Network at Miskanawah.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
Wed, June 16	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p><i>Misi Yehewin (Big Breath): Understanding Covid-19 Experiences and Perceptions among Metis Albertans.</i> Reaghan Bartel, Director of Health, Métis Nation of Alberta Health</p> <p>This presentation is a look at how MNA folks have fared during the initial restrictions. Beyond the technical data, this presentation has overarching themes that are great for AHS to hear in terms of cultural safety and communication.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>

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June 14 to June 18 (continued)

Thurs, June 17	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Indigenous Trauma & Reconciliation Randal Bell, Senior Advisor – Indigenous Populations, AHS</p> <p>Join us for a talk that examines how Indigenous Trauma continues to be perpetuated through generations of young Indigenous people. Randal will explore how this trauma has affected his own family and how it continues to affect many more like his. Randal will explore how trauma has contributed to poor health outcomes of Indigenous people for generations, culminating in what some consider a national health crisis. Drawing on career research and experience, Randal proposes preparations for the journey to Indigenous reconciliation in healthcare and confirms that AHS has already begun planning for this long and difficult journey.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Calgary Zone Indigenous Health Action Plan Nick Thain, Senior Operating Officer, Community Rural & Continuing Care, AHS Chelsea Crowshoe, Director, Provincial Indigenous Wellness Core, AHS Simon Ross, Senior Advisor, Cultural Competency, AHS</p> <p>This is a story of health planning and co-design in action with Calgary Zone Indigenous communities. This is a journey that has centered on trust, relationship building, shared vision and collaboration. Grounded in ceremony, sacred stories, and a commitment to co-design, the stories connect with the diversity of urban and rural Indigenous communities to build the Calgary Zone Indigenous Health Action Plan.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
Fri, June 18	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>The Northern Health Services Network Liz Kingan, Senior Advisor, Northern Health Services Network</p> <p>This is an AHS program that works with people from the three Territories to get them home safely, with the correct equipment and supplies, following their stay in one of the Edmonton area hospitals, or longer term outpatient treatment.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Highlights & Closing Prayer Join us on Fridays as Elder Emil Durocher to share traditional teachings and ground us for the week along with and the Indigenous Wellness Core planning team to share highlights of the week, overview of what's to come next week and announcement of the weekly winners of beautiful prizes donated by the Indigenous Wellness Core.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>

June 21 to June 25

Mon, June 21 NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY	9:00 a.m.	Opening Prayer Circle, Teachings and Song Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Start the week in a good way by joining us for a prayer led by Elder Dale Awasis. Click here to join
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Introduction to the Indigenous Wellness Core Val Austen Wiebe, Senior Provincial Director, Indigenous Wellness Core, AHS Marty Landrie, Executive Director, Indigenous Wellness Core, AHS Join us for an overview of the AHS Indigenous Wellness Core (IWC). The IWC leadership will provide some background on the evolution of Indigenous Health at AHS, an overview of the IWC strategy, and the vision for the future. Click here to join
Tues, June 22	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Generational Impacts on Indigenous Health due to government Indian policy Dale Awasis, Awasisak Advisor, AHS Click here to join
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Honouring Life Updates: Stardale Women’s Group presentation Throughout National Indigenous Peoples Celebration Month at Alberta Health Services a number of communities/organizations are presenting their innovative and inspiring work undertaken through the Honouring Life grant. We encourage you to attend these sessions to learn about the challenges and successes of these projects, the strength and wisdom of Indigenous ways of being in building resilient and strong youth, and how AHS can work with Indigenous communities through humility and commitment. Click here to join
Wed, June 23	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	What is family? Looking through an Indigenous lens Dale Awasis, Awasisak Advisor, AHS Click here to join
	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Honouring Life Updates: Bonnyville Friendship Centre & Urban Society of Aboriginal Youth (USAY) Throughout National Indigenous Peoples Celebration Month at Alberta Health Services a number of communities/organizations are presenting their innovative and inspiring work undertaken through the Honouring Life grant. We encourage you to attend these sessions to learn about the challenges and successes of these projects, the strength and wisdom of Indigenous ways of being in building resilient and strong youth, and how AHS can work with Indigenous communities through humility and commitment. Click here to join

June 21 to June 25 (continued)

