



# Health Co-Management 101

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# HCoM Secretariat

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- The Secretariat office is now currently being hosted by the G4-Stoney Nakoda Tribal Council (Treaty 7) for a 2.5 year period starting April 1, 2022, then transferring to the Blackfoot Confederacy Office (Treaty 7) for the remaining 2.5 year period.



# History Health Co-Management Agreement

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On November 18, 1996, the Co-Management agreement was signed by:

- Treaty 7 Chiefs
- Treaty 8 Chiefs
- Alexis First Nation (Treaty 6)
- Federal Minister of Health

Yellowhead Tribal Council, Enoch, and Louis Bull Tribe joined Co-Management in 1999 and 2010 respectively.



# Approach

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With the Agreement, the Chiefs and Health Canada agree to a two-tiered approach:

Tier 1

**Administrative process** to co-manage the budget & programs of FNIHB-Alberta Region, which is formalized by the agreement

Tier 2

**Bilateral process** of the respective treaty areas and does not form part of this agreement

# The Health Co-Management Agreement

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In the HCOM agreement, the Chiefs & Health Canada agree to the following:

- Co-manage the FNIH AB regional funding envelope
- Reallocate funding efficiencies towards health programs in Treaty 6,7 & 8
- Increase the participation of First Nations in assessing, analyzing, planning and managing programs and services funded / offered by FNIHB Alberta Region

They will make decisions relating to:

- Conduct and resourcing of program and service delivery
- Regional resource allocation
- Common health issues

