

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

September 10, 2018

Heart Health! Northern Health set to begin community consultation across the region

Northern Health is embarking on a new series of consultations with residents in communities across the region this fall to gather input on ‘Heart Health’. This continues the Northern Health Board’s commitment to broaden our understanding on topics that matter to northern residents. This consultation will focus on the spectrum of heart health from prevention to services, treatment and hospital care.

“Taking steps to keep your heart healthy can have a huge impact on a person’s quality of life,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. “Northern Health’s consultations give residents an opportunity to affect how their communities learn about heart health and to offer their perspectives on the health issues that that matter to them.”

The goals of the consultation are:

- To provide residents of Northern BC with information on heart health and the services across the continuum of care – from prevention through treatment;
- To engage residents of Northern BC in discussions about heart health and to learn about their priorities, what works well, where there are barriers, and opportunities for improvement;
- To listen, record and report back on the health concerns, hopes, and ideas of participants.

The series of meetings, “Heart Health in Northern BC,” begins September 17, and will run through mid-November.

“Our board continues to be committed to hearing from residents,” said Colleen Nyce, Northern Health Board Chair. “Heart health affects all of us, and we want to know what works, might work, or we can do better.”

This is the eighth Northern Health consultation carried out since 2004. The information gathered will also inform the Northern Health Board and senior staff for planning and decision-making purposes.

There is no cost to attend a consultation session, and refreshments will be provided. An online survey process, Thought exchange, will be made available to every resident of Northern BC, including NH staff, thereby providing a way for those who cannot attend a public meeting or focus group to participate in the consultation process.

The schedule of fall 2018 public consultation sessions is as follows; updated locations will be shared as they are confirmed.

DATE	COMMUNITY	LOCATION	TIME
Sept. 17	Fort Nelson	Northern Rockies Recreation Centre 5500 Alaska Highway	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 18	Fort St. John	North Peace Cultural Centre 10015-100 Avenue Conference Room	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 19	Dawson Creek	Stonebridge – Fixx Urban Grill 500 Hwy 2	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 20	Chetwynd	Pine Valley Senior's Rec Centre 5312-47 Avenue	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 24	Kitimat	Multipurpose Room – KGH 920 Lahakas Blvd S	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 25	Terrace	Best Western Terrace Inn – Skeena Room	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 26	Hazelton	Mountainview Church – Basement 2510 Hwy 62	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sept. 27	Smithers	Healthy Living Centre 1070 Main Street	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 9	Vanderhoof	Community Integris/YMCA 186 Columbia St	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 10	Burns Lake	Burns Lake & District Chamber of Commerce – Heritage Room 540 Hwy 16 W	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 11	Fort St. James	Community Centre (upstairs) 190 Stuart Dr. E	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 15	Village of Queen Charlotte	Eric Ross Room in QC Community Hall	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 16	Masset	TBD	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 17	Prince Rupert	Jim Ciccone Civic Centre	7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct. 29	Valemount	Best Western Valemount Inn- Eagles View Banquet Room 1950 Hwy 5 S	7:00pm-9:00pm
Nov. 1	Quesnel	TBD	7:00pm-9:00pm
Nov. 13	Prince George	TBD	7:00pm-9:00pm

Media Contact: NH media line – 1-877-961-7724