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# **Embedding culturally safe practice considerations into the Immunization Skills Checklist**

BC Immunization Forum  
March 1, 2023

# Acknowledgement

Skwxwú7mesh  
(Squamish)

səlilwətał  
(Tsleil-Waututh)

xʷməθkʷəy̓əm  
(Musqueam)



## BC Immunization Forum 2023

# Presentation: **Embedding culturally safe practice considerations into the Immunization Skills Checklist**

Presentation by:

Bhavna Sharma on behalf of FNHA's Immunization Support Team

Presenter Disclosure:

- This speaker has no financial relationships with any sponsor and no conflicts of interest to disclose
- No products will be discussed
- Our project received funding from BC Immunization Committee

# FNHA



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# Since time immemorial



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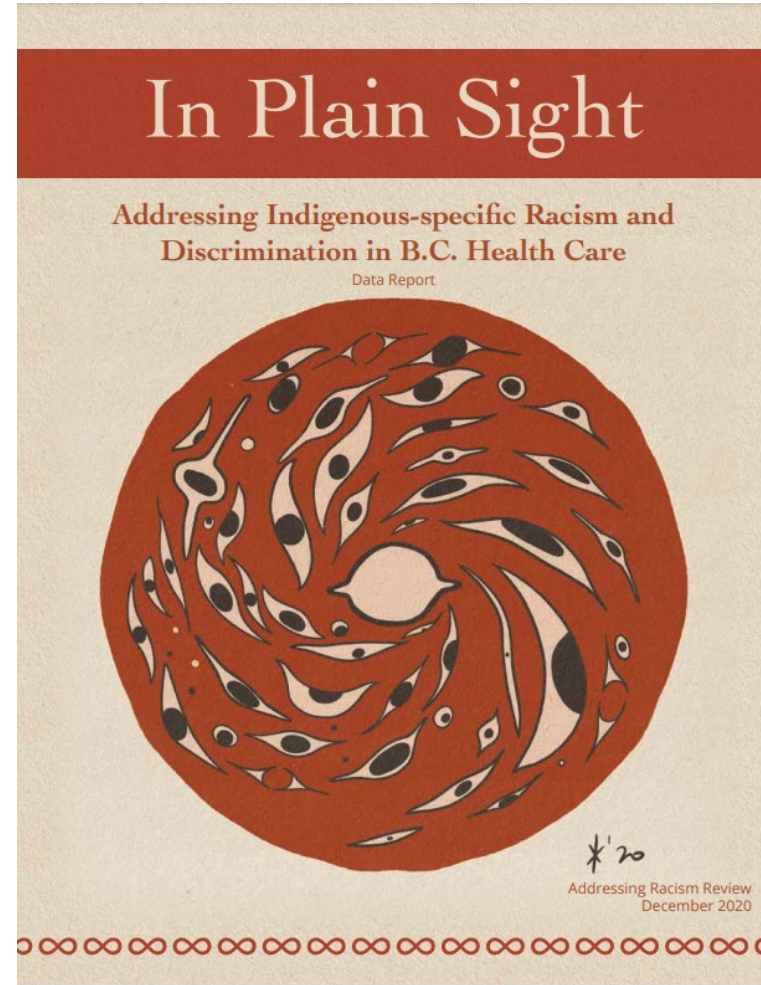
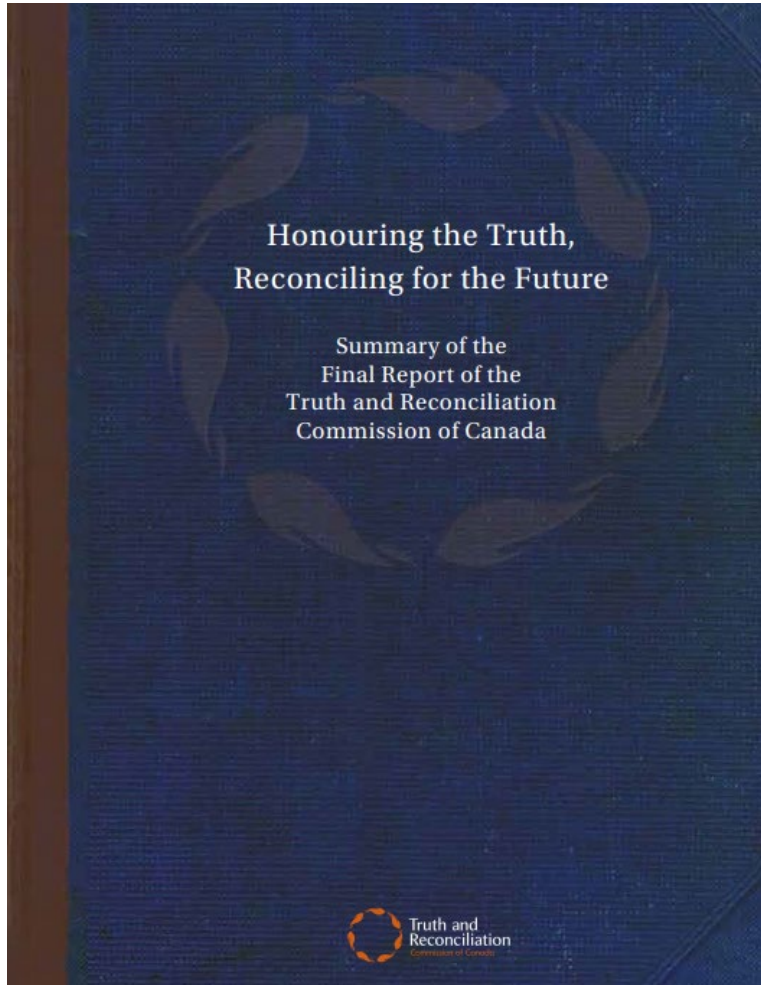


