

First Nations Health Authority

First Nations Regional Early
Childhood Development,
Education and
Employment Survey
(REEES)



REEES is a survey being completed to learn more about early childhood development, education, and employment in First Nations communities. The REEES survey is happening in 250 First Nations communities in 10 regions across Canada: Yukon, Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.

This summer the FNHA will roll out a new nationally funded survey that will provide important new information about our communities and the social determinants of health.

The Social Determinants of Health are an integral component of First Nations health and wellness planning.

BC First Nations are moving toward a model of wellness that encompasses broad indicators of health and well-being. REEES will collect culturally and socially relevant early childhood development, education and employment information. High levels of participation will maximize the relevance and usefulness of the REEES survey for BC First Nations. Data collection is part of the FNHA mandate as stated in the BC Tripartite Framework Agreement on First Nation Health Governance. Data on the social determinants of health is scarce and the FNHA can learn from the REEES process and data outcomes.

REEES is Voluntary.

The REEES survey is voluntary. It is acknowledged and respected that First Nations rights to self-determination include the jurisdiction and authority to make decisions about information relevant to First Nations. Communities and individuals selected may choose whether or not to consent to participating in the survey and can withdraw their consent at any time.

It is by First Nations, for First Nations.

The REEES originated under the direction of the First Nation Information Governance Centre

(FNIGC) and is supported by the AFN. It is a national project with roots in First Nations communities across Canada.

It respects and protects our information.

The REEES was developed by First Nations. First Nations provide consent to participate through Band Council Resolution or Letter of Understanding. The REEES adheres to the FNIGC principles of OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access, Possession).

We can use the funding from the FNREES to forward the FNHA's data governance initiatives and learn about social determinants of health.

As the REEES is already funded, the FNHC, FNHDA, FNHA won't need to invest additional funds to collect this data. We have an opportunity to make use of this collection process to inform our own work, without any fiscal burden. Discussions amongst senior FNHA and FNHC representatives have focused on assuming the REEES in order to use the resources in a manner that supports the broader agenda of the BC First Nations Data Governance Initiative: to use the survey as a stepping stone towards our future vision of First Nations data governance. The REEES provides an opportunity to learn and evaluate how the FNHA can collect information not captured in any other data systems.



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Health through wellness