
ALBERNI CLAYOQUOT HEALTH NETWORK

2021
ANNUAL
REPORT

www.achn.ca ~ achn@acrd.bc.ca

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

The Alberni Clayoquot Health Network (ACHN) experienced an interesting and productive year. Zoom and online engagement proved beneficial in engaging a wider range of partners across the region both informally and formally, increasing the Networks capacity to welcome representation from rural and remote communities. Inspired by feedback during the creation of the Poverty Reduction Action Plan the ACHN is looking forward to advancing opportunities for ongoing engagement with community members and the development of an ongoing engagement cycle. We look forward to continued planning and networking activities to strengthen relationships and identify opportunities to stimulate change around health equity.

2021 Key Activities

This year was a great example of what can be accomplished through nimble network mechanisms and strong relationships. The ACHN began the year meeting virtually with community partners, finding strength in our ability to work better with rural and remote communities via technology. Finding innovative ways to engage with community, build and maintain network connections while moving forward network priorities and planned projects.

Building Regional Prosperity - in 2020 the ACHN was successful in a UBCM grant to create a ACRD Poverty Reduction Action Plan. After some careful revisions the ACHN proceeded with community engagement in the fall of 2020 and completion of the plan in 2021 thanks to the following activities:

- Community Engagement feedback analysis
- Local policy analysis
- Poverty Reduction action plan focus groups with key regional stakeholders
- Action plan research and preparation

Support the development of the Health Network model throughout Vancouver Island via new coordinators and network supports. Information, document and process sharing as well as quarterly reporting and VI Network meetings to share information and resources.

- Co plan, collaborate and present at the 2021 CHN Annual Gathering
- Support to new network coordinators through resource sharing and coaching calls
- Increased VI Community Health Network calls to share best practices and approaches to COVID, recovery planning and advocacy
- Work with Vancouver Island Community Health Network coordinators to identify other tools and avenues for advocacy around health networks

Promoting a Health Equity approach to planning

- Provide data for local leadership
- Prepare summaries and one pagers on local priorities and research based approaches
- Collaborate regionally to share data, inform planning processes and ensure the creation of well informed action plans in local communities
- Presentations on ACHN model and initiatives at National, provincial and local gatherings

Served as a connector of ideas and resources by participation with local initiatives and presentations to the Table of Partners.

Promote a culture of inclusion and collaboration through the Table of Partners, Network model and participation in other local initiatives.



OUR STORY

Have great respect for the past. If you don't know where you've come from, you don't know where you're going ~ Maya Angelou

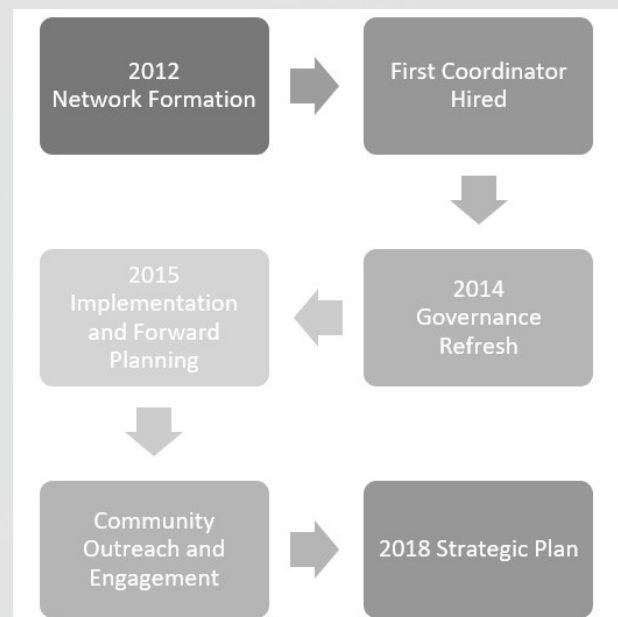
The Alberni Clayoquot Health Network (ACHN) formed in 2012 through a series of meetings to gauge interest in establishing a health network for the Alberni Valley, Clayoquot and Barkley Sound region. The initial work of the ACHN was supported with a grant from Island Health in February 2012. The Network hired their first Coordinator in June of 2012. At the end of 2013 it became apparent that a governance refresh was required to center the work of the Health Network with the needs of the communities.

