



FNHA VANCOUVER COASTAL REGION UPDATE

Date: February 26th, 2018
Subject: **Partnership Accord (PA) Refresh / Evaluation Update**

PURPOSE

- Provide an update on the evaluation progress of work related to the Partnership Accord evaluation and refresh process underway; and
- Request support to bring evaluation focus group and survey to regional caucus (Apr 24-26, 2018) to inform recommendations for a refreshed Partnership Accord (*subject* to Regional Table and Aboriginal Health Steering Committee approval of *Partnership Accord Evaluation Plan*).

BACKGROUND

The Vancouver Coastal region Partnership Accord (PA) was signed by FNHC, FNHA, and Vancouver Coastal Health in May, 2012. The purpose was to increase the influence of First Nation's decisions for health services in the region with the goal of attaining shared decision-making. Improving health outcomes for First Nations and other Aboriginal people residing in the territories was also a key driver with the hope to achieve greater service integration through shared decision-making on planning and engagement; service delivery; and accountability and evaluation of First nations and Aboriginal culturally appropriate, safe and effective services and systems.

The PA was built on several provincial and regional documents: The Transformative Change Accord, the Tripartite First Nations Health Plan (2006); the Tripartite First Nations Health Plan (2007); Consensus Paper: BC First Nations Perspective on a new Health Governance Arrangement (2011) adopted by resolution by BC First Nations; and the Tripartite Framework Agreement on First Nations Health Governance by First Nations, the Government of BC, and the Government of Canada. The latter was a legally binding agreement outlining the new health governance structure, funding commitments, transfer of federal health programs and services to the FNHA, and identified how First Nations and the provincial health system would work together to better meet FNs needs and priorities.

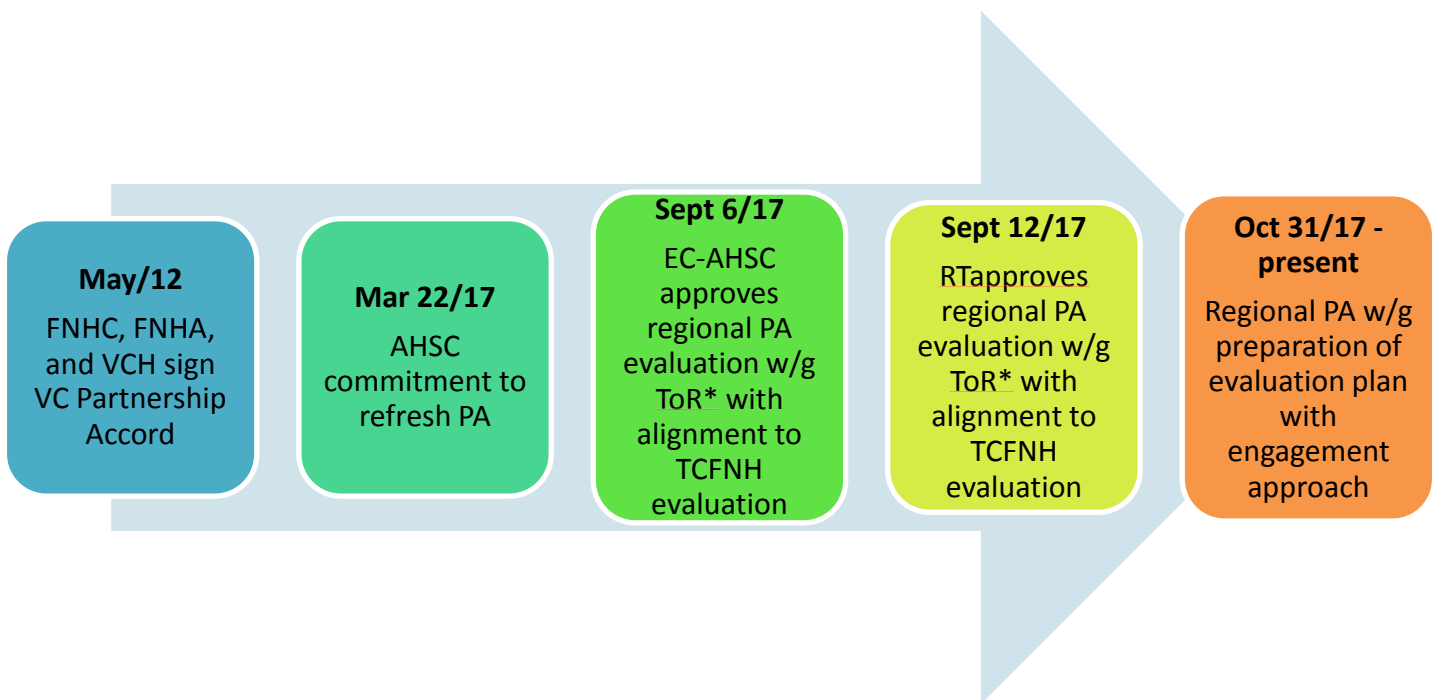
The PA outlines the structure of the parties (acknowledging their separate mandates), their relationship, and overall shared commitments on (not limited to):