- 10,000+ years
- Economic systems
- Education and training
- Resource management
- Leadership structures
- Languages and cultures
- **Health and Wellness**





# What have Indigenous peoples told us about their experiences with healthcare?



# Definitions



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## Cultural Safety

- Cultural safety is an **outcome** based on respectful engagement that recognizes and strives to address power imbalances inherent in the healthcare system. It results in an environment free of racism and discrimination, where people feel safe when receiving health care.

## Cultural Humility

- Cultural humility is a **process of self-reflection** to understand personal and systemic biases and to develop and maintain respectful processes and relationships based on mutual trust. Cultural humility involves humbly acknowledging oneself as a learner when it comes to understanding another's experience.





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# Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility, and Anti-racism in Immunization Clinics





# Immunization Skills Checklist

## IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 2022

BCIC - funded project led by FNHA Immunization Team



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LITERATURE REVIEW  
2020



### THE PLAN



### WHY?

IMPROVE CLIENT CARE AND ACCESS TO IMMUNIZATIONS

SUPPORT IMMUNIZERS TO BE PREPARED TO CREATE SAFE SPACES WITH CLIENTS

### INFORMED BY

TWO EYED SEEING APPROACH  
- INDIGENOUS VOICES

BCCNM PRACTICE STANDARD:  
INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SAFETY,  
CULTURAL HUMILITY, AND ANTI-RACISM

BCPGSC GUIDE: WHAT MATTERS TO INDIGENOUS PATIENT PARTNERS

INPUT FROM:  
- ELDER AND KNOWLEDGE KEEPER  
- FRONT LINE IMMUNIZERS / PILOT PROJECT

### THE CHANGES INCLUDE



### EMPHASIZE



HUMILITY AND LEARNING ABOUT CLIENT EXPERIENCES  
ACCESSIBLE LANGUAGE

### RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS FOR PARTNERS

PROVINCIAL ADOPTION OF REVISED IMMUNIZATION SKILLS CHECKLIST

INCLUDE CULTURAL SAFETY AND HUMILITY AS AN IMMUNIZATION COMPETENCY FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS  
- BCDC • PHAC