A strong will for the ACHN to reach out and involve the community emerged; to ensure the community at large had an ability to bring forward issues, ideas, and concerns for consideration.

The Network identified that actions are to be informed by:

- Stories, opportunities, planning, and evidence;
- Consultation and collaborative conversations that surface emerging issues;
- The timeliness of opportunities;
- And fit with ACHN's values.

Governance, operating practices and values for the Network were built to facilitate and strengthen these principles.



Employing these new practices we have gained momentum. Supporting community based initiatives already flourishing in our region, promoting collaboration, innovation and shared accountability. We support organizations and initiatives which address social determinants of health and take leadership to convene regional partners around emergent regional issues.

This work is centered in relationships and trust built with and between community partners. The Network aims to be responsive to regional needs and consistent in its engagement. We look forward to working with you and your community in 2022!

MISSION~VISION~VALUES

HEALTHY & CONNECTED PEOPLE & PLACES

Our Mission

To speak with a collective voice on regional and local health issues by facilitating dialogue and understanding amongst citizens and stakeholders. The Network is a community driven mechanism that helps to build partnerships and capacity; share concerns, ideas and resources and create innovative solutions that impact the social determinants of health and work towards sustainable healthy communities.

Our Values

1. **Inclusion:** We are open to anyone that wants to be involved and recognize, encourage and value each other's contributions.
2. **Learning:** we share knowledge, listen to each other, explore new ideas and apply information in ways that generate new understanding and solutions.
3. **Compassion and Respect:** We have compassion for all people with whom we interact and are mindful and respectful of differing opinions.
4. **Hishuk ish tswalk:** We embrace the Nuu-Chah-Nulth world view that everything is one and all is interconnected and health is holistic in nature.
5. **Connection, Collaboration and Sharing:** We cultivate relationships, connect people to each other, promote a culture of participation and sharing of resources in order to better serve our communities and advance the common good. Together we are better.
6. **Sustainability:** We are accountable with the resources entrusted to us, strive for cost-effectiveness and efficiencies and aim towards sustainability of solutions and initiatives.
7. **Innovation:** We want to constantly find better and more efficient ways to serve our communities.

Our Guiding Principles

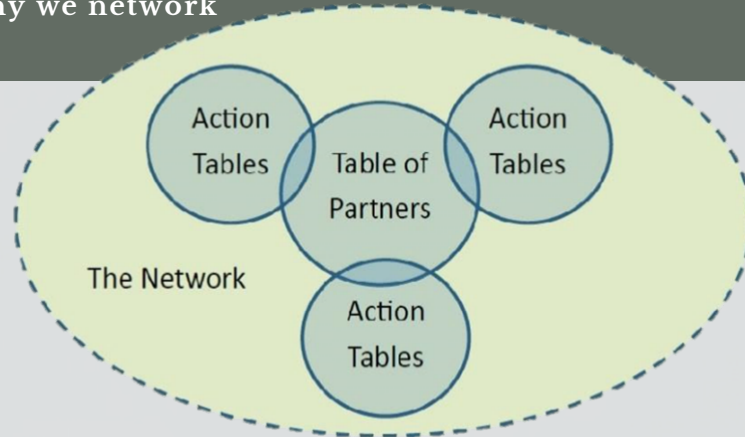
In all that we do, we:

1. **Employ** a population health approach that focuses on improving the health and well-being of the entire population of the region and across the lifespan.
2. **Focus** on the social determinants of health and address policies that impact health inequities.
3. **Believe** that health is a shared responsibility and that collaboration leads to innovation.
4. **Are** solution oriented & committed to building on community assets, strengths, efficiencies, social capital and reduce duplication.
5. **Utilize** approaches that build knowledge, health literacy, capacity and citizenship.
6. **Acknowledge** that local realities, population demographics, socioeconomic and health indicators can vary significantly (remote, rural, and urban).
7. **Recognize** that the Health Network exists within the ha'houlthee (chiefly territories) of the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We strive to find new, better and culturally appropriate ways to collaborate, plan and work together that legitimize traditional knowledge.



