

## Memorandum of Understanding on Community Development between Health Canada and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

The First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada (FNIHB), and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), referred to as the “Partners”;

**WHEREAS** the Partners have committed to work together to create conditions to support Aboriginal wellbeing, health and economic development opportunities;

**WHEREAS** the Partners have committed to work collaboratively to support Aboriginal<sup>1</sup> community wellness and health, based on the principles of the Community Development Framework; and

**WHEREAS** the Partners support the Indigenous Community Development training developed in Health Canada as the opportunity for employee and organizational learning and development on principles and practice of community development with Aboriginal communities.

**HAVE REACHED** the following understanding:

### 1. *Community Development Framework*

- The Partners agree to use the Community Development Framework, with recognition that it is a principles-based document that is based on:
  - recognizing that a one-size-fits-all approach does not work and that the key to successful community development will be in facilitating a differentiated capacity building approach that is aligned to community needs and is horizontal in nature (brings together access to a broad array of capacity programming from as many departments as possible);
  - the importance of community based approaches that reflect Indigenous cultural knowledge in the development of integrated community plans; and
  - shifting the accountability relationship from - the recipient to us as funding agency - to the recipient to the people they serve.

### 2. *Joint Initiatives supporting Community Development*

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<sup>1</sup> To respect departmental mandates, for the purposes of this document, “Aboriginal” in FNIHB refers to First Nations and Inuit; while “Aboriginal” in AANDC refers to First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

The Partners will encourage and facilitate subject to their approval, mutually acceptable joint activities and projects in regions and nationally which support Aboriginal communities to continue to develop along the Continuum of development.

The Partners will encourage joint work and communication between national offices by making available office space for Community Development officers to work at their Partner's office up to one day a week.

### 3. *Indigenous Community Development Training*

FNIHB has developed the Indigenous Community Development training with extensive expert input. The two-day in-person curriculum upholds adult education principles and process, and is supported by the Assembly of First Nations and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. The Partners are committed to providing this learning opportunity to departmental employees to support their ongoing learning in community development, cultural competence, and reconciliation.

To implement training for as many employees as possible, the Partners agree:

- a) FNIHB will:
  - Retain copyright of the curriculum to ensure the underlying learning process and outcomes are maintained
  - Develop and support the cadre of employee volunteers from FNIHB and AANDC to form the Indigenous Community Development training team.
  - Coordinate the names of the training team who will provide each session and pay for travel if located outside of Ottawa
  - Determine the schedule of sessions in collaboration with AANDC
  - Manage the contract for the external facilitators.
  
- b) The Partners will support employees to volunteer to be part of the Indigenous Community Development training team, with the intent that the team be approximately half from AANDC and half from FNIHB.
  
- c) AANDC will:
  - Source and fund an external logistics organization which will at a minimum manage session participation, in collaboration with FNIHB.
  - Contribute funds to the costs of 1) session delivery (meeting space and audio visual expenditures, minimal hospitality, Elder contracts, travel for regional delivery); 2) Indigenous Community Development training team supports (skills development accredited courses); 3) external facilitator contract; and 4) session alumni supports. AANDC will contribute no more than half the overall costs, and FNIHB will maintain responsibility for half the costs.
  
- d) The Partners will ensure that:

- At the beginning of each fiscal year a detailed financial plan and accountability plan on the above will be developed collaboratively, which will form the basis of an ILA.
  - At the end of each fiscal year, an accountability report will be produced to satisfy the Partners' reporting needs.
- e) The Partners will jointly fund one position which will report to both Partners, with the primary task of supporting the session alumni. Supports are intended to maintain momentum of community development in both departments, and maintain the interest and ongoing learning of the session alumni. Supports may include regular email updates, networking meetings, and individual interaction to prompt implementation of community development. Each Partner will contribute one half of the salary.

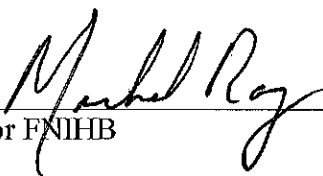
4. *National Advisory Committee*


The Community Development and Capacity Building (CDCB) National Advisory Committee (the Committee) will provide recommendations on implementation of the Community Development Framework, including the pillars of building knowledge and competencies in employees, facilitating partnerships for community well-being, and supporting community capacity.

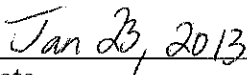
To uphold the principle of collaboration, the current National Advisory Committee on Community Development and Capacity Building in FNIHB will be broadened out to include AANDC in both mandate and membership. Both will be negotiated and the new membership will be implemented by the end of the fiscal year 2012-2013.


5. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended in writing by the Partners upon mutual consent.

6. This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding obligations under domestic or international law.

  
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For FNIHB

  
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For AANDC

  
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Date

  
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Date