ONGOING CULTURAL SAFETY AND HUMILITY AND ANTI-RACISM  
EDUCATION AND LEARNING FOR BC'S IMMUNIZERS



# Equity and access

## THE PLAN



## WHY?



SUPPORT IMMUNIZERS TO  
BE PREPARED TO CREATE  
SAFE SPACES WITH CLIENTS

IMPROVE CLIENT CARE AND  
ACCESS TO IMMUNIZATIONS

# Immunization Skills Checklist

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 2022

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## INFORMED BY

TWO EYED SEEING APPROACH  
- INDIGENOUS VOICES

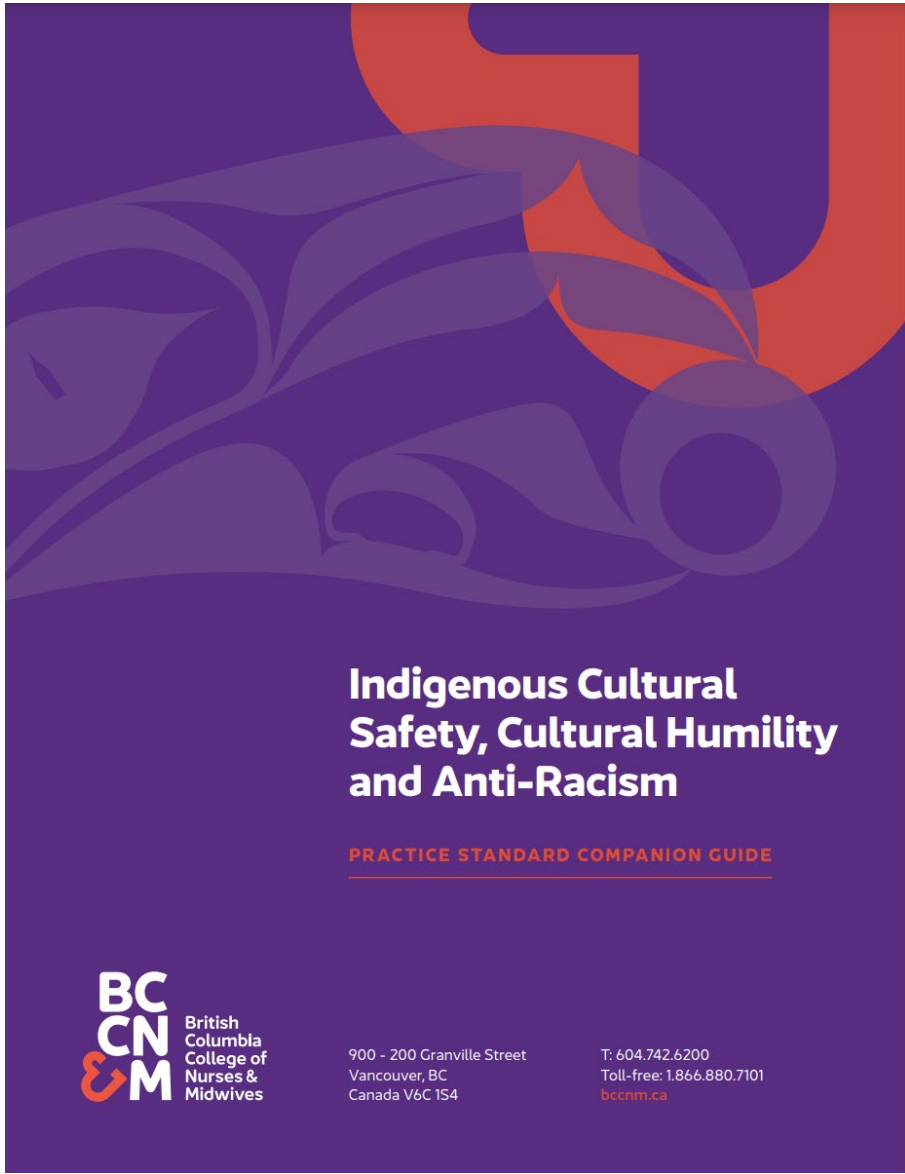
BCCNM PRACTICE STANDARD:  
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BCPQSC GUIDE: WHAT  
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PATIENT PARTNERS

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- FRONT LINE IMMUNIZERS / PILOT PROJECT





# Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-Racism

PRACTICE STANDARD COMPANION GUIDE



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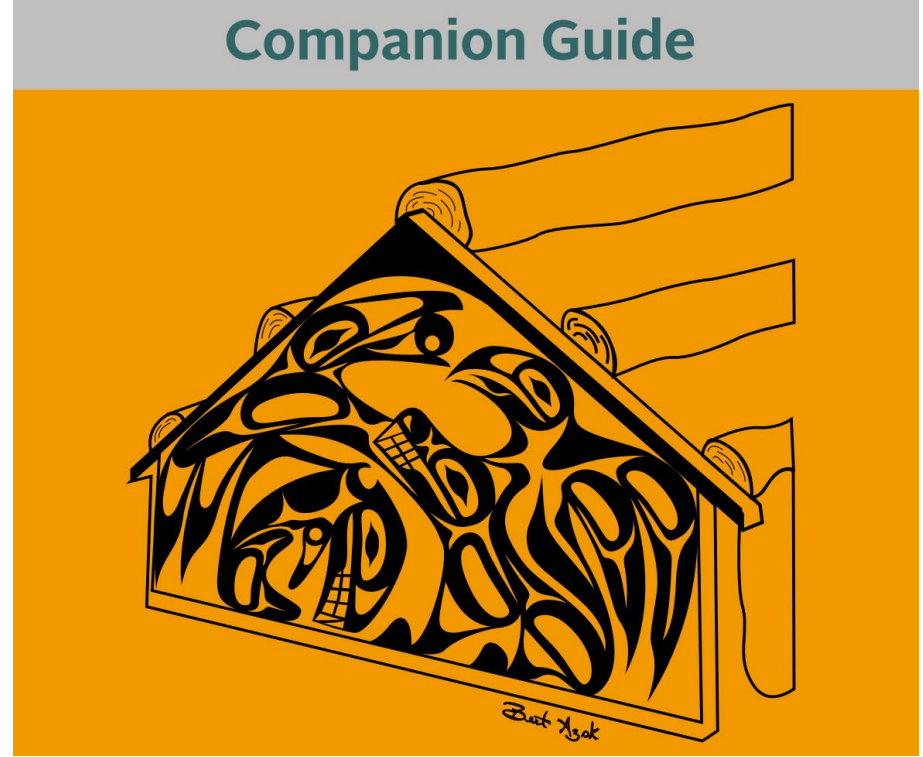
[https://www.bccnm.ca/Documents/cultural\\_safety\\_humility/ps\\_companion\\_guide.pdf](https://www.bccnm.ca/Documents/cultural_safety_humility/ps_companion_guide.pdf)



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# Culturally Safe Engagement: What Matters to Indigenous (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) Patient Partners?

## Companion Guide



[https://bcpsqc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Culturally-Safe-Engagement-Companion-Guide\\_Final.pdf](https://bcpsqc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Culturally-Safe-Engagement-Companion-Guide_Final.pdf)



# Priority areas identified in practice standard

Self-reflective Practice (It starts with me)



Strengths-based and Trauma-informed Practice (Looking beneath the surface)

