SEPTEMBER 2021

# STUXWTEWS HEALTH & SOCIAL NEWSLETTER

The monthly newsletter of St'uxwtews First Nation



## **EVENT SUCCESS!**

AUGUST 12, 2021 - YOUTH DAY @ BIB BALL FIELD

The St'uxwtews Health and Social Team held a Youth Day at the BIB Ball Field on August 12, 2021, to honor our youth. We had a great turn out, with 27 children attending. The youth were able to enjoy a bouncy slide castle, and a dunk tank from Fun Zone. We shared a meal together and they were able to take home prizes. We look forward to more events in the near future. It was a great day spent celebrating our St'uxwtews youth.



## LOON LAKE COMMUNITY CAMP OUT

AUGUST 14 & 15, 2021

Our team did a great job hosting a community camp out at Loon Lake on August 14 + 15, 2021. We had 23 families attend, with over 80 community members camping together. The event was a great a success!

The community enjoyed canoe rides, pontoon boat rides, a horseshoe tournament, and bingo. The kids made crafts and learned proper hand washing technique.

Our members also got to fish for trout in loon lake. The new playground equipment was enjoyed by many youth throughout the weekend. St'uxwtews was able to come together as a community and enjoy all that Loon Lake had to offer. We hope to see more community members at our events in the future. We thank everyone for their hard work and making this weekend possible! Kukwstsemc!



## **HYDRATION STATION**

TIPS ON HOW TO STAY HYDRATED

I have always had problems with staying hydrated. Recently I started keeping track of my water intake and meeting my goals. I started to feel energized and have less headaches throughout the day. It has really made a difference in my health!

Fluid is essential! It has many important roles such as moving nutrients and waste through your body, regulating blood pressure, protecting and cushioning your joints and organs, controlling your body temperature and lowering your risk of dehydration.

Women should have an average of about 8 cups of fluids per day. Men should have an average of 10 cups per day.

How to know you are drinking enough! Check your thirst- if you are thirsty or have a dry mouth, it is likely that you are not drinking enough.

Check your urine- if your urine is a dark yellow color and has a strong smell, you may not be getting enough fluids. Urine that is light yellow or clear in color usually means that you are drinking enough fluids

Check your mood- if you feel light headed and tired, are not able to focus or have many headaches, these could be signs that you are dehydrated.

Tips to meet your fluid

- Keep water nearby with you, buy a water bottle with a straw for easy access to drinking.
- Choose decaffeinated drinks more often to keep you well hydrated.
   Drinks with caffeine should be limited to 3 cups per day. Non caffeinated, non-sweetened tea is a great option!
- Take sips of water while eating meals or snacks
- Keep a jug of ice water, with lemon, lime or organize or cucumber slices in your fridge at home or at work

Telleighla Gies, RN BSN
Community Health Nurse
FNHA



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AUGUST 20, 2021

NEW HEALTH MEASURES INTRODUCED FOR ALL INTERIOR
HEALTH REGION

IH-WIDE - interior Health (IH) is introducing new public health orders covering the entire Interior Health region to manage COVID-19 activity.

These measures will remain in place until the end September and Interior Health experiences lower cases and higher vaccination rates.

#### **Effective tonight at midnight:**

- Masks are mandatory in all indoor public spaces for people 12 years and older.
- Low-intensity indoor group exercise is permitted to a maximum of 10 people per class, High intensity indoor group exercise is not permitted.
- Outdoor personal gatherings

   (e.g. birthday parties, backyard
   BBQs) are limited to no more
   than 50 people.
- Organized indoor gatherings
   (e.g. weddings, funerals, seated
   events) are limited to 50 people
   and outdoor gatherings are
   limited to 100 people, both
   requiring a COVID-19 safety plan.

The previous orders for central Okanagan food and liquor establishments remain in place.

"while we are beginning to see cases in the Central Okanagan slowly plateau, we are seeing more cases in other areas of Interior Health,: said Interior Health president and CEO, Susan Brown. "We are calling on all young adults to get your vaccine, especially those who work in jobs where you interact with the public. It is the most effective way to protect yourself and to reduce transmission in the community."

Most people are being exposed at social gatherings, work places or in private households. The delta variant is leading to faster transmission and more severe outcomes for younger people. Immunization remains the most effective prevention against COVID-19.