Wed, June 23	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Land Acknowledgements Jamie Harmon, Health Promotion Facilitator, AHS</p> <p>Inspired by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Land Acknowledgements are a stepping-stone in the reconciliation process. This presentation provides a look at Land Acknowledgements through an Indigenous lens. We will talk about their significance, how to prepare one and the best way to present one. Some of the content may be emotionally triggering as we will be learning the truths of Indigenous history in Canada. These topics will include: Indian Residential Schools, 60's Scoop, Indian Hospitals and how these historical events affected the Indigenous population.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	<p>Social Determinants and Indigenous Health Jennifer Mantha, Health Promotion Facilitator, AHS</p> <p>In this interactive workshop, we will discuss how the social determinants of health influence health and wellness, particularly as they relate to Indigenous Peoples in Canada. A historical view of how colonization shaped the determinants of Indigenous Peoples health will lead to an understanding of why inequities in the social determinants between Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous populations exist today. We will also discuss how health indicators can be utilized to reveal health inequities stemming from deficiencies in the social determinants. Finally, we will discuss how Indigenous-specific social determinants, like self-determination, can positively affect Indigenous well-being.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	<p>Indigenous Allyship Sondra Baker, Health Promotion Facilitator, AHS</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
Thurs, June 24	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	<p>Parenting for today Dale Awasis, Awasisak Advisor</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Honouring Life Update: Métis Calgary Family Services (MCFS) Throughout National Indigenous Peoples Celebration Month at Alberta Health Services a number of communities/organizations are presenting their innovative and inspiring work undertaken through the Honouring Life grant. We encourage you to attend these sessions to learn about the challenges and successes of these projects, the strength and wisdom of Indigenous ways of being in building resilient and strong youth, and how AHS can work with Indigenous communities through humility and commitment.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>

June 21 to June 25 (continued)

Thurs, June 24	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Honouring Life Update: Makai'sto Foundation</p> <p>Throughout National Indigenous Peoples Celebration Month at Alberta Health Services a number of communities/organizations are presenting their innovative and inspiring work undertaken through the Honouring Life grant. We encourage you to attend these sessions to learn about the challenges and successes of these projects, the strength and wisdom of Indigenous ways of being in building resilient and strong youth, and how AHS can work with Indigenous communities through humility and commitment.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m..	<p>Radon ReconciliACTION</p> <p>Kienan Williams, Assistant Scientific Director, Indigenous Health</p> <p>Reconciliation through discussions alone are just words; ReconciliACTION by leading through tangible activities with real world implications are positive steps forward. This project that tested 70 homes for radon gas in Samson Cree Nation in a collaboration led by Maskwacis Health Services with Alberta Health Services and Indigenous Services Canada.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
Fri, June 25	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	<p>Realities of on-reserve life</p> <p>Dale Awasis, Awasisak Advisor, AHS</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>MMIWG</p> <p>Joanna Gladue, Health Promotion Facilitator, AHS</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Highlights & Closing Prayer</p> <p>Elder Emil Durocher</p> <p>Join us on Fridays as Elder Emil Durocher to share traditional teachings and ground us for the week along with and the Indigenous Wellness Core planning team to share highlights of the week, overview of what's to come next week and announcement of the weekly winners of beautiful prizes donated by the Indigenous Wellness Core.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>

June 28 to June 30

Mon, June 28	9:00 a.m.	<p>Opening Prayer Circle, Teachings and Song Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Start the week in a good way by joining us for a prayer led by Elder Dale Awasis. Click here to join</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Celebrating a year of Walking, Talking and Learning Together in Cancer Care Alberta Chris Carriere, Project Manager, Cancer Care Alberta</p> <p>It has been a whole year since we started this Learning, Talking and Walking Together series. We'll look back on the many sessions we have had and the growth in Indigenous cancer care over the last year.</p> <p>Click here to join *If joining by telephone, contact us at ccawalkingtogether@ahs.ca or (780) 722-7657 for a local number.</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>The Indigenous Alberta Healthy Communities Approach: Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund Brenda Roland, Indigenous Integration Lead & Indigenous Community Team Prayer by Elder Thomas Durocher</p> <p>The ACPLF Indigenous Alberta Healthy Communities Approach is committed to support Alberta Indigenous communities to identify, plan, take action and evaluate priorities for cancer prevention and screening. This Approach focuses on helping to build communities that enable members and residents, through increased access to social and physical supports, to make the healthy choice the easy choice.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
Tues, June 29	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	<p>Update on the New Edmonton Hospital Tom Alston, Senior Project Director, New Edmonton Hospital Click here to join</p>
	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Anti-Racism at AHS – Update and next steps Marni Panas, Program Manager, Diversity & Inclusion</p> <p>On behalf of the Anti-Racism Advisory Group, AHS Diversity & Inclusion is proud to share about the journey of developing the AHS Anti-Racism position statement and provide an overview on anticipated next steps.</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<p>Circle of Life: Cancer prevention and support, a Friendship Centre Perspective Tessa Jourdain, Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association (ANFCA)</p> <p>Circle of Life was a two-year ANFCA initiative in partnership with Sagitawa Friendship Society (Peace River) and the Hinton Friendship Centre. The goal of the Circle of Life was to explore, develop and implement strategies where the cancer journey is self-determined by Indigenous peoples living in two Friendship Centre communities. This presentation will discuss project learnings and next steps in fostering an equitable cancer journey for urban Indigenous peoples.</p>

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		Click here to join
Wed, June 30	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Closing Ceremonies Click here to join

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