



INDIGENOUS SAFETY IN HEALTHCARE



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Why Indigenous Safety in Healthcare Matters

Healthcare settings play a crucial role in the cancer journey for Indigenous patients.

Through this program, you will:

- Develop cultural fluency in Indigenous history, health disparities, and reconciliation efforts.
- Foster safer and more inclusive healthcare experiences for Indigenous patients.
- Implement rights-based approaches that align with UNDRIP and TRC Calls to Action.
- Explore teachings tailored to the specific needs and experiences of Indigenous communities in the area
- Support B.C. Ministry of Health *In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination in B.C. Health Care* findings and recommendations.

Program Overview

Location: Victoria Native Friendship Centre, 231 Regina Avenue, Victoria, BC

Duration: Two days (1 day self-paced online learning + 2 full in-person days)

Format: Experiential learning, discussions, and applied skill-building.

Key Learning Outcomes: Understanding Indigenous experiences and the impact of historical and systemic barriers.

Engaging with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to build mutual trust.

Gaining hands-on skills for culturally safe, trauma-informed, and anti-racist healthcare practices.

Program Goals

Indigenous Safety in Healthcare is a skills-based and experiential learning program that empowers healthcare workers and leaders to move beyond awareness and into transformative change.

The program offers:

A comprehensive deep dive into healthcare sector commitments to cultural safety and why they matter.

A wholistic approach that addresses learning with mind, body, emotions, and spirit.

A culturally grounded, locally developed, and Indigenous-designed learning opportunity.

Active learning using multiple approaches and modalities to build skills in providing culturally safe and anti-racist healthcare.



Rosy Hartman Manager, Indigenous Cultural Safety, Indigenous Cancer Control

I was very grateful for the opportunity to have participated in the VNFC ISH program, along with colleagues from BC Cancer - Victoria. The online materials provided excellent background and context for the work, and the in-person sessions were invaluable learning opportunities. Many Indigenous cultural safety courses are only offered online, and when you can participate in-person in an interactive environment, it truly deepens the learning. I think that this course format really helps staff build the skills and confidence they need to deliver more culturally safe, empathetic and patient-centered care.

Available Dates for Fall 2025

Cohort #	Dates
24	Wednesday, October 1st
	Wednesday, October 8th
25	Thursday, October 23rd
	Thursday, October 30th
26	Tuesday, November 18th
	Tuesday, November 25th

Cost

This program is offered **free of charge** to support accessibility and community well-being. While there's no fee to attend, the true cost is about \$1,800 per person—reflecting the time, care, and cultural knowledge shared.

As we move toward a social enterprise model in 2026, we're finding new ways to sustain this work while keeping it open to all. If you're able, we welcome contributions of any amount—from \$5 to \$1,800—**personally** or through a **professional development fund** (invoices available).

Donations can be made via vnfc.ca/donate, cheque, or e-transfer. Invoices and receipts are available upon request.

What's Included

- One-day e-learning course on understanding Indigenous safety in healthcare
- Two-day in-person experiential learning with Knowledge Keepers and cultural practices.
- Delicious hot lunch prepared by the VNFC
- Coffee, tea and snacks + Learning materials
- Completion certificate aligned with professional development opportunities.



How to Register & Learn More

Participants interested in attending can register by scanning the QR code or emailing learning.programs@vnfc.ca for upcoming cohorts. Registration is limited to 16 learners per cohort to ensure a quality learning experience.



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"I highly recommend this program to all levels of healthcare providers (front line, administrators, any profession). You learn about Indigenous safety in healthcare in a safe, engaging and transformative manner."

Former ISH Participant

