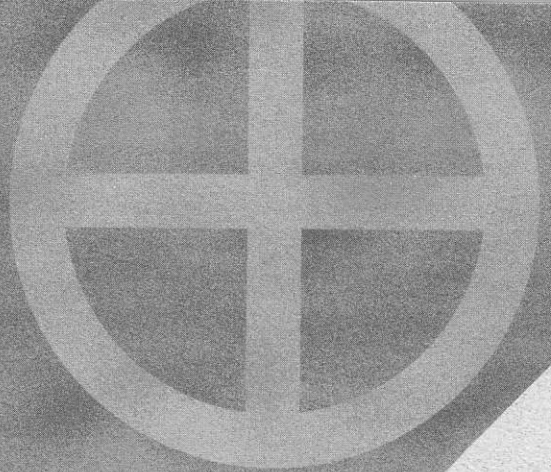


Table of Contents



A few facts	1
Aboriginal communities	3
Treaty rights of First Nations	3
Significance of the treaties	4
The role of the Government of Canada	6
The role of the Government of Alberta	7
Metis people in Alberta	8
Metis settlements	8
The Metis Nation of Alberta	9
Mixed Aboriginal communities	10
Bill C-31 Indians	10
Aboriginal people living in urban areas	11
Traditional Aboriginal culture	13
A holistic view of health	14
Traditional healing	15
Aboriginal families	19
The impact of residential schools	19
Children	21
Adolescents	22
Elders	23
What affects health?	27
Socio-economic issues	27
Racism	27
Employment/income	28
Housing	29

Isolation	30
Premiums and other health care costs	31
Environmental issues	31
Pollution	31
Water	32
Wildlife	33
Bad roads	33
Diet/nutrition	33
Specific health challenges	34
Alcohol and drug abuse	34
Prescription drug abuse	35
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	36
Injury and violence	37
Sexual health	38
Pregnancy	38
Teen pregnancy	38
AIDS	39
Tuberculosis	43
Diabetes	43
Persons with disabilities	44
Alberta health facilities and services	45
Language and misunderstanding	45
Cultural sensitivity	47
Aboriginal health liaison workers	50
Aboriginal health careers	51
Representation on health authorities	53
Hospitals	53
Public health	56
Mental health	57
Physicians	61
Ambulance services	62
Midwifery	64
Home care	64
Community development and control	67
Aboriginal communities – change from within	67
The strength of Aboriginal communities	68
The future: Aboriginal control over community health services	69
Building trust relationships between government and Aboriginal communities	70

What you can do... .72

Appendices .73

Appendix I: Definitions .73

Appendix II: Native Health Liaison Project Meetings .75

Aboriginal Health Strategy for Alberta Health .83