- Communications;
- How to work together;
- Deliverables;
- Overseeing implementation structures i.e. *Aboriginal Health Steering Committee* was jointly created to oversee the PA implementation and serve as a senior and influential forum for partnership, collaboration, and joint efforts on FN and Ab health priorities, policies, budgets, programs and services in the region;
- Planning and Engagement;
- Accountability and Evaluation; and
- Development of Success Indicators

The need to refresh the regional PA was first discussed at an *Aboriginal Health Steering Committee* (AHSC) meeting in 2016. On March 22, 2017, the AHSC committed to renewing a refreshed Partnership Accord to be completed by March 31, 2018. The Executive Committee to the AHSC (AHSC- EC) is providing operational oversight to ensure progress on the Partnership Accord evaluation and refresh, and opted to align it with the Tripartite Committee evaluation underway simultaneously to maximize resources. Leslie Bonshor, Executive Advisor, Aboriginal Health, VCH and Naomi Williams-Shackelly, Acting Regional Director, VC team, FNHA are executive co-sponsors to the Regional Partnership Accord Evaluation Working Group (RPAEWG).



Vancouver Coastal Regional Table (RT) is the Vancouver Coastal Caucus structure providing guidance and input to the evaluation and refresh work. The RT endorsed the Regional Partnership Accord Evaluation Working Group (RPAEWG) Terms of Reference (ToR). The inaugural regional evaluation working group meeting occurred on October 31st, 2017. The key purpose was to define a collaborative regional evaluation approach and build a plan for Regional Table, EC-AHSC, and AHSC guidance, review, and consideration. The overall evaluation plan development work is still underway. A few delays have been incurred with determining partnering participants, changing roles/membership, as well as clarifying scope, data and literature sources, and ensuring consultant support for independent evaluation execution. More recently, the development of a 'mini' working group to support the larger RPAEWG has been agreed to by executive co-sponsors (Leslie and Naomi) in order to advance the detailed portions of the work and attempt to meet the projected timeline outlined below. Given the importance of ensuring evaluation results and recommendations are considered during a Partnership Accord visioning session, the half day strategy session the initially targeted for early September will be scheduled following the completion of the evaluation. The timeline below depicts progress of the regional PA evaluation to date:



**Please see Appendix A for RPAEWG ToR.*

As per the ToR (Appendix A), the RPAEWG has focused effort to have the evaluation plan completed in order to take advantage of the upcoming caucus engagement opportunity with regional First Nations leadership. The RPAEWG is developing of a DRAFT evaluation plan that identifies:

