Social Determinants of Health Fund

Background

- The Social Determinants of Health Fund (SDOHF) supports implementation of the *10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health: A Framework for the Future*.
- The SDOHF is Nation-based, flexible, and longer-term. It builds on learnings from the Mental Health & Wellness Memorandum of Understanding, signed in 2018, as well as engagement at spring and fall caucuses in 2023 and spring caucus in 2024.
- Funding partners include the First Nations Health Authority, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and the Province of British Columbia. The FNHA and ISC have each committed $5M/year for 10 years. The Province has made an initial 2-year commitment of $5M/year.

Sharing the Strategy's Impact

- A reporting framework is being finalized that includes strengths-based health and wellness indicators jointly identified by First Nations, BC and Canada.
- Includes provincial and regional population-level outcomes, Nation and community impacts and progress that Government partners will make on the 10-Year Strategy's partnership objectives.

Nation-Based Funding Approach

The funding approach was designed to address the social determinants of health (SDOH) in a way that is most impactful for Nations and communities.

- Funds are flexible and can be used to support expenses such as salaries, training, supplies and capital that address the Nation's SDOH priorities.
- The initial SDOHF agreements will be 3-years* in length and will provide early learnings to build on for the next phase of the Strategy.
- Nations have expressed the need to move away from solely population-based formulas and move to an approach that considers factors like remoteness and human capacity.
- The SDOHF includes a base amount to support "boots on the ground" and allocations that consider remoteness and total population (members living at home and away from home).
- The remoteness allocation was modelled on the BC Rural Practice Subsidiary Agreement which considers geographic isolation and accessibility of health services, along with 5 other indicators, when determining physician compensation.

*Aligned to leadership feedback, agreements in the Fraser Salish region will be 2 years in length to provide opportunity to explore options for pooled funds across communities in the future.

First Nations Health Authority
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