

Terms of Reference for Nlaka'pamux Nation Health Governance Representative



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DEFINITIONS

Interior Health Authority (IHA): Interior Health is one of 5 regional health authorities, established under provincial legislation. Interior Health is led by a government-appointed Board of Directors and is accountable to the Ministry of Health through the Interior Health Board. The Interior Health Board sets the mission, vision, values and strategic plan for Interior Health within the broad directions set for the health care system by the Government of British Columbia through the Ministry of Health.

Interior Region Technical Table (IRTT): The Interior Region Nation Technicians Table is comprised of one representative from each of the 7 Nations of the Interior Region and acts as an advisory body to the Interior Region Nation Executive providing recommendations to the Interior Region Nation Executive Table on concerns common to the region.

Interior Region Nation Executive (IRNE): The Interior Region Nation Executive Table is comprised of one representative from each of the 7 Nations of the Interior Region, and acts as an Executive body to the Interior Region Caucus, carrying out directions in between Caucus sessions. The Executive Table offers a more equitable decision-making capacity for Interior First Nations and gives regional direction to the First Nations Health Council.

Aboriginal Wellness Committee (AWC): The Aboriginal Wellness Committee is comprised of Senior Management from Interior Health Authority, First Nations Technicians appointed by the 7 Nations of the Interior Region and one Metis Representative. The Aboriginal Wellness Committee will provide advice and recommendations to Interior Health Authority and the Partnership Accord Leadership Table on matters pertinent to the improvement of health and health services for Aboriginal people.

Partnership Accord Leadership Table (PALT): Comprised of Senior Officials from Interior Health Authority along with the 7 Nation representatives of the IRNE. The PALT is a decision-making body that provides direction and oversees the implementation of the Partnership Accord. The Table serves as a senior and influential forum for partnership, collaboration and joint efforts on First Nation and Aboriginal priorities, policies, budgets, programs and services in the Interior Region.

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The Nlaka'pamux Nation Health Governance Representative works collaboratively with the Nlaka'pamux Nation Community Engagement Coordinator and Nlaka'pamux Nation Health Technical Representative to coordinate health issue discussions, facilitate information gathering and communicate outcomes and direction from the Nation Chiefs. They participate on the following health governance committees on behalf of the Nation:

Interior Region Nation Executive (IRNE). IRNE was established in 2009 by the Interior Chiefs to act collectively as a mechanism to advance decisions and direction to the First Nations Health Council on behalf of the Interior Nations. The Nlaka'pamux Nation Representative is one of 7 elected members of IRNE and functions as the liaison between IRNE and the Nlaka'pamux Chiefs.

Interior Partnership Accord Leadership Table (PALT). The Partnership Accord was signed on November 12, 2012 between the Interior Region First Nations, the Interior Health Authority and witnessed by the First Nations Health Authority. The PALT is a decision-making body that provides direction and oversees the implementation of the Partnership Accord.

FIRST NATIONS PERSPECTIVE ON WELLNESS

The First Nations Perspective on Wellness is a holistic health and wellness approach based on concepts from traditional knowledge that provides a guide for health and wellness planning, program and service delivery throughout British Columbia. It builds on the recognition that health and wellness are intimately connected, and that they encompass emotional, mental, spiritual, cultural and physical health and well-being. It also recognizes how individual health and wellness are interwoven with the health and wellness of families, communities and Nations and extends to the connection to the natural environment.

SEVEN DIRECTIVES

Directive #1: Community-Driven, Nation-Based

Directive #2: Increase First Nations Decision-Making and Control

Directive #3: Improve Services

Directive #4: Foster Meaningful Collaboration and Partnership

Directive #5: Develop Human and Economic Capacity

Directive #6: Be without Prejudice to First Nations Interests

Directive #7: Function at a High Operational Standard

SCOPE

The Nlaka'pamux Nation Health Governance Representative provides coordination of health issue discussions and facilitates information gathering and communicates outcomes and direction from the Nlaka'pamux Nation Chiefs to the IRNE. The Nlaka'pamux Nation Health Governance Representative aims to improve health outcomes for First Nations people in the Interior Region through participation at IRNE and by acting as a conduit of information between FNHA, IHA and the Nlaka'pamux Chiefs.