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NEW HEALTH MEASURES INTRODUCED FOR ALL INTERIOR
HEALTH REGION

Continued from page 4

"The vast majority of our cases are in people who are unimmunized or partially immunized and in adults between 20-40 years old, For those who haven't yet gotten their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, please get it now. Getting immunized will help keep our hospital beds open for treating people with other illnesses and needing surgery," said Interior Health medical officer, Dr. Rob Parker.

The interval between first and second COVID-19 vaccine doses has decreased to 28 days for everyone. People can get vaccinated by dropping into any IH immunization clinic or by booking and an appointment. Pop-up clinics are being added in communities throughout the region. All clinic locations and details area available here:

https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/covid-19-immunization-clinics/,

Testing continues to be available to anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. People can book an appointment online or call 1-877-740-7747 between 8am-7pm daily.

#### **How to get vaccinated:**

People can get their first dose or second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by dropping in to any IH immunization clinic or by making an appointment.

To make an appointment, register online by visiting, the provincial website at:

www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/, or call 1-833-838-2323, or visit Service BC office and book an appointment,



# MEDICAL TRANSPORTAION (PATIENT TRAVEL)

IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, HEALTH BENEFITS
CONTINUES TO PROVIDE MT BENEFITS TO SUPPORT CLIENTS NEEDING
TO SELF ISOLATE. CONTACT 1-888-305-1505 TO REQUEST SUPPORT FOR
SELF ISOLATION. SERVICE HOURS ARE MONDAY TO FRIDAY FROM
8:30AM - 4:30PM AND SATURDAY/SUNDAY FROM 12:00PM TO 4:00PM

#### **About this Benefit:**

For many First Nations people living in rural or remote areas, it can be challenging to access necessary medical care. Health Benefits offers supports to help with these challenges through the medical transportation (MT) benefit.

Health Benefits works with First
Nations communities to deliver the
MT benefit. Community Patient
Travel Clerks or FNHA Assessors are
your connections to help you access
your MT benefits.

#### What my plan Covers:

Your MT benefits provide assistance with the cost of meals, accommodation and transportation to help you travel to a medical appointment outside your community of residence. MT coverage is intended as a supplement and may not cover full cost of your travel.

You can access medical transportation benefits if you are traveling to:

- medical services covered by MSP or a public health agency
- services covered by the Health Benefits Program (e.g., dental, vision, etc.)
- traditional healers
- treatment at NNADAP funded or referred facility.

MT benefits covers travel to the closest appropriate provider, using the most efficient and economical type of transportation appropriate for your needs and medical condition.

#### **How Do I Access Coverage?**

Most clients should contact their community's Patient Travel Clerk to access medical transportation benefits. (Jeannie: 250-457-6233 ext. 229 or by email: chr2@bonaparte.band) Off reserve members can contact: Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454.

# MEDICAL TRANSPORTAION (PATIENT TRAVEL)

PATIENT TRAVEL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

- a) Submit a 'medical transportation request form at least 5 business days before your trip to get prior approval before travelling. You will also need to submit written confirmation of your appointment from your provider. If you do not get prior approval for your trip, or if you do not submit your request form ahead of time, you may have to reschedule your appointment or pay for your travel costs yourself an then request reimbursement.
- b) Your community Patient Travel Clerk makes you travel arrangements and sends you the details.
- c) Attend your appointment as scheduled.
- d) After your trip, submit a 'written confirmation of attendance'. You must provide confirmation from your provider that you attended your appointment. If you need to request reimbursement, you will need to submit your written COA with your request. Clients who do not attend their appointment may be asked to pay back the cost of their travel.

If you have any questions about your medical transportation benefits, how to access coverage, or why a claim was denied, call Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454.

#### **Escorts**

If you need someone to accompany you on your trip to your appointment, you may be eligible to travel with an escort, Escorts are covered under certain conditions, including if you:

• are a minor

- need help with activities of daily living (e.g., dressing, eating, or bathing)
- are undergoing a medical procedure (e.g., day surgery) or have a medical condition that means you need hep to get home
- will face a language barrier
- are travelling to give birth

You may be asked to provide 'documentation from your health care provider' to show you need ab escort.