ACHN OPERATIONS

How, who and why we network



The ACHN utilizes collective impact and other collaborative practices to identify and define their role in social change and regional initiatives. We commit to acting as a supporting resource to leverage assets, information and partnerships for local initiatives, projects and priority areas. When no convening organization is evident we take initiative to convene dialogue, planning and facilitate the leadership around priorities influencing social determinants of health and the promotion of upstream health interventions.

To facilitate better community connections with decision makers at the Table of Partners, action tables and local government the ACHN identified the following mechanisms aimed at increasing benefit to network partners and interaction with local communities and organizations.

- Network communications – Community presentations, newsletters, Facebook and updates
- Sponsoring regional education events and networking gatherings
- Open invitation for community presentations to the Table of Partners
- Partnership on community events and opportunities aligning with strategic priorities
- Other opportunities which align with our strategic direction as they arise

Join us to build as we go – bring forward ideas, proposals, presentations, join an action table, the newsletter or Facebook page... there are so many ways to get involved!

THE NETWORK	ACTION TABLES	THE TABLE OF PARTNERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most important voice in determining priorities and actions • Inclusive of community members, organizations and regional partners • A means to gather and distribute information, stories, and to capture the voices of the communities • To build relationships, helping people and organizations to find commonalities to take action to improve health outcomes in the region. • To connect people with information and resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small committees of regional representatives and topical experts tasked with moving work on priorities forward • Utilize a regional lens to approach locally identified actions and needs that advance the ACHN Strategic Plan. • Roles include framing issues in ways that are inclusive, respectful and that bring people together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made up of regional decision makers and representatives with strong ties to communities and identified priority groups • Exists to support the work and priorities of the ACHN and link with Action Tables. • Look at evidence, facilitate strategic thinking and planning and seek resources as needed. • Ensure feedback is collected from Network members and ensure that work on identified issues and agreed upon actions is moving forward.



ACHN GREATEST HITS

Changing systems to increase health equity is work that takes time and effort. Through collaboration and regional planning the ACHN challenges our region to keep up the momentum to address complex social issues, one step at a time.

Transportation Planning



- 2014 Regional Transportation Consultation
- 2015 Transportation Planning to Action Meeting and Report
- West Coast Working Group

Transportation Action



- West Coast Wheels For Wellness Program Implementation
- Transportation Assets Map Development and Advocacy
- West Coast BC Transit System Support - Coming soon!

Poverty Reduction



- Community Engagement from 2015 - Present
- Poverty Reduction Protocol with participation from MLA, MP and all Municipalities
- 2022 Building Prosperity in the Alberni Clayoquot - Poverty Reduction Action Plan

Regional Capacity Building



- Support three local Art of Hosting Training's to build capacity around hosting and facilitating
- Support for the West Coast Coming Together Health Forums
- Convening conversations that matter - from youth to housing and everything between

Network Development



- Effective consensus based governance model
- Embedded community engagement and support mechanisms
- Priority around equity, community development and support for grassroots initiatives
- Ongoing support and engagement from all local levels of government

Want to Know More?



Check out our Planning and Governance Documents

- 2018 Strategic Plan
- 2015 Communications and Engagement Plan
- Annual Reports
- Array of Regional Planning Reports conducted and/or supported by the ACHN and partners

For more information and links to work in our region - www.achn.ca



ACHN 2021 TABLE OF PARTNER MEMBERS

The ACHN Table of Partners is the leadership table for the Network. These local decision makers and knowledge holders are charged with enhancing the communications and decision making capacity of the Network for a minimum two year term. The aim of the Network is to engage community in meaningful ways to inform action, our Table of Partners assist to ensure the development of our process is inclusive, decisions are made fairly and in line with our Network capacity.



