

LOCAL DATA HELPS TO BUILD HEALTHY RURAL COMMUNITIES



This initiative provides communities an opportunity to create or enhance local partnerships and collaborate to address community wellness and health goals. Using community data, local initiatives are tailored to each community's unique assets and opportunities.



**Northern
Alberta
Development
Council**

780.624.6274

nadc.council@gov.ab.ca

Northern Trailblazers highlights stories of innovation and development in northern Alberta by showcasing initiatives, programs, and approaches undertaken by communities and businesses across the region.

PROJECT:

ALBERTA HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

The Alberta Healthy Communities Initiative (AHCI) is led by Alberta Health Services (AHS) in partnership with various stakeholders, including municipalities, community programs and organizations, Primary Care Networks, schools, provincial programs, and universities. AHCI is an approach to working with communities to help build their community capacity, define their own path to wellness, and mobilize action.

AHCI helps communities form multi-sectoral, grassroots teams that assess local environments, set priorities, and develop, implement, and evaluate actions plans for sustainable health outcomes.

The initiative is led by an applied research team with the Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund at AHS that translates research into action. Building on learnings from 16 rural communities across the province that participated in the Comprehensive Community Cancer Prevention pilot project (2015-2019), the current AHCI initiative will support another 20 rural communities from 2019 to 2022.

Bringing Data to Communities

Turning data into action, the Alberta Community Health Dashboard gives communities easy access to relevant, local data on health statistics and socio-economic indicators in their region. The interactive, easy to use web-based dashboard provides access to data that can be used to help communities set priorities, make decisions, and plan community services. Having access to local data is a key first step to planning healthy rural and northern communities.

IN ADDITION TO STATISTICS, THE DASHBOARD ALSO REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH:



Private Household After-Tax Income

Higher income is often linked to better health.

Individual Level of Education (24-65 years)

Higher education levels are often linked to better health.



Housing Type

Type of house or dwelling can affect health outcomes.



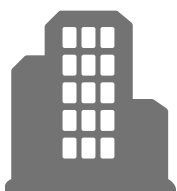
Housing Expenditures

Individuals who spend 30% of their income or less on housing can better afford other basic necessities.



Family Composition

Children and adults in lone-parent families are more vulnerable to social, economic, and health disadvantages than two-parent families.



Housing Mobility

Stable housing allows people to form friendships, networks, and other bonds that help maintain a person's health.

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://ALBERTAHEALTHYCOMMUNITIES.HEALTHIERTOGETHER.CA/](https://albertahealthycommunities.healthiertogether.ca/)