

**Director of Health/ Acadia First Nation
Marla Robinson-Pyne on Maternity Leave**

Acting Director of Health –Melanie Purdy

The Director of Health has and will continue to work with Non-insured Health Benefits and First Nation Inuit Health Branch to ensure all services are delivered to Acadia First Nation Band Members. These services are but are not limited to:

Transportation to specialists and/or medical treatments
Accommodations
Prescriptions
Home Health Care
Vision
Disabilities

Prescription Drug Abuse and Misuse in First Nation Communities

Federal Minister of Health called upon provincial and territorial governments, as well as medical professionals, to look at what they can do within their areas of jurisdiction to tackle the serious problem of prescription drug abuse. The NIHB Program has implemented a Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) to address concerns over potential abuse and misuse of prescription medications such as benzodiazepines, opioids, stimulants and gabapentin. Letters have been sent out to “High Prescribing” physicians of these prescriptions seeking clarification and justification as to WHY their (Numbers) are so high. If you suspect there is an individual selling Prescription Drugs in your community, you can confidentially and anonymously call 1-877-476-7767 and report it.

Acadia First Nation- Yarmouth community is working closely with the Southwest Nova District Health Authority to improve communication, enhance service coordination, discharge planning processes, availability/access to mental health services and programs, home care coordination and communicable disease prevention programs.

Flu Clinics were administered by Acadia First Nation and Public Health in Yarmouth, Wildcat, Gold River and Shelburne. All other areas were covered through their local doctors, clinics and pharmacy Clinics.

VON visits the Yarmouth Health Centre every other Thursday from 9-11am. Appointments need to be book ahead of time. Services offered are:

Clinic Nursing

VON staff runs community clinics, to deliver nursing services such as wound care and education sessions for people with diabetes

Foot Care Clinics

VON nurses provide foot care for all ages from infants to seniors. Nurses provide assessment, care and advice for clients, including the elderly and people with diabetes, as well as referral to other health professionals.

Wellness and Health-Promotion Clinics

VON Wellness and Health Promotion clinics offer clients screening tests and assessment of cholesterol, blood pressure, body-mass index and other indicators of potential health problems. Individual counselling focuses on education and raising awareness on topics such as heart health, diabetes, asthma, allergies and osteoporosis.

*The Director of Health is in the process of securing a VON Clinic to be administered out of the **Shelburne Sub-Office**.

Healthy Pregnancy and Babies

There are numerous resources at the Yarmouth Health Centre, please contact the Director of Health regarding any questions and/or concerns on Health and Pregnancy. Baby Baskets are delivered to new parents upon arrival of their newborn and \$200 is contributed to new parents in aid for the purchasing of a car seat and all car seats must have a National Safety Mark on them. This means that they comply to the appropriate *Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standard*.

Dental

Dr. D. Armstrong DDS is available every Tuesday 8:30am-12pm practicing out of the Yarmouth Health Centre. This service is for Registered Status Indians.

Services provided:

- * Teeth Cleaning
- * Comprehensive Dental Examination
- * Children's Dentistry
- * Tooth Extractions – Oral Surgery
- * Amalgam (metal) Fillings
- * Root Canal Therapy
- * Dentures & Partial Dentures
- * Regular & Extended Treatment Plans

The NIHB Program covers most dental procedures that treat dental disease or the consequences of dental disease.

Coverage of dental services is determined on an individual basis taking into consideration criteria such as the client's oral health status.

Some dental services are not covered under the NIHB Program, (e.g. extensive rehabilitation and cosmetic treatment). These services are defined as exclusions and cannot be considered for appeal.

Please contact the Director of Health with any Questions and/or Concerns.

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