

# Aboriginal ActNow BC Fact Sheet

## Background

- A key action identified in *The First Nations Health Plan: Supporting the Health and Wellness of First Nations in British Columbia*, is the development of a First Nations/Aboriginal-specific ActNow BC program.
- The Ministry of Health provided a \$6 million grant to the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health to develop an Aboriginal-specific ActNow component.
- The Minister of State for ActNow BC will work with First Nations communities, the First Nations Health Council, the National Collaborating Centre on Aboriginal Health and health authorities to lead the development of a First Nations/Aboriginal-specific ActNow BC program.
- The four pillars of ActNow BC are: promoting physical activity, healthy eating, living tobacco free, and making healthy choices during pregnancy.

## Key Facts

- Ministry of Health (MoH) proposed activities include:
  - Expanded model of the current Honour Your Health Challenge to incorporate training on nutrition, physical activity and making healthy choices during pregnancy;
  - Provincial "Honour Your Health" Walk/Run in conjunction with the North American Indigenous Games in Duncan, BC, August 2008;
  - Provincial Aboriginal ActNow Consensus-Building Conference in 2007; and
  - Research and Evaluation of ActNow Impacts in Aboriginal Communities.

## Regional Facts

### National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCAH)

- The National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCAH) is located at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George, BC.
- The NCCAH is one of six National Collaborating Centres (NCCs) established by the Public Health Agency of Canada as part of the federal government's commitment to renew and strengthen public health.
- The work of the NCCAH is national in scope and directed to serving First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples across the country.
- The mission of the NCCAH is to increase Aboriginal capacity for action on their determinants of health. NCCAH will accomplish this by:
  - Being a resource and facilitating the development of ideas and information to support and inform future public interventions.
  - Supporting the development of practices and policies through knowledge synthesis, knowledge translation and knowledge exchange.

## Financial Implications

- MoH has granted to the NCCAH:
  - \$6 million for Aboriginal ActNow initiatives:
    - March 2006 - \$1 million
    - May 2006 - \$5 million
  - \$1.2 million for vision screening.