# MEDICAL TRANSPORTAION (PATIENT TRAVEL)

PATIENT TRAVEL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

#### What My Plan Does Not Cover

Some types of travel are Exclusions. Exclusions cannot be covered as an exception and cannot be appealed. MT benefit Exclusions include, but are not limited to:

- compassionate travel (e.g., travelling to visit a family member who is receiving medical treatment)
- payment for fees for a doctor's note
- travel back to your community of residence if you became sick or injured while away from home.
- travel when the medicallynecessary service is available in your community
- travel to access services that are not considered medically necessary

 travel where the only purpose is to pick up items that do not need to be fitted (e.g., prescriptions, prescription glasses or contacts and some medical supplies and equipment).

You can call Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454 to learn more about what is covered.

You can call Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454 to learn more about what is covered.

#### **Appeals**

When coverage request for travel has been denied, you have the right to appeal the decision. items and services that are Exclusions cannot be appealed.



# MEDICAL TRANSPORTAION (PATIENT TRAVEL)

PATIENT TRAVEL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

#### **About Appeals**

If you have been denied coverage for an item, service, or travel, you have the right to appeal the decision. You can submit an appeal up to 12 months from the date that your benefit was denied. Appeals can be submitted by the client, their parent or guardian, or a representative.

#### **How to Submit an Appeal**

Once you have spoken to Health Benefits and are ready to appeal a decision, write a formal letter that describes the situation in detail, including the following information:

- the diagnosis of your medical condition
- the prognosis, or expected outcome, of your medical condition, including what treatments have been tried
- justification for the proposed treatment
- any additional supporting information

Your appeal also needs to include relevant documentation, such as:

- a note from your doctor or health care provider explaining your condition and need for the item, service, or travel.
- diagnostic results (e.g. dental xrays, blood test results)

Once you are ready, please mail your appeal to:

FNHA Health Benefits Program #540 - 757 West Hastings Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1A1

If you receive an Ambulance bill
If you receive and ambulance bill,
please send it to Health Benefits by
email, fax, or mail. Please be aware
that ambulance bills as a result of a
motor vehicle accident or a
workplace incident will not be
covered by the Health Benefits
Program, and should be forwarded
to ICBC or WorkSafe BC
respectively.

Coverage for ambulance transport services in BC is based on the rules and rates set out by BC Emergency Health Services with your status number.

# Doctor Day with Dr. Lawrie CINUP 64+ Elders Benefits Injury Surveillance and Prevention

#### **Doctor Day**

Dr, Lawrie will be here on September 15, 2021 from 9am -2pm.

Please call Kala Morgan to book 250-457-6233 ext. 242.

If Dr. Lawrie is fully booked on her Bonaparte day, we can book an appointment for you at her Orchard Walk Medical Clinic in Kamloops.

Orchard Walk Medical Clinic - Phone - 250-828-8080.

#### **Injury Surveillance & Prevention**

The St'uxwtews Health Centre will be doing a monthly draw to promote our Injury Surveillance. Program. We will keep you posted.





#### **CINUP 64+ Elders Benefits**

Bonaparte First Nation is excited to announce a 64+ Member benefit offered through CINUP.

Please call Kala Morgan to receive an enrolment package.

If you are 64+ and a registered

Bonaparte First Nation member and

Bonaparte First Nation member and you have already enrolled in the program but have NOT received your CINUP benefit card in the mail, please contact Kala to arrange another mail out.



# **Youth Group**

Karen has been taking the youth swimming at the Ashcroft swimming pool through out the summer. They had a blast!.

Although everyone will be going back to school, the youth group still has some fun planned for the evenings and weekends. Karen will be in touch.

Karen has backpacks for all youth that are going back to school. Please call Karen 250-457-6233 ext. 249 or Krista Billy 250-457-6233 ext. 247 to arrange pick up. All youth are welcome to a back pack.



# **Health and Social Team**

Angie Thorne Social Development Manager



Office: (250)457-6233 Ext: 239 Email: socialdev@bonaparte.band

Fax: (250) 457-9525 2689A Sage Hill Rd.

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#### Angie Pigeon

Registered Nurse. Home and Community Care



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#### Carolyn Billy Home Care Aid



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### Jeannie William

Patient Travel/ Community Health Worker



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#### Karen Warren Youth Worker



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#### Matilda Morgan

Social Development Admin Assistant



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#### Kala Morgan

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#### Boysie Porter

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# **REMINDER!**

# BONAPARTE HEALTH CENTRE CLOSED



Closed: Monday September 6th,2021

The Office Will Recommence Regular Hours Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Thank You