Fraser Health & Métis Nation British Columbia 2025 Partnership Updates

Below is a summary of high-level updates for Métis Chartered Community members in the Fraser Salish region about the Métis Nation BC (MNBC)-Fraser Health Métis Health and Wellness Joint Committee meetings that took place during 2025. These meetings are intended to support the implementation of the Métis Health and Wellness Plan (MHWP) and each quarterly meeting is based on a theme that aligns with the plan's baskets of work.

MNBC-FH Métis Health and Wellness Joint Committee Discussions

June 2025 — Theme: A Year in Reflection (In-Person at Fraser Health Central City Office)

- The MNBC-Fraser Health Métis Health and Wellness Joint Committee reflected on the past year of collaboration and takeaways for the next year.
- Métis cultural wellness education has been successful, including small group tours of Amelia Douglas Institute at MNBC Headquarters, Miyomahcihô: The Person is in Good Health experiential learning facilitated by Lisa Shepherd, and Ta Saantii Mamawapowuk, a large full-day health gathering.
- The committee identified a need to improve communication between the MNBC-Fraser Health Métis Health and Wellness Joint Committee and the Indigenous Health Collaborative Council (IHCC).

September 2025 — Theme: Health Promotion (Virtual)

- MNBC announced the new Health Promotion Program (Nâcinîhikêwin) to be launched in 2026 with a focus on cancer prevention. This program is now operating.
- Fraser Health Population and Public Health shared their immunization and Indigenous-specific services. They also presented their Wellness Promotion Program Strategy.
- MNBC notified Fraser Health that a new Regional Health Coordinator for Region 2 will be hired to assist Métis individuals with healthcare navigation and to host health workshops and community health events.

Nov 2025 — General Meeting (Virtual)

- MNBC-Fraser Health Métis Health and Wellness Joint Committee reviewed the progress on the Métis Health and Wellness Plan and identified areas to focus on for 2026 including cultural mental health and harm reduction supports, self-determined Métis health information systems, and Métis representation in the Fraser Health workforce.

What's New

Indigenous Caregiver Support Model (ICSM)

- Fraser Health received a $50,000 Health Research BC grant to support ICSM expansion planning. MNBC is a partner in the ICSM Partnership Table, which will develop an implementation plan and evaluation framework. A full grant of $1.3 million over three years has been awarded to support implementation beginning in 2026
- The ICSM one-year evaluation showed strong positive impacts on Indigenous Elders and caregivers, including reduced stress, improved caregiving skills, and culturally safe relational support.

Métis Cultural Wellness Education

- Fraser Health staff participated in Amelia Douglas Institute gallery tours, over 145 Fraser Health staff visited the Amelia Douglas Institute — the Métis cultural center at MNBC Headquarters — participating in multiple gallery and exhibit tours between February and May 2025.
- MNBC hosted a Ta Saanti Mamawapowuk gathering at the Civic Hotel in Surrey for FH staff on Nov 13, 2025. There were 75 FH staff, 11 MNBC staff, and 7 Métis Chartered Community members in attendance for a total of 93 participants.
- The first facilitation of MNBC's new UBC CPD accredited course Miyo-Pimâtisowin: Métis Cultural Wellness Education for Healthcare Professionals was offered at the event and was well-received.

Indigenous Design & Métis Representation

- MNBC Ministry of Health connected Fraser Health's Indigenous Design Lead with the Ministry of Culture, Heritage, and Language to explain how to hire Métis artists for Métis representation in Fraser Health facilities, including upcoming major capital projects such as the new Surrey Hospital.

Food Security Initiatives

- MNBC received $15,000 in Fraser Health Community Food Action Initiative funding for 2025 and an additional $15,000 for 2026. Funds were distributed to MCCs to support community gardens, food hampers for Elders, fishing events, and community gatherings.

Healthy Aging Strategy

- MNBC provided detailed feedback to Fraser Health's Population and Public Health Wellness Promotion team, highlighting culture as medicine, distinctions-based approaches, and the importance of Indigenous worldviews in implementing the strategy.

Fraser MHWP Dissemination

- MNBC and Fraser Health published the Fraser MHWP through online platforms, AGM distribution, and community engagement activities throughout fall 2025.

Partnership Accord

- MNBC and Fraser Health confirmed the 2023 Fraser Partnership Accord as the primary guiding document for continued collaboration. This shift replaces the previous LOU and supports a distinction-based approach to health services planning.

Next Steps

- Continue implementing the MNBC–Fraser Health MHWP as the guiding framework for MNBC–Fraser Health collaboration.
- Offer more Métis cultural wellness education in 2026 including Miyomahcihô, Miyo-Pimâtisowin, and Ta Saantii Mamawapowuk gatherings.
- Advance Métis representation in Fraser Health capital projects and cultural spaces.
- Support ICSM expansion planning and prepare for the full grant implementation.

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