

Simcoe Muskoka Aboriginal Cancer Plan 2016-2019



Reclaiming
Our Health



Simcoe Muskoka
Regional Cancer Program

RVH

Royal Victoria
Regional Health Centre

A Cancer Care Ontario Partner





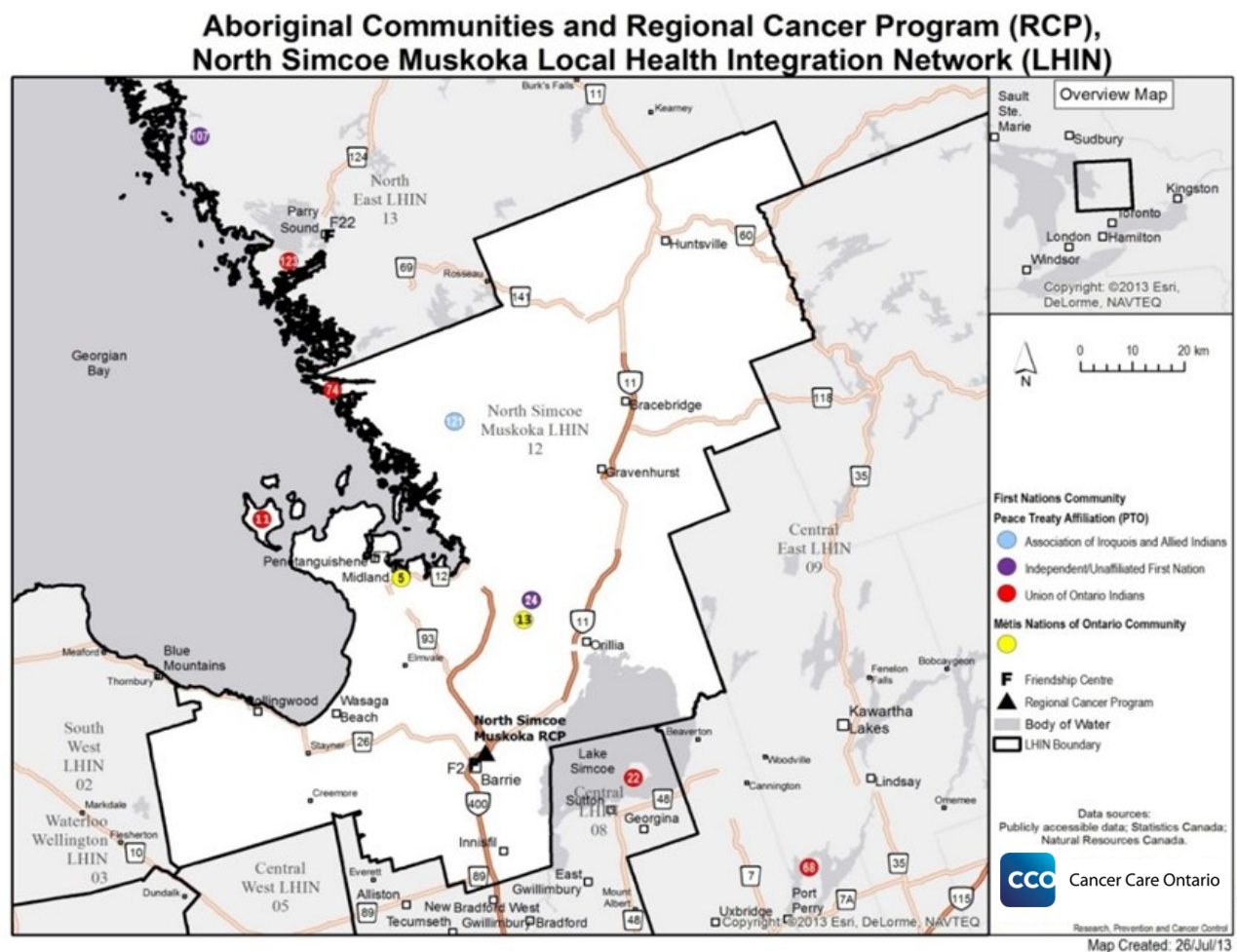
This plan was developed in collaboration with our community partners. Special thanks to the Aboriginal Health Circle for their valuable input and ongoing partnership which is essential to the success of this work.



