

Deputy Premier
Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton-Glenora

AR 158736

February 4, 2019

Grand Chief Wilton Littlechild Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations 17533 106 Avenue Edmonton AB T5S 1E7

Dear Grand Chief Littlechild:

I am pleased to announce a new needs-based approach for adding continuing care (supportive living and/or long-term care) capacity in Alberta called the *Building Communities of Care* program. This program includes two new grant opportunities, with targeted funding and support for Indigenous communities.

In listening to communities, we are hearing that there is a need for culturally appropriate continuing care close to home and community. We have also heard that current continuing care capacity for Indigenous communities is limited.

Our government recognizes the need to address these issues and to support more flexible approaches to the provision of continuing care services and infrastructure in Indigenous communities. This new program will support health outcomes and quality of life by increasing access to culturally appropriate and high quality continuing care spaces for Indigenous communities with the greatest need.

My ministry is committed to working respectfully with Indigenous partners and has worked collaboratively with an Indigenous Expert Panel that has provided advice on the Indigenous stream of the *Building Communities of Care* program.

There are two key components in the Indigenous stream of the new program:

- 1. One-time only **Business Case Development Grants** to support community needs assessments and business case development.
- 2. **Competitive Capital Grants** to support the building or upgrade/renovation of culturally appropriate supportive living or long-term care spaces (either on or off reserve and on or off Settlements).

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For full details about the grant funding including eligibility, how to apply, deadlines and contact information, visit: <a href="https://www.alberta.ca/building-communities-care.aspx">https://www.alberta.ca/building-communities-care.aspx</a>.

I look forward to our continued relationship and ongoing collaboration. Our government remains committed to achieving real and meaningful improvements in health outcomes for First Nations peoples. If you have any questions, please contact Marty Landrie, Director of Indigenous Health at 780-422-1593 or Marty.Landrie@gov.ab.ca.

Sincerely

Sarah Hoffman

Minister of Health

cc: Milton Sussman, Deputy Minister, Alberta Health
John Cabral, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Service Delivery, Alberta Health
Corinne Schalm, Executive Director, Continuing Care
Bart Johnson, Acting Executive Director, Corporate Planning and Indigenous Health
Michael Mah, Executive Director, Health Facilities Planning