

How are we working together?

Many agencies have come together to make the work of the NHSP possible. We are working together because we know we all have a role in improving current socio-economic issues in the north.

Why do I need to be involved?

If you are in a leadership role from a human service organization in northern Saskatchewan, your opinions and ideas can shape the work we undertake and we need your expertise at our table. Working in a collaborative and integrated fashion is important to breaking down the silos we know don't work. Improving quality of life in northern Saskatchewan is something we all have a role in. Join us!

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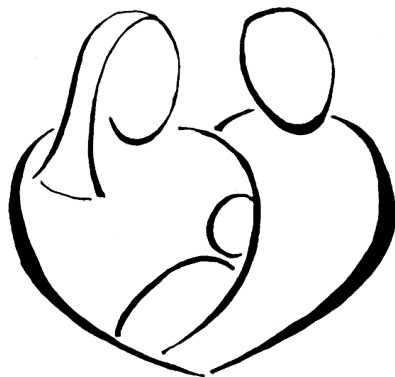
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Northern Regional Intersectoral Committee (RIC)

Northern Human Services Partnership



The Northern Human Services Partnership (NHSP) is one of 10 Regional Intersectoral Committees (RICs) in Saskatchewan. The NHSP consists of management from northern human service organizations working collaboratively to improve northern quality of life.



General Information

The NHSP serves the Northern Administration District (NAD) consisting of approximately 46% of the province geographically and a population of roughly 40,000 persons. These residents live in over 70 federal and municipal communities and 85% of northern residents identify themselves as Aboriginal.

Socio-economic issues including poverty, unemployment, school readiness, criminality, housing issues and suicide are prevalent within the region and shapes many of the initiatives we undertake together.

Our Vision: The Northern Human Services Partnership (NHSP) provides a coordinated and collaborative approach that will result in strong, healthy people, families and communities with well-functioning agencies who work together to improve northern quality of life.

Our Mandate: To further the ability of agencies and communities to make the best use of opportunities and to develop and nurture northern responses to complex and serious issues and challenges.

Our Mission: Our mission is to create and maintain a forum for planning and delivery of integrated human services for northern people. We do this by:

- Facilitating collaboration to address north-wide socio-economic opportunities and issues;
- Using data driven dialogue and incubating “best practice” to address issues;
- Keeping agencies and service providers informed and connected north-wide;
- Building community, regional and agency capacity regarding training, grants, networking and project support;
- Identifying gaps and avoiding duplication through data driven advocacy to influence leadership and shape policy; and,
- Establishing a strong, collective northern voice for social change.

Provincial Linkages

The NHSP is linked to the province through the Senior Interministry Steering Committee (SIMS) and is guided by the Saskatchewan Child and Family Agenda. The Coordinators are connected through the Regional Intersectoral Committee Coordinators Team (RICCT). The RICCT meets with the SIMS Committee bi-annually.

Regional Information

The NHSP has two Coordinators to guide the initiatives of the membership. One is located centrally and one is located on the west-side of northern Saskatchewan. The NHSP is currently undertaking initiatives in 4 priority areas. These include: Early Years, First Nations and Metis Engagement, Supporting Collaboration and Vulnerable Populations.

Early Years

The **Northern Early Years Coalition** (NEYC) - an initiative of the NHSP - aims to collaborate, promote and facilitate effective integrated services that will provide more equitable opportunities for all northern children and their families. Over the past years, the Coalition has delivered Early Childhood Development workshops in Northern communities and developed the Northern Saskatchewan Children's Charter. The Coalition is currently working on mapping Early Childhood Services in Northern Saskatchewan and on the development and delivery of a Conference in 2016.

In partnership with the NHSP, KidsFirst North and the community of Sandy Bay, a demonstration Family Resource Centre (**Breaking Trails Family Place**) has been offering services for families in Sandy Bay since late 2013. Programming is focused on parenting education, early learning, family wellness and support and information and referrals.

First Nations and Metis Engagement

The NHSP is focused on meaningful engagement and partnerships with First Nations human service organizations. The NHSP is in the process of hosting **First Nations and Metis Engagement Gatherings** focused on authentic engagement between partners and on the development Community Cultural Profiles to better equip service providers in Northern Saskatchewan with information and connections north-wide.

Supporting Collaboration

With recognition of the importance of partnerships, the NHSP provides ongoing support to interagency tables within Northern Saskatchewan. Over the past year, support has been provided on a north-wide basis and within the communities of Creighton, La Ronge, Sandy Bay, the Athabasca Basin, Buffalo Narrows and La Loche.

Vulnerable Populations

The NHSP works to build capacity to support vulnerable populations within northern Saskatchewan and members of the NHSP have played integral roles in developing support for individuals experiencing homelessness and/or chronic addictions, the development of disability supports, and opportunities to address food security issues.

In addition, NHSP supports the a collaborative approach in situations of elevated risk and has taken a leadership role with **Lac La Ronge Community Mobilization**.