



Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly 2024

December 3-5, 2024 • Rogers Centre Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario

Dialogue Session

Bridging Gaps: Aligning the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program with First Nations' Experiences, and Accessibility and Disability Inclusion

Monday, December 2, 2024 • 1:00 PM -2:30 PM • Room 206, Rogers Centre

Session Description:

This session will provide an update on activities related to the NIHB program and recommend ways to advance and align mandates set out in AFN Resolutions (i.e., Naturopathic Medicine, Treaty Medicine Chest, and the Support for Gender Care) with First Nations' realities.

The session will also provide an opportunity to discuss the Accessible Canada Act (ACA) and Advance Distinct First Nations Accessibility Legislation highlighting Four Systemic Barriers that prevent Canada's ACA from being an effective legal tool to build accessible First Nations governments including key mechanisms to hold the Government of Canada to account for creating barriers to accessibility in First Nations.

Speakers List:

- Knowledge Keeper William (Bill) Sunday
- Regional Chief Andrea Paul, Portfolio
- Chief Byron Louis, Okanagan First Nation, B.C.
- Shannah McInnis, Disability Intersectional Consultant, AccessEDI
- Cheyenne Joseph, Director, AFN Health Sector
- Jenny Gardipy, Senior Policy Analyst – NIHB, AFN Health Sector
- Marlene Larocque, Senior Policy Advisor, AFN Health Sector
- Marie Frawley-Henry, Senior Policy Analyst, AFN Health Sector
- Lacey Kassis, AFN Legal Counsel



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Time	Agenda Item	Leads
1:00 PM	Opening Prayer	Knowledge Keeper William (Bill) Sunday
1:05 PM	Opening Comments	Regional Chief Andrea Paul
1:10 PM	Welcome and Introductions	Cheyenne Joseph
1:15 PM	NIHB Joint Review Steering Committee Update <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NIHB Navigators Update <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Communications – NIHB Information 2. Analysis of the NIHB Program Update 3. NIHB Evaluation – Case Studies 4. Pre-Budget Submission (PBS) – NIHB 5. NIHB Regional Engagement Proposal AFN Resolutions Update #97/2023 <i>Naturopathic Medicine</i> #42/2024 <i>Treaty Medicine Chest Clause</i> #01/2024 <i>Allied Health Services</i> #05/2024 <i>MedTrans Policy Discriminatory</i>	Jenny Gardipy Marlene Larocque
1:45 PM	The Accessible Canada Act and Distinct First Nations Legislation Mandates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighting Four Major Barriers to Accessibility/ Disability Inclusion • Pre-Budget Advocacy–on Accessibility/ Disability Inclusion 	Marie Frawley-Henry Shannahn McInnis
2:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key mechanisms to hold the Government of Canada to account for human rights negligence of First Nations persons with disabilities and First Nations governments. • United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Preparation of AFN's Shadow Report 	Chief Byron Louis Lacey Kassis
2:15 PM	Discussion AFN Draft Resolution #14 <i>Rejecting the Accessible Canada Act and Advancing Distinct First Nations Accessibility Legislation</i>	Marie Frawley-Henry
2:25 PM	Closing Prayer	Knowledge Keeper William (Bill) Sunday