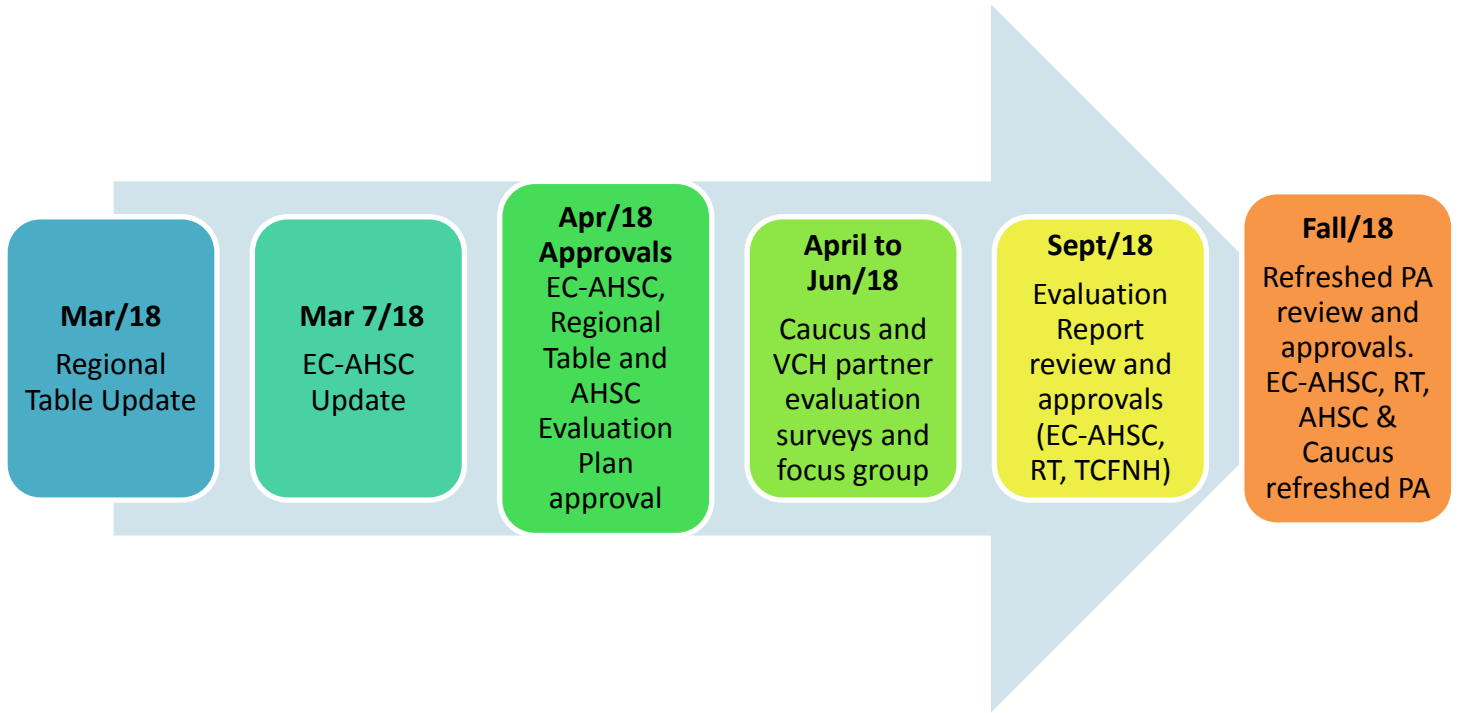
1. **Key areas of focus and outcome statements (see Appendix B), questions, stakeholder groups, indicators , methods,** and
2. **Responsibilities** associated with data collection
3. **Timelines** for data collection and engagement approach

With Regional Table guidance, the RPAEWG is development evaluation focus group and survey questions to engage with regional First Nations leadership at the April 24-26, 2018 regional Caucus. The information will be used to inform evaluation recommendations, and help shape a refreshed Partnership Accord DRAFT for Caucus consideration in the Fall of 2018. The RPAEWG is also clarifying population health data and literature review sources, along with an accompanying engagement framework that ensures our community and VCH service partner perspectives are embedded. Once the evaluation plan has been drafted, it will be presented to the Regional Table, AHSC-EC and AHSC for



review and feedback (at meetings or virtually to meeting the proposed caucus engagement timelines); and endorsement to proceed with engagement. Evaluation expertise has been sought with a consultant support to evaluation execution.

Approximate PA Refresh and evaluation timelines projected are outlined below (subject to evaluation progress):





APPENDIX A. Draft Vancouver Coastal Region Partnership Accord Working Group Terms of Reference

Background

The Tripartite Evaluation Working Group (TEWG), composed of the FNHA, Health Canada and the Ministry of Health, are conducting an evaluation of the British Columbia Tripartite Framework Agreement on First Nation Health Governance (TFA). The objectives of the TFA evaluation are to meet the planning and reporting requirements included in the TFA itself and to measure the effectiveness of the new health governance structure. The TFA evaluation intends to incorporate the results of the evaluation of each of the Regional Health Partnership Accords as a data source. The Regional Health Partnership Accords are formal agreements between each of the regional Health Authorities and the Regional Caucus [?] representing the First Nations in that region. Presently, many of the regional Health Partnership Accords are up for renewal, and due to be evaluated. Conducting the Regional Health Partnership Accord evaluations as part of the Tripartite Evaluation will result in greater efficiencies in process, people, and budget. Additionally, combining these evaluation efforts will ensure that all regions are well-represented in the Tripartite Evaluation report, as per its original intention. Such a collaboration will facilitate effective knowledge exchange across regions and support strategic conversations at the Tripartite Committee on First Nations Health (TCFNH) level.