Cancer Care Ontario



Aboriginal Communities in the North Simcoe Muskoka Region



Regional Index

First Nations Communities

- 11. Beausoleil First Nation
- 24. Chippewas of Rama First Nation
- 74. Moose Deer Point First Nation
- 121. Wahta Mohawks

Métis Nation of Ontario Community Councils

- 5. Georgian Bay Métis Council
- 13. Moon River Métis Council



THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY OF SIMCOE MUSKOKA REGION

The First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) population of the North Simcoe Muskoka (NSM) region is approximately 20,000, accounting for approximately 6% of Ontario's Indigenous inhabitants.

The region is home to 4 First Nations communities and 2 Métis Community Councils: Moose Deer Point First Nation, Beausoleil First Nation and Chippewas of Rama (served by the Union of Ontario Indians), Wahta Mohawks (served by the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians), the Georgian Bay Métis Council, and Moon River Métis Council. It should be noted here that Midland and Innisfil consecutively have the 1st and 2nd largest Métis populations in Ontario.

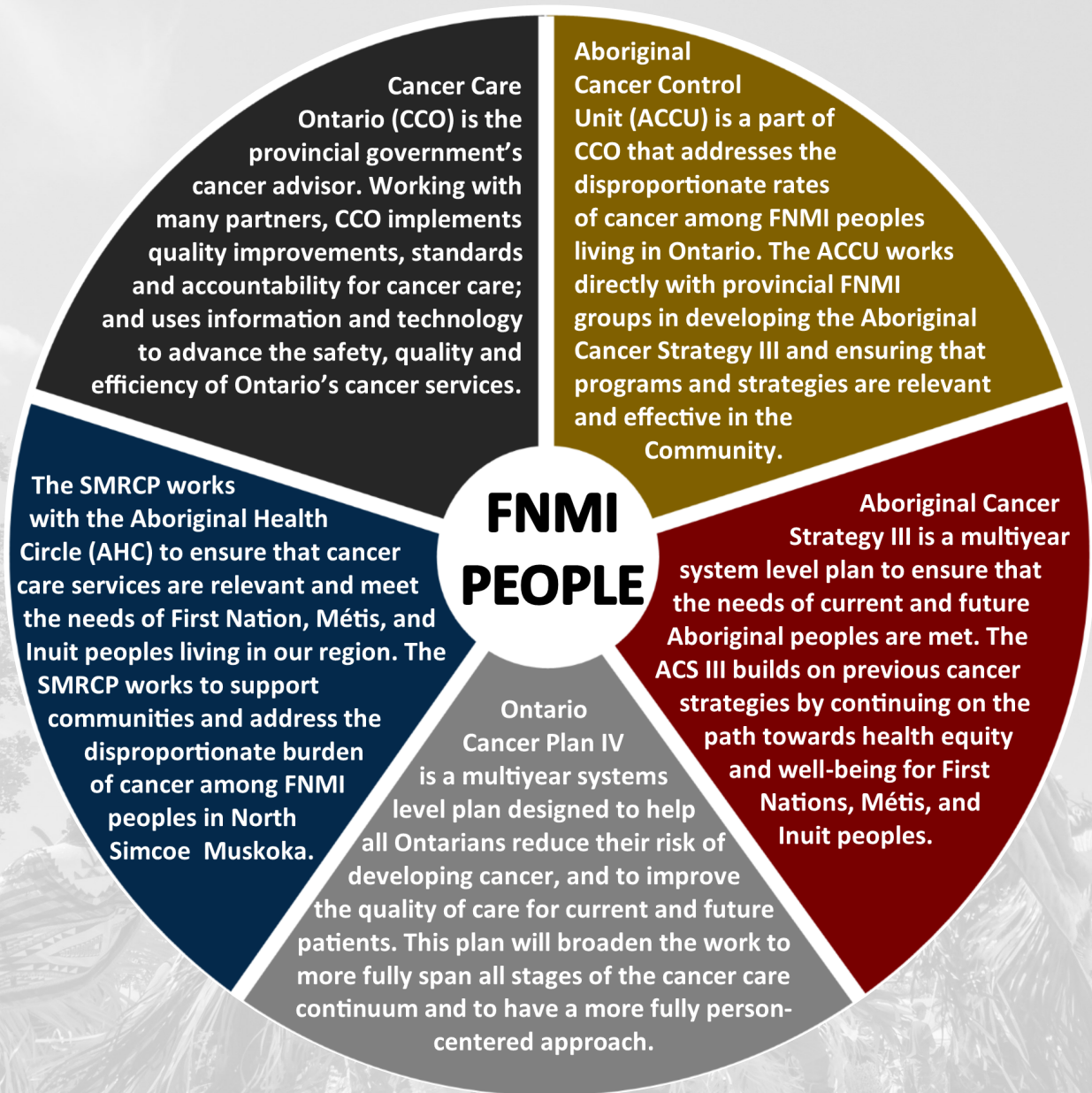


In addition to these communities, NSM is home to a large urban Aboriginal population. There are now more Aboriginal people living in urban centers than there are living in Aboriginal territories, communities on reserves and Métis settlements. It is estimated that 65% of the Indigenous population of Simcoe Muskoka constitute a permanent presence throughout the region. This percentage of the Indigenous community is primarily serviced by Native Women's Groups, Native Friendship Centre's and additional community based organizations listed on page 7 of this document.

Although the Inuit population of the Simcoe Muskoka region is believed to be very small, Cancer Care Ontario will be working with Ontario's Inuit service providers and the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program (SMRCP) to identify the region's Inuit population and work together to understand and address their cancer control needs.



The SMRCP is responsible for implementing provincial standards and programs for cancer care as set out by Cancer Care Ontario's Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit. These standards include responding to the diverse and unique cancer care needs of each of the individual Indigenous communities within the region.



Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program's Commitment to the Aboriginal Community

Within the SMRCP there is a clear understanding that health and history are inextricably interconnected, as a result we will make every effort to align with the recommendations laid out in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's "Calls to Action" document that are related to health.

As a regional program, we champion the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, increasing awareness throughout the medical community in an effort to address health inequities and close gaps to accessing culturally relevant services. Our work will extend beyond our regional borders to support neighbouring and northern FNMI community members who are accessing services at the SMRCP.