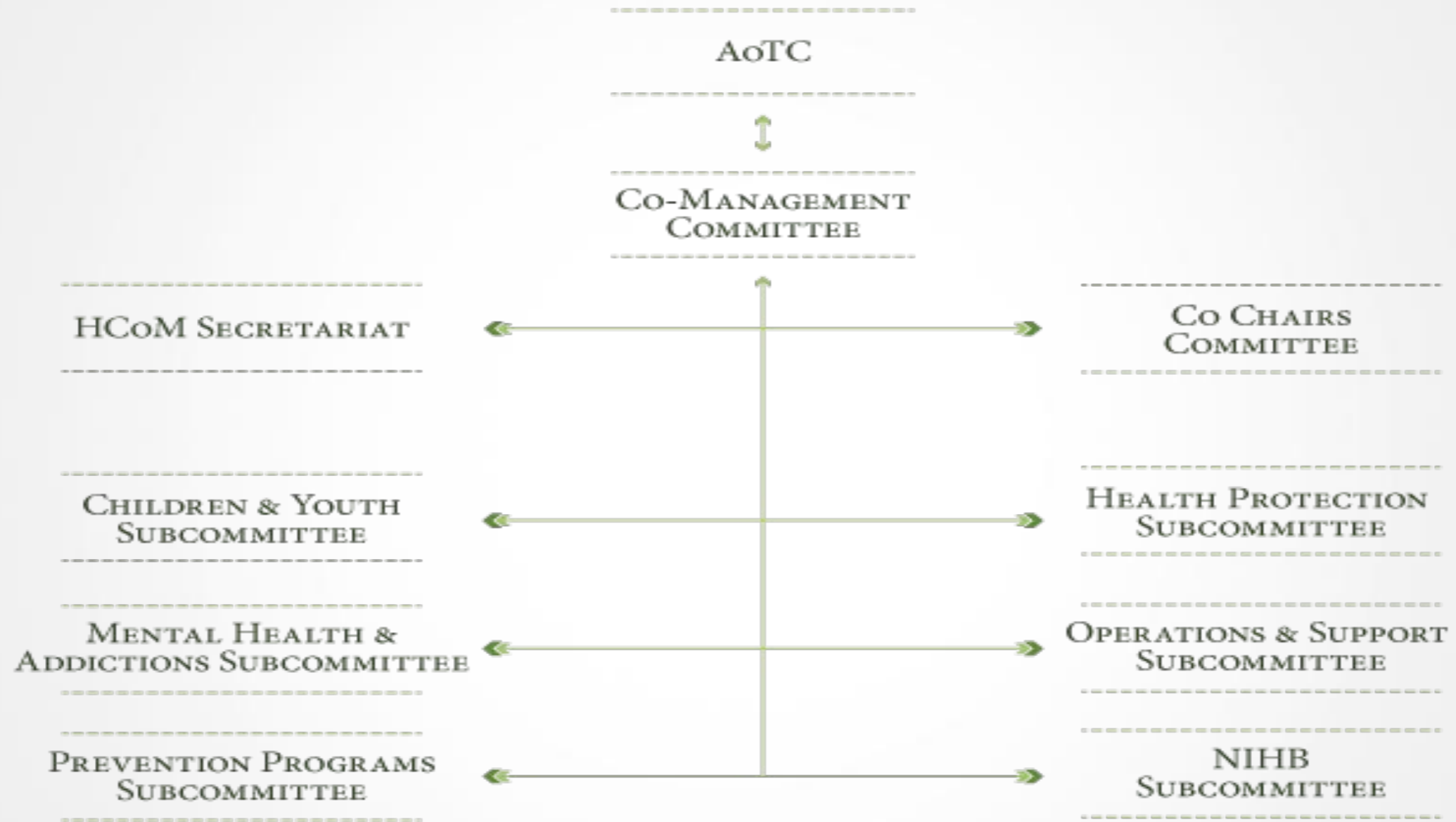
# Principles

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- **Equity/Fairness:** Future program decisions shall be based on maximizing equity and achieving fairness for all communities without creating undue advantage of community or groups of communities over the others.
- **Transparency:** All decisions shall be made in an open and transparent manner that shall be visible to all interested parties, appropriately documented, and accessible to all First Nations in Alberta and their respective officials.
- **Accountability:** The Operations and Support Sub-Committee shall operate and advise in a fiscally responsible manner and not commit funds beyond the limit of the Alberta Regional Envelope. All decisions shall be made within the scope of the funding allocated within the envelope.
- **Accountability to Programs:** The Operations and Support Sub-Committee shall make decisions regarding health programming to First Nations in a responsible manner taking into account all other guiding principles found within the Co-Management Agreement Terms of Reference.
- **Timeliness:** The Operations and Support Sub-Committee shall operate in such a way that will allow informed decisions to be made jointly and in a timely manner.
- **Appropriateness:** The Operations and Support Sub-Committee shall involve only itself with issues common to First Nations, and relevant to its mandate to co-manage the FNIHB-AB envelope.
- **Legality:** The Operations and Support Sub-Committee shall operate within mutually agreed application of the rules, regulations or directives, which govern FNIHB and its operations.



# Co-Management Committee Structures



# Why Health Co-Management?

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- First Nations are seeking increased participation in decision-making
- Guard the “funding envelope” to ensure that health funds were not reduced
- Early successes:
  - Changing attitudes
  - Budget information is shared with First Nations
  - Programs excelled in adopting a partnership approach (e.g. Home Care, Aboriginal Head Start on-reserve)
  - Increased ability for First Nations to bring forth concerns and participate in issue resolution
  - Better dissemination of information to First Nation communities
  - Better understanding of government policies for First Nations
  - Capital costs for programs without built-in funding such as NNADAP & AHSOR
- The current focus of HCoM is managing the on-reserve health programs and services



# Co-Management Committee Authority

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The Co-Management Committee is a decision-making authority.

Membership of the Committee is:

- Two Chiefs for Treaty 6 (Yellowhead Tribal Council, Enoch, and Louis Bull Tribe)
  - Chief George Arcand, Chief Bull, and Chief Cody Thomas
- Two Chiefs for Treaty 7
  - Chief Stan Grier and Chief Darcy Dixon
- Two Chiefs for Treaty 8
  - Treaty 8 Health Chiefs
- First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Health Canada – Alberta Region
  - Rhonda Laboucan, Regional Executive Officer and Shawn Grono, A/ Regional Director, Strategic Partnerships and Intergovernmental Relations

Co-Management Committee meets at least quarterly, or as needed.