MANDATE

It is the intention of the Nlaka'pamux Nation Chiefs to have a Nation Representative appointed through the below noted process. This representative will work with the Nation Chiefs and provide direction on health governance priorities at IRNE and PALT.

It is intended that the Nation Representative will engage in dialogue, identify linkages, develop networks with the health service providers, and provide information and guidance to the various committees that reflects the health needs and desires of the Nlaka’pamux Nation and work within the scope and purposes stated above.

SELECTION PROCESS

At least once every two (2) years the Nlaka’pamux Nation’s Chiefs will appoint a Nlaka’pamux Nation Health Governance Representative through the following process.

At least 2 months prior to a Nation Assembly Meeting a call for nominations will be circulated among the membership of the Nlaka’pamux Nation.

30 days prior to the proposed Nation Assembly Meeting a nomination committee of at least 2 Chiefs and 2 Health Directors will review and recommend those nominations that will be put forward to the Chiefs for voting.

The election of the Nation Representative will be conducted at the duly convened Nation Assembly Meeting of the Nlaka’pamux Chiefs.

WHO

The Nlaka’pamux Nation Health Governance Representative will be chosen from among the Nlaka’pamux Nation members.

REQUIREMENTS

Should be knowledgeable of current health matters

Knowledgeable in funding profiles and processes for health programs and services an asset

Good communication skills

Able to work with Nation Membership and Chiefs

Able to attend the various Nation Meetings, IRNE, PALT & Interior Regional Caucus meetings. (estimated at up to 12 per year)

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS AND DUTIES

The Nation Representative will attend the PALT, Interior Region Caucus and IRNE meetings.

The Nation Representative will attend the Nation LOU Committee Meetings. The Nation Representative will also attend other meetings as directed by the Nlaka’pamux Chiefs.

Where appropriate and applicable, the Nation Representative will contribute to the Interior planning processes. Such participation and input will be under the authority of the Nlaka’pamux Chiefs with their explicit guidance and a clear, current mandate of what form that participation will take.

The Nation Representative will coordinate orientation for new Band Council Members of the current First Nations health environment. This would include information on FNHA, Interior Region Health Structures, IHA and any other information that may be deemed relevant.

REPORTING

Where the Nation Representative is attending meetings in support of the Nlaka’pamux Nation, he/she will supply reports of such meetings to the Nlaka’pamux Nation Chiefs.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Nation Representative is accountable to the Nlaka’pamux Chiefs.

COMPENSATION

The Nlaka’pamux Nation Health Governance Representative will be compensated for expenses associated with fulfilling their roles and responsibilities as members of the IRNE and Partnership Accord Leadership Table in accordance with the IRNE Remuneration Policy and Procedures.

AMENDMENTS AND REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Nlaka’pamux Chiefs may review the Terms of Reference annually and recommend any changes by means of consensus at a regular Nation Chiefs Meeting.

INTERIOR NATIONS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

The First Nations of the Interior have formed the Interior Region Health Caucus, which serves as an forum for the political (i.e. Chiefs) and technical leaders (i.e. Health Directors or Health Leads) for the purposes of planning, priority setting and decision-making related to regional health matters. . The Caucus represents 54 First Nations of the 7 Nations: Dăkelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka’pamux, Secwepemc, St’át’imc, Syilx, and Tsilhqot’in.

The Interior Region Terms of Reference outlines the roles and responsibilities of the governance entities and technical advisory bodies that are established to create the space for Nations to provide guidance and make decisions. The diagram and descriptions below outline the governance structures and processes involving the Interior Nations.

INTERIOR FIRST NATION HEALTH GOVERNANCE MODEL

Interior Nations Governance Structures and Processes

The First Nations of the Interior have formed the Interior Region Health Caucus, which serves as an engagement forum for the political (i.e. Chiefs) and technical leaders (i.e. Health Directors or Health Leads) relating to the implementation of the resolutions and consensus papers passed at Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey forums and the Tripartite Framework Agreement on First Nations Health Governance. The Caucus represents 54 First Nations of the 7 Nations: Dākelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka’pamux, Secwepemc, St’át’imc, Syilx, and Tsilhqot’in.

The Interior Region Caucus Terms of Reference outlines the roles and responsibilities of the governance entities and technical advisory bodies that are being established to create the space for Nations to provide guidance and make decisions. The diagram and descriptions below outline the governance structures and processes involving the Interior Nations.