Cancer prevention is a priority and our intention is to work in a way that focuses on reversing trends associated with high incidence rates of cancer among the FNMI. Addressing issues associated with late stage diagnosis and increased mortality rates is equally important. This commitment to care extends throughout the cancer journey from prevention, to diagnosis, treatment and survivorship or palliative and end of life support. The SMRCP recognizes that this work must be completed holistically and through partnerships with the Indigenous community, organizations and leaders. There is a strong commitment to walk the path toward health equity together while creating relevant and diverse solutions for healing and health.

The following regional Aboriginal Cancer Plan aligns with Cancer Care Ontario's Provincial Aboriginal Cancer Strategy III addressing the 6 priorities that have been identified through a close and collaborative working relationship between CCO's Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and the Aboriginal community.



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The Aboriginal Health Circle (AHC)

As a result of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's creation of the Local Health Integration Networks, specifically the North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network, the Aboriginal Health Planning Committee of the Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle (BANAC) evolved into the AHC. The AHC is comprised of 18 member seats.

Vision Statement

The intent is for the AHC is to be an inclusive planning body that will provide a forum for Aboriginal health service providers, health professionals, communities and organizations, both rural and urban based including on and off reserve, to plan and take action towards the greater collective good of aboriginal health consumers and in doing so, will improve the Aboriginal health status of our communities.

AHC Health Professional and Community Member Organizations:

- Aboriginal Health Circle Elder
- B'sasnibimaadsiwin Community Mental Health Service
- Barrie Native Friendship Centre
- Beausoleil First Nation
- Biminaawzogin Regional Aboriginal Women's Circle
- Chigamik Community Health Centre
- Chippewas of Rama First Nation
- Enahtig Healing Lodge & Learning Centre
- Georgian Bay Metis Council
- Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre
- Georgian Bay Native Women's Association
- Health Professionals
- North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network
- Moose Deer Point First Nation
- Métis Nation of Ontario
- Orillia Native Women's Group
- Rising SUN Women's Support Group
- Southern Ontario Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative
- Wahta First Nation
- Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program

Strategic Alignment of Provincial Priorities, SMRCP Action Items and Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people:



Strategic Priority 1: Building Productive Relationships

Existing Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and Regional Cancer Program Commitments

- Formalize and embed FNMI communication and engagement structures necessary to achieve success:
 - Directly engage regional FNMI health/advisory committees and leadership
 - Develop Relationship Protocols based on trust and mutual respect to formalize relationships and create accountability for work undertaken with FNMI people in the region
- Engage FNMI partners in the development and implementation of the Simcoe Muskoka Aboriginal Cancer Plan
- Provide cultural awareness training to all members of the SMRCP

Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit Commitments 2016-2019	Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program Commitments 2016—2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collaborate with Health Canada's First Nation and Inuit Health Branch to address barriers ● Explore options to include measures on building productive relationships in the Cancer System Quality Index (CSQI) ● Work with the SMRCP and other partners to promote respect for and understanding of traditional medicine and knowledge ● Work with the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) to establish a date to sign CCO-AIAI protocol ● Develop reports for Political and Territorial Organizational Leadership (PTO), as outlined in the Relationship Protocols, to ensure FNMI leadership is informed as to cancer control progress in communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work collaboratively to develop a regional Relationship Protocol with the Aboriginal Health Circle ● Collaborate with Southern Ontario Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Navigator Chiefs of Ontario to develop a process that ensures patients receive the level of support required to navigate First Nation and Inuit NIHB ● Work toward creating a model of care that includes Indigenous knowledge and Traditional Medicine aligning with the Aboriginal framework of cultural well-being ● FNMI patients and family members will be consulted twice annually functioning as FNMI Patient and Family Advisory Council ● Support RVH in building cultural capacity (i.e. further implementation of the smudging policy, increased navigation support and education related to Aboriginal Relationship and cultural competency development)

Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people in North Simcoe Muskoka (2016 - 2019):

- Further development and expansion of existing relationships with increased opportunity for collaboration
- Address socioeconomic gaps leading to improved health outcomes
- Promote sustainability
- Improved relationships, increased understanding of Indigenous knowledge and respect for traditional medicine approaches
- Improved engagement of patients as partners in their cancer care



Strategic Priority 2: Research and Surveillance

Existing Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and Regional Cancer Program Commitments

- Build and populate databases to provide accurate information for FNMI planning, surveillance and research:
 - Enhance capacity to collect, support and maintain cancer information relevant to FNMI populations.
 - Engage with regional FNMI groups on their data and surveillance needs.
 - Evaluate the impact of initiatives within the context of identifying what success means to FNMI people.

Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit Commitments 2016-2019	Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program Commitments 2016—2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand risk factor surveillance work to accommodate the priorities of FNMI populations • Complete projects to update measures of First Nations cancer burden (e.g., incidences, survival) and explore options for expanding to other Aboriginal groups • Work with experts and communities to support knowledge translation and exchange activities • Expand creation, enhance validity, and increase effectiveness of community cancer profiles • Increase FNMI identifiers in CCO's data holdings • Develop mentorship opportunities with FNMI partners • Establish research priorities in collaboration with FNMI groups • Explore opportunities for bringing together FNMI research users, decision-makers and organizations interested in Aboriginal research to form Aboriginal research table or partnerships that increase capacity for policy-relevant research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop partnerships with FNMI communities and relevant institutions to engage in appropriate research projects ensuring the full, prior and informed consent of FNMI participants • Develop capacity to measure Aboriginal patient and family satisfaction and establish improvement strategies • Ongoing maintenance, promotion and expansion of the voluntary Aboriginal self-identification process • Regional Aboriginal Cancer Lead (RACL) will educate primary care providers on the existing Voluntary Self – Identification process used in the SMRCP and its value • RACL will support primary care providers with the Screening Activity Report resource and educate them on culturally relevant strategies to increase cancer screening among their FNMI patients • Collaboration with Beausoleil First Nation to implement a project to track and support cancer screening within the community

Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people in North Simcoe Muskoka (2016 - 2019):

- Community owned research outcomes
- Patient feedback utilized to inform expansion and ongoing development of culturally relevant cancer care at the Cancer Centre
- Improved overall health for Aboriginal patients throughout the NSM region as a result of increased understanding of the needs of the population including a trauma informed care approach, increased screening rates and overall better relationships
- Increased access to culturally appropriate services as a result of self-identification



Strategic Priority 3: Prevention

Existing Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and Regional Cancer Program Commitments

- Support a respectful approach to commercial tobacco cessation, protection and prevention within FNMI communities.
- Coordinate initiatives with existing regional FNMI tobacco control strategies/initiatives and chronic disease prevention and management.

Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit Commitments 2016-2019	Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program Commitments 2016—2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to build awareness and education in commercial tobacco prevention, cessation and protection with FNMI peoples through the Aboriginal Tobacco Program • Enhance the tracking system used to monitor FNMI programming needs and the impact of Aboriginal Tobacco Program workshops. • Disseminate and support FNMI providers with cessation support through ATP-TEACH e-module. • Support research on Tobacco Reduction in Aboriginal Communities (RETRAC) to improve understanding of why and how interventions work with FNMI groups • Assist in the development of by-laws or policies in collaboration with First Nations communities upon request • Develop a plan to implement recommendations from the FNMI Chronic Disease Prevention Blueprint (“Path to Prevention”), addressing modifiable risk factors (e.g. smoking cessation, physical activity, healthy eating, and alcohol consumption) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement recommendations from the FNMI chronic disease blue print (e.g. health promotion, physical activity, diet and lifestyle) in partnership with local communities • Support expansion of the SMRCP Quit Specialist role to effectively meeting the needs of FNMI cancer patients • Build capacity with FNMI service providers/ community partners to support the development and ownership of culturally specific smoking cessation programs • Collaborate on the development of culturally relevant wellness and awareness campaigns • Partner with key community agencies (i.e. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit) to further enhance primary prevention strategies relevant to the FNMI population

Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people in North Simcoe Muskoka (2016 - 2019):

- Increased collaboration with many different organizations to develop health promotion, physical activity, diet and lifestyle initiatives supporting improved health outcomes
- Increased access to smoking cessation support and resources for individuals
- Greater access to preventative programs and services



Strategic Priority 4: Screening

Existing Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and Regional Cancer Program Commitments

- Increase access to and awareness of cancer screening for age-eligible under/never screened FNMI people
- Engage communities and Aboriginal partner organizations in developing and leading sustainable community based screening improvement projects

Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit Commitments 2016-2019

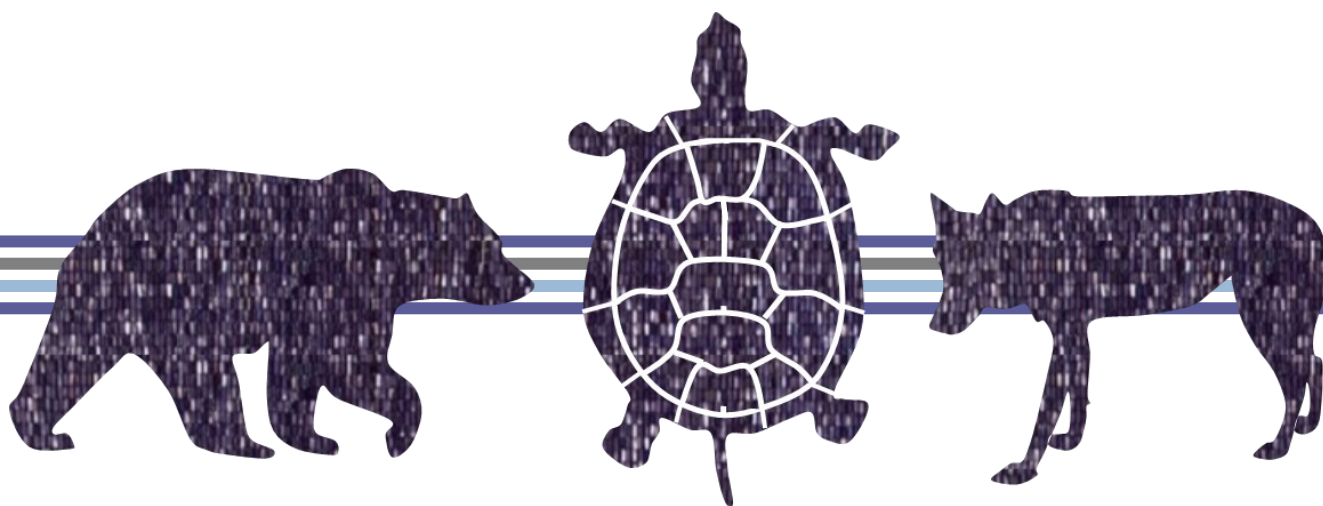
- Complete cancer screening study to improve the understanding and delivery of cancer screening to First Nations and Métis peoples
- Establish evidence to inform screening correspondence and provincial policies for screening invitations and follow-up
- Continue to explore opportunities to improve access to screening for FNMI people and participate in a lung cancer screening pilot program

Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program Commitments 2016—2019

- Provide culturally appropriate education on cancer screening to both public and providers
- Increased access, for the FNMI population, to appropriate cancer screening tests
- Promote uptake of cancer screening navigation services via the Simcoe Muskoka Cancer Screening Hotline
- Establish a collaborative framework that will enable and support communities to increase capacity to offer sustainable and culturally relevant cancer screening services

Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people in North Simcoe Muskoka (2016 - 2019):

- Improved access to screening for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer
- Increased screening rates
- Early detection of cancer leading to reduced mortality





Strategic Priority 5: Palliative and End-of-Life Care

Existing Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and Regional Cancer Program Commitments

- Help FNMI people diagnosed with cancer to navigate the cancer system
- Aboriginal Navigator will help promote and facilitate access to culturally safe and culturally sensitive care on and off site
- Support awareness of, and response to, FNMI spiritual care needs
- Develop practices at RVH that are culturally welcoming for FNMI patients and families
- Incorporate Aboriginal artwork and stories into SMRCP publications
- Promote the use of symptom assessment tools for FNMI cancer patients (e.g. Edmonton Symptom Assessment System surveying [ESAS] and Interactive Symptom and Collection [ISAAC]; use of Palliative Performance Scale [PPS])
- Promote supportive and palliative care by developing partnerships with regional providers such as the Palliative Care Network

Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit Commitments 2016-2019	Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program Commitments 2016—2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete implementation of mobile ISAAC pilot (tools to support pain and symptom management) and expand to Aboriginal Health Access Centers and major FNMI health centers. • Work with Pallium Canada to develop, finalize and implement the LEAP curriculum for providers serving FNMI people • Address the gaps in service delivery through discussions with regional, provincial and federal programs and services to improve jurisdictional coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute culturally specific Advanced Care Planning (ACP) toolkit and educational materials • Expansion of network to include more communities and supportive agencies to address gaps in service • Coordinate expert speakers in conferences and additional speaking engagements to increase cultural competency among health care providers throughout the region • Partner with community agencies to provide education related to culturally relevant spiritual care practices • In collaboration with the Aboriginal Health Access Centre (AHAC), compile a data base of community partner contacts in supportive roles • Work to ensure that remote access for patients is available through Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN) or personal computer video conferencing (PCVC) • Development and dissemination of a resource that could support other healthcare providers

Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people in North Simcoe Muskoka (2016 - 2019):

- Enhanced culturally sensitive support frameworks for FNMI patients & families (including spiritual care)
- Increased advocacy for the needs of FNMI cancer patients and their families within the region and with all groups involved in cancer care
- Improved healthcare provider awareness of psychosocial, practical and physical concerns unique to FNMI patients



Strategic Priority 6: Education

Existing Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit and Regional Cancer Program Commitments

- Significantly enhance FNMI peoples' knowledge and awareness of cancer
- Ensure resources/tools are reaching all FNMI communities in the region and a knowledge translation plan is in place for all resources

Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit Commitments 2016-2019	Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program Commitments 2016—2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote uptake of Aboriginal Relationship and Cultural Competency courses through an online learning management system • Complete the enhanced Aboriginal Tobacco Program (ATP) website for FNMI communities • Develop an education framework and evaluate new educational initiatives • Complete "Cancer 101" education toolkit (videos, flashcards, and fact sheets) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support the regional dissemination of all FNMI educational materials • Ongoing promotion of CCO's Aboriginal Relationship and Cultural Competency modules • Regular FNMI topics highlighted in Primary Care Provider (PCP) and SMRCP newsletters • Ongoing education to regional providers to increase their capacity to provide culturally competent care (i.e. Pearls, Cancer Journey presentation) • Expand social media presence • Collaborate to support program and policy development to address the recommendations set out in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action report

Anticipated Outcomes for FNMI people in North Simcoe Muskoka (2016 - 2019):

- Increased knowledge and understanding of the cancer journey within FNMI communities
- Increased awareness and education for providers and health care organizations



Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) Principles

The SMRCP and CCO respect the right of Aboriginal people to own, control, access and possess information about their people. They acknowledge this is fundamentally tied to self-determination and to the preservation and development of their culture.

Reporting Process

Regular reporting on all deliverables outlined within the plan will be provided at AHC meetings on a quarterly basis and also to the SMRCP Regional Steering Committee and CCO.