Penny Cote (Chair)
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional
District Sproat Lake Director



Anna Lewis
Chair of the Port Alberni Air
Quality Council



Margaret Morrison
Executive Director Westcoast
Community Resources Society



Alisha Pauling
Manager of Community Health
Services Island Health



Bill Collette
CEO Alberni Valley Chamber of
Commerce



Christine Washington
School District 70 Trustee



Lynne Mac Fadgen
Regional Director, North Island
College



Curt Smecher
Bamfield Community Affairs
Representative



Debbie Haggard
Counsellor, City of Port Alberni



Debra Hamilton
Executive Director, ADAPS Youth
and Family Services



Edward R Johnson
Huu-ay-aht member of the
Executive Council



Ellen Froid
Executive Director, Alberni
Community and Womens Society



Mollie Law
Coordinator, RCMP Victims
Services



Natasha Dumont
Public Health Manager, Island
Health



Rachelle Cole
District of Ucluelet Counsellor
and ACRD Director



NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

The ACHN aims to ‘network the networks’, working with local partners to develop a culture of collaboration and mutual accountability. We see this as an integral part of our role as a network and motivator for social change in the region. This includes but is not limited to activities which provide education, capacity development and opportunities to develop shared language and priorities internally to the Network as well as in the region with community partners.

2021 Network Development Milestones

Communications

- Consistent distribution of information
- Updates and ongoing new info posting to website

Development of Community Health Network (CHN) Model

- Support to Health Networks and new Coordinators across Vancouver Island
- Planning and participation in the CHN Annual Gathering

Table of Partners Development

- Increased information sharing and building of collaborative culture demonstrated through information sharing and connections created during monthly meetings
- Increased engagement and attendance from community partners and network leads at Table of Partner meetings
- Ongoing improvements in engagement in communities including more representation from rural and remote communities.



COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS

Access to services, community infrastructure and recreation are all key factors in the building of healthy individuals and communities. Our aim is to increase equity in the way individual's access employment, education, healthy food, services and opportunities in the Alberni Clayoquot Region through transportation infrastructure as well as innovative social solutions.

Community Connectedness continues to be a major theme in the health and equity of communities in the ACRD, especially when considering rural and remote communities access to services.

2021 Community Connectedness Milestones

- Continuation of support for BC Transit expansion and service changes in regional communities
- Incorporation of access and transportation recommendations in Poverty Reduction Action plan
- Tracking and advocacy around increased access to technology for service access and health equity in rural and remote communities



BUILDING REGIONAL PROSPERITY

Poverty is a complex issue which cannot be addressed by any one organization or initiative. The ACHN has made the commitment to convene leaders and local stakeholders to discuss, identify opportunities, action and evaluate efforts. Our efforts are aimed to ensure the conversation is building, awareness developed and solutions generated, implemented and evaluated in partnership with regional stakeholders.



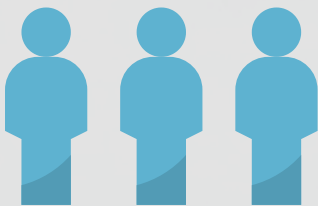
2021 Regional Prosperity Milestones

Building Regional Prosperity Poverty Reduction Action Plan

- Completion of Action Plan community engagement activities
- Facilitation of Action Plan focus groups and presentations to local networks and stakeholders for feedback
- Research on local socioeconomic statistics to assist in informing poverty reduction targets, demographics and for use to inform recovery planning recommendations
- Preparation of Building Prosperity in the Alberni Clayoquot Poverty Reduction Action Plan.

