

 REGIONAL HIV/AIDS CONNECTION	Truth & Reconciliation Position Statement	Policy Number: Page: 1/2
	Original: June 2025 Revised: Replace:	Approved by:

Regional HIV/AIDS Connection (RHAC) acknowledges the ongoing impacts of colonialism, systemic discrimination, and intergenerational trauma on Indigenous communities. We recognize that reconciliation is an ongoing process requiring meaningful action, reflection, and accountability.

We are committed to listening, learning, and fostering meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities, who continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS and related health inequities. We aim to support self-determined solutions and integrate culturally safe approaches into our programs and services through collaboration with Indigenous-led organizations. We strive to advance Truth and Reconciliation in our work and within the broader healthcare sector through ongoing engagement, advocacy, and action.

RHAC recognizes that reconciliation is a journey, not a destination. We are dedicated to taking concrete steps toward truth, justice, and healing alongside Indigenous communities. We support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's [Calls to Action](#), particularly those related to health, education, and justice. We also recognize the importance of the self-determination of Indigenous peoples as articulated in the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#).

As we strive to decolonize our work, we commit to:

Engaging in Continuous Learning about Indigenous Histories, Cultures, and Rights

Understanding the lived and living experiences and expertise of Indigenous Peoples is essential for meaningful reconciliation. RHAC commits to ongoing education about the historical and present-day impacts of colonialism, including the legacy of residential schools, Indian Hospitals, systemic racism, and land dispossession.

	Truth & Reconciliation Position Statement	Policy Number: 9.10 Page: 2/2
	Original: Revised: Replace:	Approved by:

Strengthening Partnerships with Indigenous Organizations and Knowledge Keepers

Collaboration with Indigenous-led organizations and Elders is key to fostering culturally affirming, safe and community-driven solutions to HIV/AIDS and related health challenges. RHAC will actively build and maintain relationships with Indigenous service providers, grassroots initiatives, and knowledge keepers to ensure that our programs centering Indigenous perspectives, traditions, and needs. These partnerships will be rooted in mutual respect, shared learning, and the empowerment of Indigenous leadership when working on indigenous lands and with indigenous communities. We embrace Two-Eyed Seeing, a theoretical framework that acknowledges and gives equal consideration to Indigenous and non-Indigenous views of health and knowledge

Advocating for Equitable Access to HIV/HCV Related Healthcare and Harm Reduction Services for Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous communities continue to face significant health disparities due to systemic barriers and discrimination in healthcare settings. RHAC will advocate for policies and practices that promote equitable access to HIV and Hep C prevention, treatment, and harm reduction services. This includes working alongside Indigenous partners to remove barriers to care, supporting Indigenous-led health initiatives, and challenging stigma and discrimination that impact Indigenous Peoples seeking healthcare.