# Subcommittees

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Each subcommittee has terms of reference identifying how that subcommittee will function and make decisions including:

- Share relevant data & information
- Jointly assess, analyze & plan
- Prepare joint briefings & advice for Committee
- Monitor progress & provide regular status updates & quarterly reports
- Prepare annual report submission within 60 days of fiscal year end

Each subcommittee is co-chaired by a Health Canada and First Nation representative and is responsible for finance, policy and strategic planning

# Subcommittees

## Children & Youth

Co-Chairs: Bruce Iron Shirt  
Brent Henry

Shares decision-making responsibility over the following programs:

- Aboriginal Head Start On-Reserve
- Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Maternal Child Health

## Operations & Support

Co-Chairs: Tyler White  
Frankie Berland

Shares decision-making responsibility over the following programs:

- Aboriginal Health Services Accreditation
- Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative
- Capital & Facility Management
- E-Health
- Health Careers Program
- Health Consultation & Liaison
- Health Services Integration Fund
- Health Planning & Management

# Subcommittees

## Health Protection

Co-Chairs: Colleen McDonald  
Dr. Parminder Thiara

Shares decision-making responsibility over the following programs:

- Communicable Disease Control
- Blood Borne Pathogens
- Tuberculosis Control
- Environmental Health

## Mental Health & Addictions

Co-Chairs: Angela Murphy, Acting  
Andy Alook

Shares decision-making responsibility over the following programs:

- Brighter Futures/ Building Healthy Communities
- Canada Drug Strategy
- National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Program
- National Anti-Drug Strategy
- National Native Alcohol & Drug Abuse Program
- Youth Solvent Abuse Program
- Indian Residential School Support



# Subcommittees

## Non-Insured Health Benefits

Co-Chairs: Kimberely Loh  
Kash Shade

Shares decision-making responsibility over the following programs:

- Dental Services
- Medical Transportation
- Mental Health
- Pharmacy & Vision

## Prevention Programs

Co-Chairs: Calvin Badger  
Brent Henry

Shares decision-making responsibility over the following programs:

- Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative
- Community Health Representatives
- Home & Community Care
- Injury Prevention
- Nursing
- Nutrition

# Working Groups

## Audit & Evaluation Working Group

September 2019 The HCoM Committee motioned the endorsement to advance a new governance approach for NADDAP Treatment Centre in Alberta based on best practices.

## Opioid Task Force

June 9, 2021 the HCoM Committee motioned “That the Health Co-Management Committee to establish a First Nations Opioid Emergency Task Force with expert representatives from First Nations, Federal and Provincial Governments, with a mandate to suggest, research, and engage to bring forward solid recommendations.”

## Funding Formula Working Group

May 2020, the Health Co-Management Committee requested an evaluation of existing funding formulas and the development of a made in Alberta model to support the distribution of regional funding allocations. Responsibility of the working group would consist of an analysis of funding formula components and population data.



