

## Why HIV/AIDS?

HIV is an illness that can affect any person, regardless of age, race, sex, sexual orientation, or lifestyle.

*There are more than 75 000 people living with HIV in Canada—1 in 4 don't know they have it.*

Our project wants to help get to zero.  
Zero new infections.  
Zero HIV related deaths.  
Zero discrimination.  
Zero shame.

**Fact: It is safe to be friends with someone who has HIV.**



## Visit Us Grande Prairie Friend- ship Centre

Monday—Friday 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM  
780-933-2995  
nataschaokimaw@gpfriendship.com



## Visit Our Partners

Peace River—780-624-2443  
Onoway—780-967-2997  
High Level—780-926-3355



Kinnow Atokshew Foundation



This project is funded by Public Health Agency of Canada—  
Community Action Fund

Public Health Agency of Canada  
Agence de la santé publique du Canada

# NIIHA

Northern Indigenous  
Health Alliance

Did you know?  
There is Hope.



Kihkis keyiten ci,  
eyitakwa  
pakokeyimowin?

Grande Prairie Friendship Centre





## The Project

Our culture is one of acceptance.

Kikisicikewinawa tapatan.



Our project welcomes ALL people.

We offer a services including:

- Support for people living with HIV, Hepatitis C, STIs, and BBPs
- Connection to traditional Indigenous ceremonies, medicines, and Elders
- Information about HIV, Hepatitis C, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and blood borne pathogens (BBPs) and testing
- Free safer sex supplies
- Preventative programs
- Education and awareness surrounding HIV, Hepatitis C, STIs, and BBPs

## There is Hope

There is no cure for HIV but there are treatments.

Advances in medicine mean that people living with HIV can now live long and healthy lives.



**Our services are free & confidential.**

*Kakiyaw kitanaweyicikatew  
(mawiyak takiskeyitam)  
kipikiskwewin, moya tatipahamehk.*

## Harm Reduction

Harm Reduction is a way of thinking that accepts that people may do unhealthy things, and so aims to make these things as safe as possible. Our project practices harm reduction by offering safer sex supplies and other harm reduction info. Regular testing and treatment is harm reduction.

**U = U**

Undetectable = Untransmittable  
(suppressed viral load) (doesn't infect others)

## No Shame, No Blame

*No one wants to be sick.*

*No one deserves to be ill.*

*Everyone deserves respect and treatment.*

Our project aims to stop discrimination against people living with HIV. We offer education and awareness campaigns to replace misinformation with truth and understanding.

We also offer one-on-one support for people living with HIV. Our Cultural Navigator can help you learn about your condition, how to find treatment, and how to talk to your loved ones.

## Traditional Culture

We can connect Indigenous clients with local Elders and traditional medicines. Through GP Friendship Centre, we also offer traditional teachings, and work to base our programs from an Indigenous world view.

## Get Tested for HIV

**Fact: The only way to know you're safe is to get tested, and get tested often.**

HIV often presents with ZERO symptoms, meaning a person can be infected even if they feel completely healthy.

Fortunately, getting tested is easy and free. It's a simple blood test and can be requested by any doctor or nurse practitioner.

HIV treatment is free in Alberta.