



ISSUE 10 • SEPTEMBER 2023

# NEWSLETTER

UPPER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND HEALTH CENTRE

# HEALTH CENTRE TEAM

LINDSAY BISHOP  
HEALTH DIRECTOR  
250.488.0854

SARAH ANTONICK  
LICENCED PRACTICAL NURSE  
250.488.3466

DEBORAH BRADSHAW-WHITE  
REGISTERED NURSE  
250.295.5815

PAIGE WALLIN  
REGISTERED CARE AID  
250.295.5441

BRENDA-LEE WAGNER  
ELDER SUPPORT WORKER  
250.488.7317

TIERRA MCIVOR  
COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSISTANT

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH CENTRE TEAM

Each of us has chosen to work in health care for different reasons, yet we all share a desire to serve our communities. Thanks to an incredible team working daily to provide the best for our clients and community, it will be a fantastic year of growth and opportunity at the health centre.

I am thankful to the people who trust us daily for their care or the care of their loved ones. It is an honour and a privilege to provide them with the high-quality maintenance and emotional support they deserve and expect from us.



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## CURRENT PROGRAMMING

- Acupuncture & Fire Cupping
- Elder's Social
- Foot Care
- Registered Dietician
- Home Care Medical Support
- Medical Appointment Drivers
- Monthly Harvest Box
- Shiatsu Massage Therapy
- Individual Counselling
- Pathways one-on-one & group sessions



## USIB Health Centre Staff

### **Lindsay Bishop, Health Director**

Tansi- Hello. My name is Lindsay. I am Plains Cree, Ojibwe, with Scottish family ties. I chose to work in healthcare, specifically Home & Community Care , so individuals can continue to live in their homes longer, surrounded by friends and family, with dignity and respect. I genuinely support with compassion and empathy to create an environment where individuals feel happy, secure, and confident in their healthcare management. I am proud to work in healthcare and hope to impact Indigenous healthcare positively. Mikwec - Thank you.

### **Sarah Antonick, Licensed Practical Nurse**

Sarah has been nursing for over 12 years in the emergency department and in-patient care at the Princeton Hospital. She is also specialized in rehabilitation. Sarah has a comprehensive understanding of culturally respectful community health care. She strongly believes in the rights of patient confidentiality and the patient being in the lead of their care.

### **Deborah Bradshaw-White, Registered Nurse**

Hi, my name is Deb. I am originally from the middle of England, where my parents still live. I drifted into nursing, but I love what I do and what I've learned, and now I hope to learn more from the USIB Community. I am acutely aware of and disapprove of the healthcare inequities our system projects onto Indigenous people. Although I cannot see from a two-eyed seeing approach, as I am not Indigenous, I can walk in a solidarity and commit to creating a safe space for the community to share how they wish to integrate their Indigenous ways of healing, to lead them in their individual/family/community health goals.

### **Brenda-Lee Wagner, Elder Support Worker**

Greetings to all. I am Brenda L Wagner working with the Health Department and Elders. I love to see that sparkle in our elders' eyes, to smile and say hello! I love our elder visits weekly, running the Elders Social, and taking them out on outings.

“ Autumn is the season that teaches us that change can be beautiful”

-Heather A. Stillufsen





## USIB Health Centre Staff (continued)

### **Paige Wallin - Registered Care Aid**

Hi, I'm Paige! I am from Princeton. I have been a healthcare aide for five years, specializing in Home/Community Support for the last four. I spend most of my free time in the outdoors with friends and family. I have had a great interest and passion for healthcare since I was little, and I take pride in providing consistent and high quality to every client I work alongside. I am very fortunate to be a small part of a large support system that allows elders to stay at home and independent for as long as they can. I feel very lucky to be a part of the USIB Health Team and am eager to learn more about the culture and traditions of the community members.

### **Tierra McIvor - Community Health Assistant**

Hi everyone, my name is Tierra McIvor. I am new member at the USIB Health Centre and am eager to learn more about the community and amenities Hedley has to offer. I grew up in Princeton BC and have always been passionate with helping others. I am proud and honored to be here and help facilitate appointments and supply information for each individual in a confidential and professional manner.

## What does your Health Centre team do?

We want to give you some information about what we do in our roles here at the Health Centre so that our community can better understand the services we individually offer to our on-reserve and community members.

The Health Director is respectful of diversity and recognizes different cultural ways of being within First Nations communities. Respecting cultural protocols, this person navigates sensitively, confidently and flexibly to meet the health needs entrusted to them by the community. Lead and provide day-to-day supervision of health staff and contractors, including all aspects of human resources management. This would include describing work, recruitment, learning and development planning, career planning, coaching, mentoring, knowledge sharing, capacity building, performance management, etc. Foster a cooperative and collaborative working environment through team activities, personal leadership and professional incentives, including managing and resolving conflicts. Proactively seek diverse funding sources to sustain health and wellness programs, including grants and funding opportunities. Act as the community health and wellness teams "go-to person." Plan, implement and evaluate community health and wellness programs by involving community members.

# Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

Prostate cancer starts in the cells of the prostate. A cancerous (malignant) tumor consists of cancer cells that can grow into nearby tissue and destroy it. The tumor can also spread (metastasize) to other parts of the body.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in Canadian men. It is most common in older men. It is more common in Black men (including men of African and Caribbean ancestry) than in white men, and it is less common in Asian men. Trans women and non-binary people who were assigned male at birth can also get prostate cancer.

The prostate is part of the male reproductive and urinary systems. It makes some of the fluid that is part of semen. It is located below the bladder and in front of the rectum. The urethra (tube that carries urine, or pee, and semen out of the body through the penis) goes through the prostate.

To learn more on prostate cancer, keep reading through the newsletter and find the information poster on symptoms and what you need to know.





## THE HEALTH CENTRE

The Health Centre is available to on-reserve Band and Community members Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please feel free to call or drop in. If you would like to attend any services, please call the health center at 250-292-1478 to book an appointment.

We have a Traditional Medicines table with helpful literature for pick-up that explains how to harvest, prepare, and use for you and your family - pre-designed by USIB knowledge keepers.

\*On occasion, we do have programming for off-reserve band members. Please stay up to date with the Band website.



## PROGRAM DETAILS

### **Acupuncture & Fire Cupping**

Acupuncture and Cupping are traditional Chinese methods to cleanse and alleviate pain. Acupuncture involves pricking the skin or tissues with needles. It can treat various physical, mental, and emotional conditions. Fire Cupping is where heat is added to a glass cup, causing a vacuum effect when applied to the skin. The vacuum effect drains or pulls toxins out of the body and allows the blood to flow. **Now at the Health Centre EVERY MONDAY!**



## PROGRAM DETAILS (continued)

### Shiatsu

Shiatsu is a form of Japanese massage that applies direct pressure on various points or channels in the body and restores the energy balance and healing abilities of one's own body. Shiatsu massage therapy has a wide range of benefits that address a wide range of ailments, such as relieving symptoms of long-lasting physical conditions, addressing trauma response, aiding insomnia, and reducing blood pressure considered to have a pain-relieving effect.

**Appointment Dates: September 15th & 29th**



### Registered Dietician

Registered Dieticians (RD) are nutrition and food experts. RD's apply medical and nutrition knowledge to practical, individualized therapeutic diets and meal plans. They work collaboratively with patients and families to encourage informed decisions about food choices and assist in managing chronic health conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, etc. In addition, they inform individuals how to read and understand food labels, adapt their favorite recipes to help manage diseases and develop individualized nutrition care plans to meet their health goals.

**September 7th, 14th, 21st, 22nd, & 28th**



### Footcare

A registered practical nurse provides our foot care service. Her service provisions include infection control and cleaning standards. Footcare nurses understand how the structure and function of feet and how diseases and circulation affect the health of feet. Footcare treatments include regular monitoring, including assessments and care of ingrown toenails, fungal infections, corns, calluses, and foot pain.

**To schedule an appointment, please call the Health Centre.**



## PROGRAM DETAILS (continued)

### **Elder's Social**

The Elder's social is a place to come together for tea/coffee, treats and conversation. It is a place where one has no expectations of programming. Still, where people can go and casually speak with our health team members about current health topics, community events and catch up with their friends from time to time. Our health team will host special events or information circles on health topics or health center program updates. This is also the time to tell us what YOU would like to do. Want to go to the movies? A concert, go dancing, go out to a nice lunch in town? Let our support worker know so she can plan the events for you.

**September 21st at the USIB office downstairs behind the reception.**



### **Pathways Counselling**

Pathways have individual counselling available on a bi-weekly basis. They offer men, women, and addiction counselling. Individual counselling is available on **5th & 19th** please call the Health Centre to book your appointment.

Stay tuned for dates that are in the afternoon/evening to accommodate shift workers.



## MENTAL HEALTH & CRISIS RESOURCES

**Foundry:** 501 Main Street, Penticton 778-646-2292  
For First Nations youth aged 12 to 24. This is a 24/7 crisis line, and they take in person counselling by appointments.

**Jamie Halloway, Child & Youth Mental Health Clinician:**  
250-293-6784 (call or text) for in-person, phone, or virtual support.

**Native Youth Crisis Hotline:**  
1-877-209-1266 answered by staff 24/7

**Youth in BC:**  
Please visit [www.youthinbc.com](http://www.youthinbc.com) or call at 1-866-661-331

**Hope for Wellness Helpline & Chat:**  
Please visit <https://hopeforwellness.ca/home.html> or call 1-855-242-3310. This is a 24/7 phone line that offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous Peoples across Canada. They also have an "Online" chat counselling service.

**Indian Residential School Crisis Line:**  
1-866-925-4419 - This is a national service for anyone experiencing pain or distress because of their **residential school experience**.