# HCoM Secretariat

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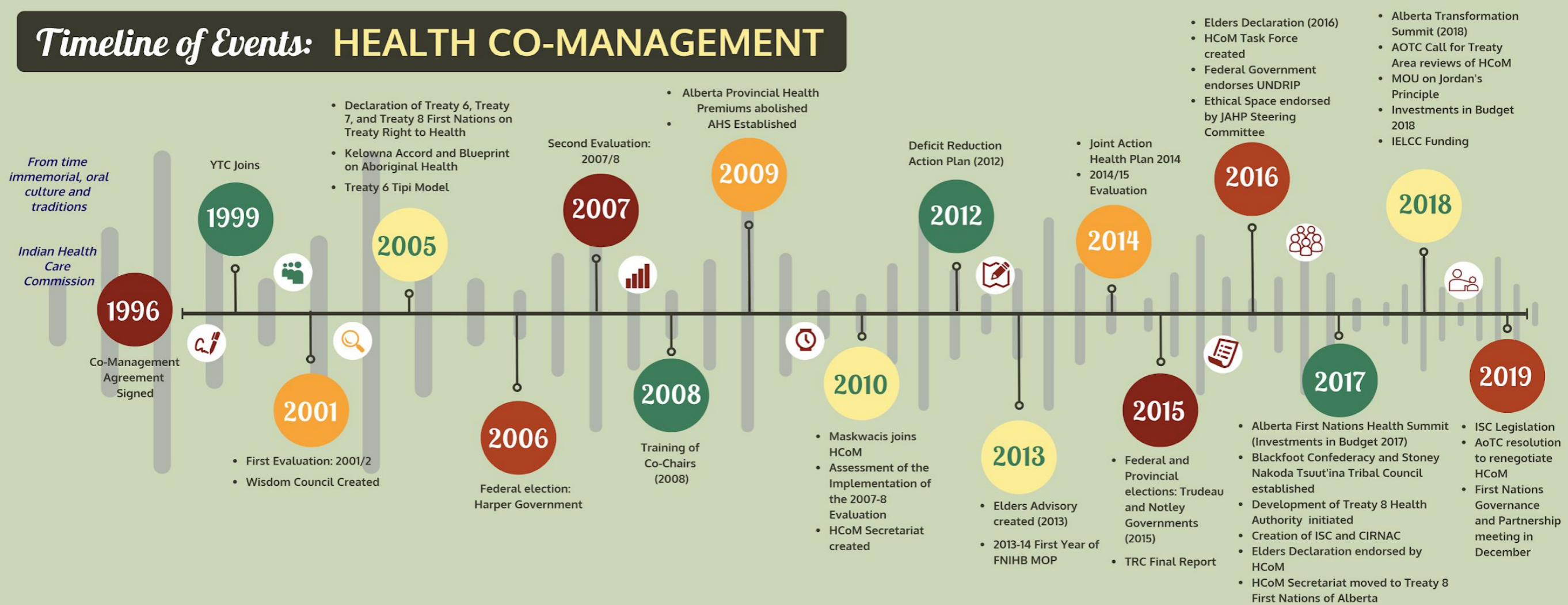
The Secretariat supports the work of the Committee and Subcommittees. It was established as an independent organization through an agreement with Stoney Nakoda Tribal Council-G4.

HCoM Secretariat provides administrative support & the following key activities:

- Organize the Committee & Subcommittee meetings including agenda, briefings and meeting summaries
- Ensure that internal processes function well including necessary templates, procedures & protocols
- Implement the Co-Management Communications Strategy
- Facilitate liaison with external stakeholders & to provide training to members as required

# HCoM Timeline of Events

## Timeline of Events: HEALTH CO-MANAGEMENT





# Health Co-Management Reviews

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## Reviews of the Co-Management Agreements:

- Initiated in 2001/02: The intent of the first review was to “determine the extent Co-Management has found success in co-managing resources and program planning for Alberta First Nations”
- In January 2007, an All Chiefs Assembly called for a Co-Management Review & a Co-Management Review Working Group was established in the Winter of 2007 to assess the situation and provide options and recommendations to strengthen HCoM;
- In 2010, an evaluation of the 2007 recommendations was made and these have been and will continue to be implemented
- In 2015, HCoM Evaluation completed
- In 2019 - present, HCoM Committee to further explore Governance & Partnership levels of HCoM and moving in the future



# Health Co-Management Governance & Partnership Session – December 16-18, 2019

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- The goal session entailed the following:
  - discussions on how to move forward in the development of a regional health governance process
  - Identify the history of HCoM and what successes have been achieved since the original signing of the HCoM agreement.
- Throughout the discussion, It was unanimously agreed by everyone present that there needs to be a unique partnership table between First Nations and ISC-AB with a solid governance structure.
- All three Treaty regions have unique needs and there needs further exploration of independent processes.

*(Facilitator's Report available upon request)*



# How can I Participate ?

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- Forward community success stories to the HCoM office for distribution
- Provide input to Treaty Area Representatives on Sub Committees
- Participate in regional activities and strategies as requested
- Meeting observers are welcomed, however their role is limited by the terms of reference



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[WWW.HCOM.CA](http://WWW.HCOM.CA)