Community Work and Stakeholders

- Participation in BC Community of Practice to share and discover wise practices, supports and successes
- Presentations at National Communities Ending Poverty Conference, CHN Annual Gathering and BC Poverty Reduction Community of Practice



KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

We recognize a collective need to move forward on emergent regional issues through education, identification and planning. Regional priorities, such as housing, are complex with a wide range of needs depending on community and demographics. To identify and address these emergent issues we require strategies which combine resources, knowledge and capacity through shared learning, planning and implementation.

2021 Milestones

The ACHN aims to Network the Networks. We do this by connecting ideas, initiatives, resources and people. Through relationship building, listening and participation with regional partners we are able to identify areas of mutual need, increase capacity and work collaboratively to address issues of health and social equity. .

Convene and support

- ACHN was approached and confirmed to participate in the second intake of Communities Building Youth Futures. Stay tuned for some excellent youth opportunities and priorities.
- Support networks with ACHN capacity and utilize opportunities for increase community engagement and information distribution

Participate, support and engage in knowledge exchange with

- Coastal Family Resource Coalition
- Alberni Valley Learning Council
- Alberni Children and Youth Network
- United Way Rural and Remote Communities Committee
- Alberni Valley Community Action Table
- West Coast Harm Reduction Table
- West Coast Seniors Network



ACHN 2021 BUDGET

The Network has continued to be successful in utilizing the initial investment from Island Health to fund operations and project work. This positions the Network in an ideal place to move forward planning, community engagement and leverage resources to support community capacity. The ACHN relies on the professional support of the Table of Partners members, community groups and members to create the maximum impact on our shared goals. Our In Kind contribution calculations are a modest estimation of the incredible value we receive from our shared collaborative work.

REVENUE	2021 Actuals	2022	2023	2024	3 Year Totals
1 Reserve Opening Balance	\$ 121,837.95	\$116,315	\$72,815	\$29,315	
2 Island Health Funds	\$ 80,000.00	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	
3 Other Grants	\$ 25,000.00	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$20,000	
4 Total Revenue & Reserve	\$ 226,837.95	\$396,315	\$352,815	\$129,315	\$878,444
BUDGET EXPENSES	2021	2022	2023	2024	3 Year Budget
Operation & Administration					
5 ACHN Communications Strategy Includes: outreach, engagement protocol, one pagers, ACHN stand alone web site development, newsletter, logo development.	\$ 823.00	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
6 Coordination Contract Includes: travel expenses, benefits, taxes and business expenses	\$ 80,000.00	80,000	80,000	80,000	240,000
7 ACRD Administrative Support/ Financial Fee	\$ 12,000.00	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
8 Operating Expenses Includes: A/V rental, printing, office supplies etc.		1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
9 Advertising Includes: newspaper ads for RFP process, website posts		500	500	500	1,500
Capacity Building					
10 West Coast Capacity Building	\$ 10,000.00	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
11 Barkley Sound Capacity Building		2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
12 Network Capacity Building	\$ 500.00	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
Action Tables & Community Learning Resources					
13 Poverty Reduction (\$25 000 Grant 2020 -2021)	\$ 12,173.33	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
15 ACHN Priorities and Capacity Building Support	\$ 40.00	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
16 ACHN Community Engagement, Events & Planning		5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
17 Communities Building Youth Futures		200,000	200,000		400,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 115,536.33	\$323,500	\$323,500	\$123,500	\$770,500
<i>Reserve for Carryforward as of December 31, 2024</i>					\$5,815

COMING UP IN 2022

We look forward to continuing our work with you, your networks and the ACRD communities. We are excited by the progress we as a region have made and will continue moving forward collaborations, projects to increase health equity and work to build healthy resilient communities.

- Release of ACRD Poverty Reduction Action Plan - Presentations to local leadership, organizations and Networks
- Youth collaborations and development opportunities
- Continued support, connections and planning with local networks to increase service integration and collaborations
- Network nimbleness to respond to whatever 2022 has in store!