**1800SUICIDE:** If you are considering suicide or are concerned about someone who may be, please call 1-800-784-2433.

**310MENTAL Health Support:** Provides emotional support, information, and resources specific to mental health.

## Plan W

FNHA has a "Doctor of the Day" program. You have no cost as it is covered under your Plan W- Blue Cross Insurance coverage. All you need to do is call 1-855-344-3800

### Stop paying for over-the-counter medication and use the BC Pharmacare Plan W Program!

First Nations Health Authority has a Plan W with a status card for Indigenous peoples. All you will need is a prescription from your Doctor, Nurse Practitioner, midwife, or recommendation from your Pharmacist (your pharmacist must submit a claim to Pharmacare at the time of purchase). If you don't have any of these available, please see Doctor of the Day Program on the previous page and you will still be able to access the plan's benefits.

Items include Tylenol, Allergy Medication, antacids, antibiotic creams, aspirin, calcium supplements, children's vitamins, cold medications, constipations remedies, dietary fiber, eye and ear drops, folic acid, lice treatments, mineral oil, prenatal vitamins, Vitamin A, B1, B6, B12, C & D, wart treatments, yeast infection treatment, zinc oxide cream and many more. (The complete list is available on the USIB Members Website Portal)





## NEAREST HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY CENTRES:

### Penticton Regional Hospital

550 Carmi Avenue, Penticton BC, V2A 3G6

250-492-4000

\*OPEN 24 HOURS\*

### Princeton General Hospital

98 Ridgewood Drive, Princeton BC, VOX 1W0

250-295-3233

\*OPEN 24 HOURS\*

### South Okanagan General Hospital

911 McKinney Road, Oliver BC, VOH 1T0

Emergency Room - OPEN 24 HOURS

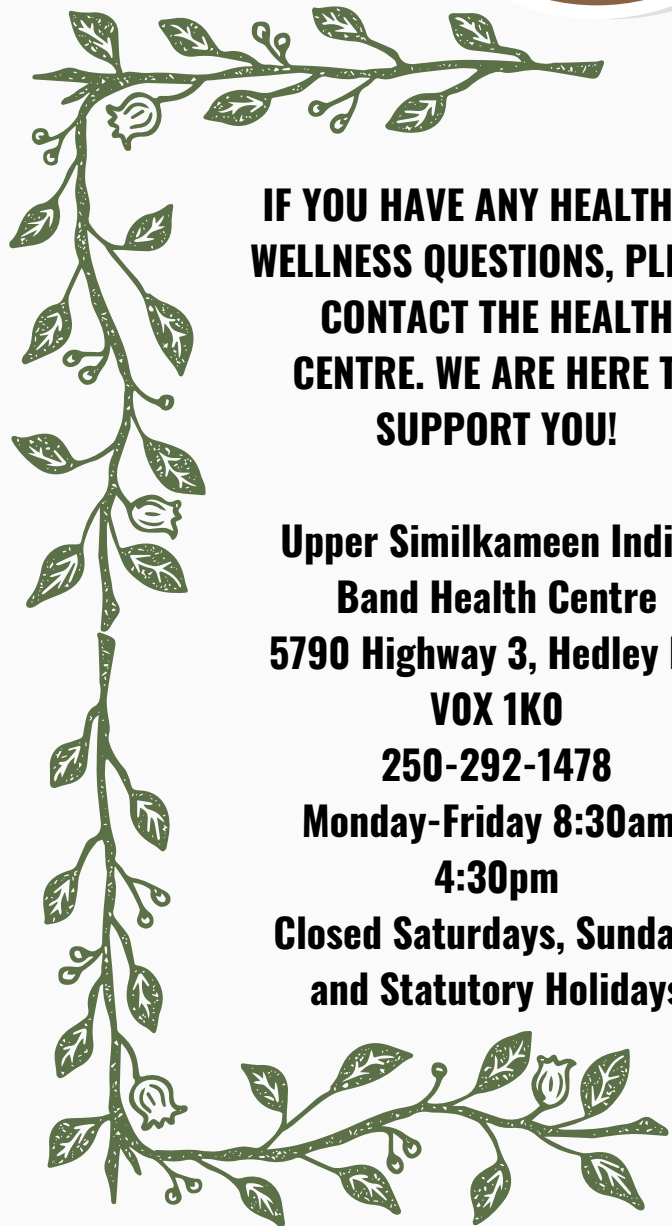
### South Similkameen Health Centre

Emergency and Clinic Services

700 3 Street, Keremeos BC, VOX 1N3

Open Monday through Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

CLOSED Saturdays and Sundays



**IF YOU HAVE ANY HEALTH OR WELLNESS QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE HEALTH CENTRE. WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU!**

**Upper Similkameen Indian  
Band Health Centre  
5790 Highway 3, Hedley BC,  
VOX 1K0  
250-292-1478  
Monday-Friday 8:30am-  
4:30pm  
Closed Saturdays, Sundays,  
and Statutory Holidays**