



Provincial Health Services Authority

PHSA Vision, Values and Coast Salish Teachings

BC Cancer is an organization managed by the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA). BC Cancer has its own vision, mission, and values, which you can read about on our website: bccancer.bc.ca/about/who-we-are

However, we also strive to achieve and uphold the PHSA vision, values, and Coast Salish Teachings. This resource will support our patient and family partners in the work they do to make healthcare better and safer for all.

PHSA Vision

Boldly create an equitable, anti-racist, and culturally safe health system where everyone thrives.

PHSA Values

- **Compassion:** We show empathy, care, and compassion to those we serve and to one another. We believe that simple acts of kindness matter.
- **Respect:** We honour the value and dignity of all individuals. We treat others the way they wish to be treated.
- **Equity:** We recognize the advantages and disadvantages experienced by patients, families, caregivers, staff, and communities. We strive to create just, equitable health systems and structures that continuously provide fair outcomes.
- **Courage:** We are fearless in doing the right thing. We support each other in respectfully saying and doing hard things, including truth-telling. We call out colonialist practices that must be replaced to build an effective health system.
- **Innovation:** We strive for province-wide solutions by embracing partnerships and teamwork. We listen, share knowledge and welcome opportunities to learn and grow.

Coast Salish Teachings

Knowledge Keeper Sulksun, Shane Pointe, gifted PHSA 6 teachings to ground us and offer guidance on how we may do our best as human beings and show up in relation to one another.



Provincial Health Services Authority

PHSA Vision, Values and Coast Salish Teachings

Thee eat “Truth”

You need to say the truth all the time. How you act and show up must be truthful. We need to be truthful in our work and we need our truth to be heard and not denied. We all must not deny the truth of the history and we must remain committed to addressing it.

Eyhh slaxin “Good medicine”

Medicine is all things. The geography, ecosystem, water and all other living beings. As human beings we can choose, with intent, to be “good medicine” every day.

Nuts a math “We are one”

Everyone and everything are of value and has purpose. All living things are connected and are inherently entitled to dignity and respect. We all need to be thankful for and take care of all things including the water, the plants and the land that we occupy. When we know ourselves to be one we are grateful for mother earth, ecosystems, the water and all human beings.

Whax hooks in shqwalowin “Open your hearts and your minds”

Open your hearts and minds to what is being taught to you. When you are open you are able to do your best.

Kwum kwum stun shqwalowin “Make up your mind to be strong”

This is a personal intention that answers: What are you going to do? All of this is about self and informs what you will do to help yourself and others. When the weight of work is so heavy and we feel weak, we need to make up our minds to be strong. When we make up our minds, the weight dissipates. We have said, “I am strong in my mind.”

Tee ma thit “Do your best”

You are in the canoe to pull your own weight. When you pull your own weight you inspire other human beings to do their best. Work hard with the intention of using your education and experience to the best of your ability.

You can read more about the Coast Salish teachings on the PHSA website:

phsa.ca/about/who-we-are/purpose-vision-values-teachings/coast-salish-teachings