

Indigenous Health Workplan

2026





First Nations, Inuit, Métis and Urban Indigenous Health Framework

There is an urgent need for action to address the health outcomes and access to health care among Indigenous peoples in Ontario, and we know this can only be done effectively in partnership with First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous leaders, organizations, communities and nations. This Framework outlines the commitment Ontario Health is making to First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous partners and to Ontario to initiate this work in partnership.

Vision

To provide a platform to build upon in the discussions and development with First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous partners of a First Nations, Inuit, Métis and Urban Indigenous Health Plan.

Areas of Focus



Build and Sustain Productive Relationships

Building and sustaining productive partnerships and continuing to honour established relationships with First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous leaders, communities, organizations and nations based on trust, accountability and mutual respect.



Equitable Access to Culturally Safe Care

Strengthening access, quality, and safety of health services and the health system with and for First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous people, families, communities and nations.



Build and Enhance Capacity and Education

Building and enhancing the capacity of First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous partners, health system partners and Ontario Health to understand, respond to and meet First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous health needs and priorities.



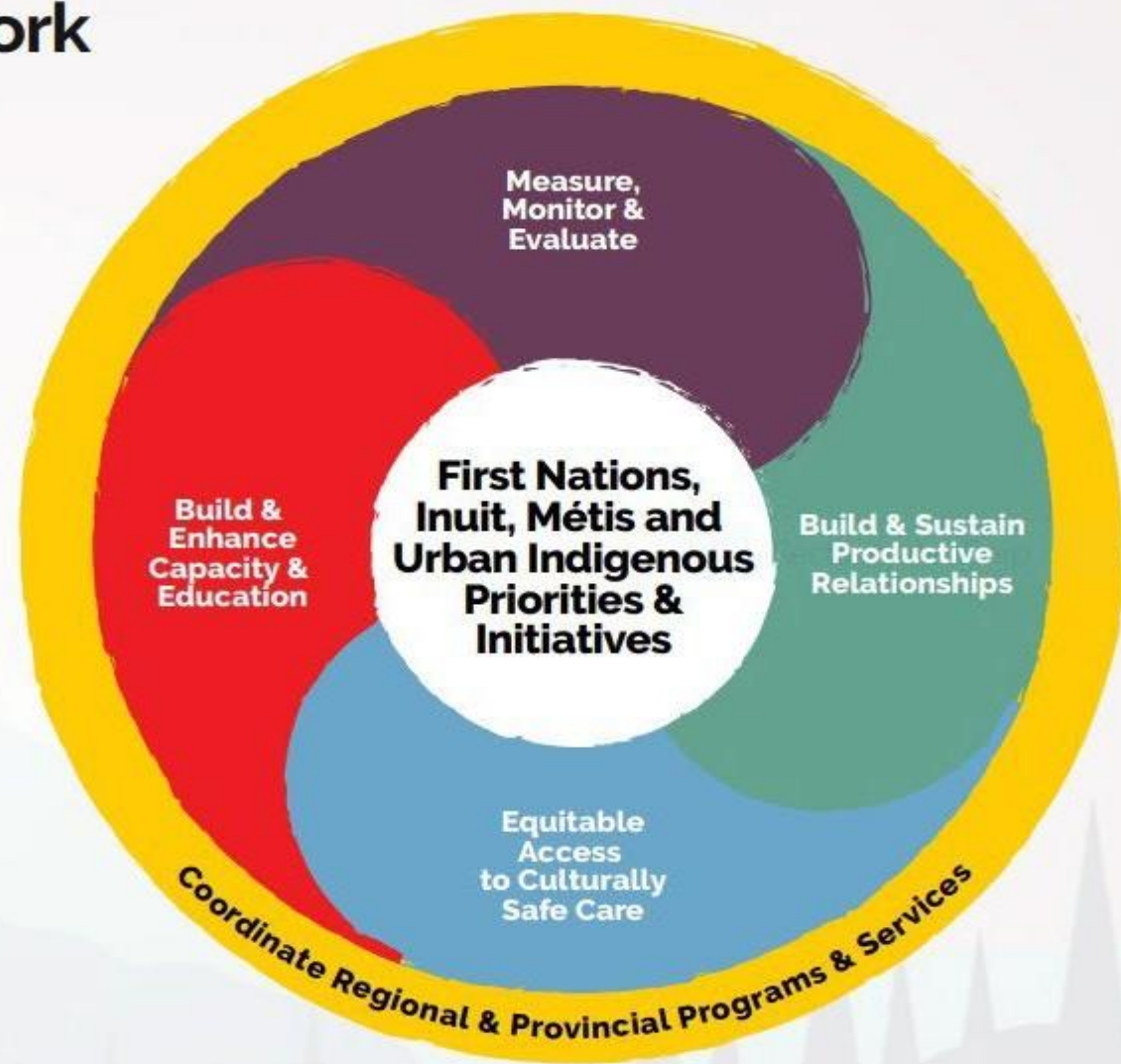
Measure, Monitor and Evaluate

Supporting and promoting effective data collection, analysis, evaluation and governance that impact First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous people, communities, organizations and nations collaboratively address their priorities.



Coordinate Regional and Provincial Programs and Services

Coordinating, communicating and aligning programs and services to best serve First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous people, communities, organizations and nations across the health system in partnership with First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous partners.



Plan of Action for HPHA

Aligned with First Nations, Inuit, Metis and Urban Indigenous Health Framework



Establish information and relationships regarding Indigenous Population in Huron Perth

Engage with Indigenous Communities

- Consultation: begin with thorough consultation with Indigenous leaders, health professionals, and community members to understand their health needs, priorities and cultural contexts
- Collaborate: Establish partnerships with Indigenous organizations and advocates to ensure their active involvement and ownership of the plan of action for HPHA

HPHA Indigenous Population Data Collection and evaluation

- Establish a regional data repository for Huron-Perth

through surveys to assess the population needs and resource accessibility

- Cultural Context: Collect qualitative data on cultural practices, beliefs and traditional health knowledge that influence health care behaviours and outcomes
- Identify how the needs of Indigenous Peoples can be better met in a healthcare setting
- Identify the specific areas where this data will be applied (e.g., policy development and revision, research & program evaluation)
- Report findings to inform priorities and planning

Develop Strategies and Interventions

- Create strategy to support Indigenous patients/families and caregivers in Huron-Perth region while in hospital

- Resource allocation
- Community Partners
- Analyze Qualtrics Data (Patient Experience feedback platform data)
- Create strategy to support HPHA Indigenous staff

Build on Indigenous Training Opportunities

- All executive level staff will complete four fundamental Ontario Health Indigenous Cultural Awareness and Safety training modules
- Integrate Indigenous cultural safety training opportunities and resources into new hire orientation
- Increase community cultural safety training opportunities that are reflective of local needs and perspectives

Build Productive Relationships with Indigenous Peoples

- Work with Indigenous partners to provide Indigenous patients with access to Elders and Healers
- Improve discharge planning and transitions in care

Implement practices that support the recruitment and retention of Indigenous Peoples

- Promote diversity in leadership, staff, patient partners and volunteers