

# PRIHS: Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System

## FUNDING AWARD



## AHS South Zone Indigenous Patient Navigation Model: A Novel Approach

### PROJECT FAST FACTS

**LEADS:** Katherine Chubbs & Melissa Potestio  
**INSTITUTION:** Alberta Health Services  
**PRIHS AWARD:** \$1.4M



*Health inequities for Indigenous people arise from the multi-generational impacts of colonization.*

### GOAL:

*A culturally-competent health care system capable of reducing health care inequities experienced by Indigenous people.*

***Health inequities for Indigenous people arise from the multi-generational impacts of colonization and need to be contextualized within the historical, political, social and economic conditions that have influenced Indigenous health.***

Alberta Health Services (AHS) is committed to respond to the unique health needs of Indigenous peoples as part of the Reconciliation Approach enshrined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples directives.

A culturally competent health care system is one key action to reducing health care inequities experienced by Indigenous people. Building on growing momentum in AHS South Zone, we propose to innovate Indigenous navigation by learning from and adapting models, policies and partnerships from other jurisdictions, as a means for advancing health system transformation.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:**

- Developing a replicable engagement model with Indigenous communities throughout Alberta to effectively partner on reducing Indigenous health inequities.
- Engaging Alberta's Indigenous communities, patients and families in co-designing an innovative model for Indigenous navigation to improve the experience and health outcomes.
- Rigorously testing and evaluating the implementation and impact of our Indigenous engagement process and navigation model in South Zone using mixed-methods research design.
- Developing a detailed scale and spread strategy if the engagement and navigation model is shown to be successful.

**ABOUT PRIHS**



**WHAT IS PRIHS?**

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) is a partnership between Alberta Innovates and Alberta Health Services focused on supporting health research and innovation projects that will adopt and implement evidence to maintain or improve quality of patient care and services while substantially reducing costs in the healthcare system.

This partnered funding opportunity targets the implementation of high quality, evidence informed solutions to "Enhancing Care in the Community" to address performance gaps ("Focus Areas") in the healthcare system that prevent optimal patient care, resource use, delivery and access to affordable and sustainable health services.



**VALUE & TERM**

Combined pool of funds available: \$7 million. Individual award's period of support: up to three years.



**FOCUS AREAS**

- Solutions that help Albertans optimally manage their health conditions, maintain their independence and live well in their communities.
- Solutions that help Albertans avoid unnecessary Acute Care visits and admissions.

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