Purpose

The Regional Partnership Accord Evaluation Working Group (RPAEWG) is convened in order to conduct an evaluation of the Regional Partnership Accord.

Core Functions and Responsibilities of the Regional Partnership Accord Working Group

- Developing and implementing a process and timeline for conducting the evaluation and reporting of results
- Advising on and sharing relevant methodologies
- Coordinating work between the evaluation groups
- Creating an evaluation work plan towards the preparation of a completed evaluation report
- Developing and overseeing the development of evaluation tools (Key informant interview guides, surveys) in order to collect data relevant to the evaluation
- Providing advice on the development of evaluation methodologies and approaches to support alignment with Tripartite Logic Model and Evaluation Plan
- Regional members will act as the lead on engaging and communicating with stakeholders within the region

Membership

Membership will be composed of at least one representative of each of the parties involved: (1) The regional Health Authority, (2) the First Nations Health Authority Regional Team, and the (3) Tripartite Evaluation Working Group (4) Regional Membership. This membership will vary between the regions as appropriate. The following members are assigned to the work:

(1) Vancouver Coastal Health:

- Darcia Pope, Executive Director, Transformation, VCH
- Belinda Boyd, Leader, Community Engagement, VCH
- Brittany Bingham, PhD Candidate and AH Lead Research & Evaluation, VCH

(2) FNHA Vancouver Coastal Region:

- Allison Twiss, Regional Advisor
- Brent Tom, Team Lead Engagement
- Delaram Farshad, Regional Planner



(3) Tripartite Evaluation Working Group:

- Judith Hutchison, Program and Service Performance Spec
- Rebecca Love, Manager, Evaluation
- Graham Ambrose, Evaluation Analyst
- Maxwell Nichols, Evaluation Analyst

Reporting

The RPAEWG will seek to develop a final Evaluation report, which will be shared based on an agreed upon dissemination plan. The results from the evaluation will be included in the Tripartite Evaluation Report. The TEWG reports to the Tripartite Implementation Committee (IC), regional members report to the Regional Table for FNHC and technical advisory guidance, the Executive Committee for operational oversight, and ultimately to the Aboriginal Health Steering Committee for executive and governance strategic and governance approvals.

Operations

The RPAEWG will meet monthly at a minimum, if not more frequently for the duration of the evaluation study. RPAEWG will be non-hierarchical and be based on the principles of reciprocal accountability, and operate on consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the matter will be referred to the Aboriginal Health Steering Committee- Executive Committee EC AHSC initially, then to the Aboriginal Health Steering Committee should the matter not be resolved at the AHSC-EC.

Timeframe

Ideally, RPAEWG will complete the evaluation of the Vancouver Coastal Partnership Accord prior to its renewal and be responsive to regional timelines and needs. RPAEWGs will be formed by October 5th, 2017 with the intent of drafting an evaluation plan by October 27th, 2017 for presentation to the AHSC-EC on November 1st, 2017 for revision prior to being presented to the AHSC via email by November 15th, 2017.



Appendix B. Evaluation Plan DRAFT Areas of Work and Outcome Statements

Areas of Work	Outcome Statements
General achievements of the Partnership Accord	The PA has contributed to changes desired by parties
Improved governance and relationships	Shared Awareness and understanding of the aim of the Vancouver Coastal Partnership Accord Clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Parties as outlined in the Partnership Accord. Relationships between the Parties have been strengthened as a result of the Partnership Accord
Improved Coordination and Integration of planning and service delivery	A coordinated and integrated First Nations health and wellness system in the Vancouver Coastal Region
Program and Service improvements	Advancements in the quality and cultural safety of programs and services available to Vancouver Coastal Region First Nations individuals, families and communities.
Health and Wellness Outcomes	Improved Health Outcomes for First Nations People in the Vancouver Coastal Region
Monitoring Progress and Evaluation	The parties to the Partnership Accord work together to assess the effectiveness of shared governance, decision making, and progress in improving health outcomes for First Nations people of the Vancouver Coastal Region