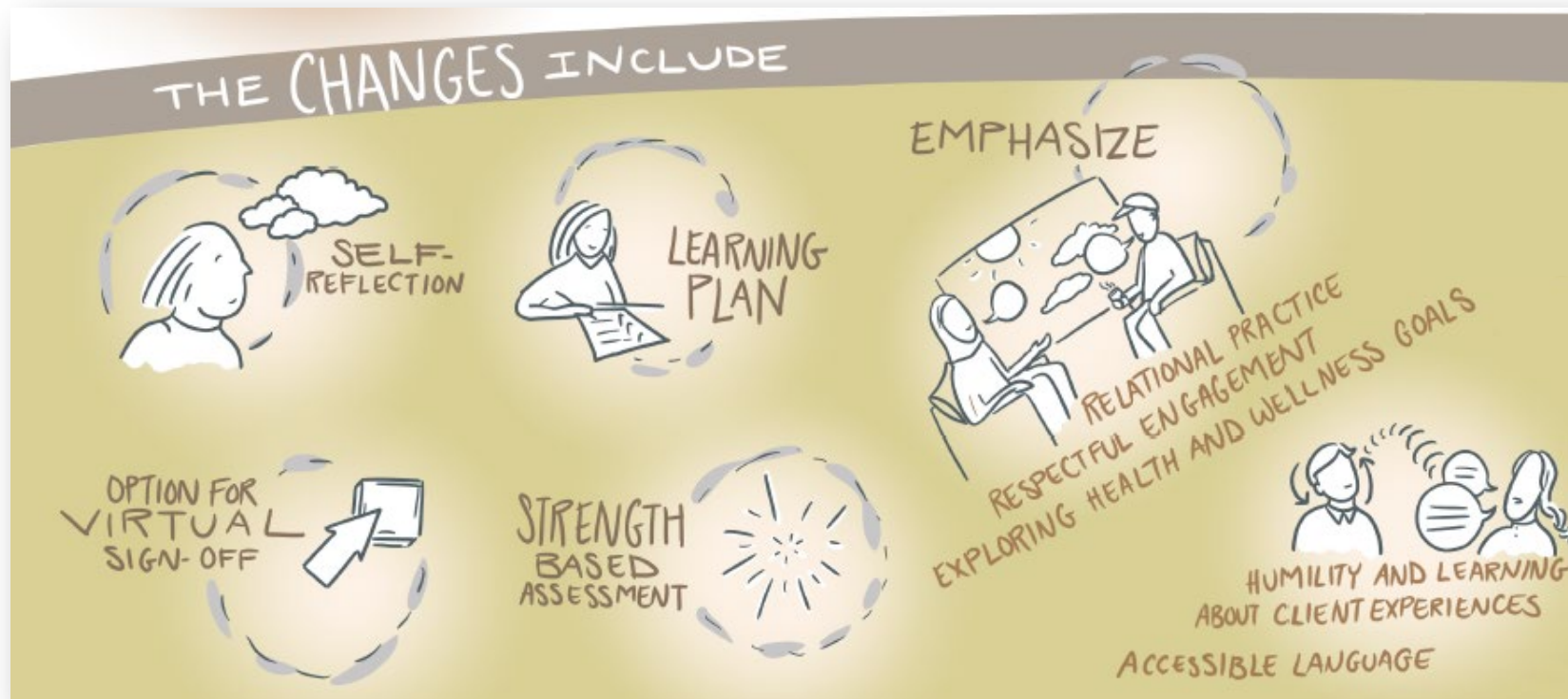


Person-led Care (Relational care)





# The changes





# The changes: Considerations for culturally safe practice





# The changes: Considerations for culturally safe practice

## ■ Immunization Skills Checklist

Performs appropriate client assessment prior to immunization	
•	Introduces self, welcomes client and establishes rapport. Respectfully engages with the client to identify, understand, and address the client's health and wellness goal for the appointment. (Indigenous cultural safety and humility Practice Standard, Principles 5.1-5.2)
•	Identifies any language or literacy barriers and makes appropriate accommodations. Welcomes support person (e.g. family member or interpreter), if available. (Indigenous cultural safety and humility Practice Standard, Principle 4.4)
•	Assesses whether the client is comfortable in the environment or whether adjustments are needed (light, sound, etc.) (Indigenous cultural safety and humility Practice Standard, Principle 4.2).
•	Obtains permission from client for pre-vaccination assessment. Assess client health status and health history. (Indigenous cultural safety and humility Practice Standard, Principle 6.2)
•	Assesses client's previous experience with vaccines, if any (e.g. what has worked well in the past to improve the immunization experience). Makes appropriate accommodations. (Indigenous cultural safety and humility Practice Standard, Principle 6.1).





# The changes: Process

- [Immunization Skills Checklist](#)





# Provincial implementation



# Learning Journeys



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Curiosity & Openness



Unlearning



Learning



Reflection



Integration  
into  
Thinking



Learning  
into Action

Self-Awareness : Knowledge : Practice

Share with others (Champion)



# Thank you

Gayaxsixa (Hailhzaqvla)  
Huy tseep q'u (Stz'uminus)  
Dun'kwu (Haida)  
Gilakas'la (Kwakwaka'wakw)  
Kleco Kleco (Nuu-Chah-Nulth)  
k<sup>w</sup>uk<sup>w</sup>stéyp (Nlaka'pamux)  
Snachailya (Carrier)

Mussi Cho (Kaska Dena)  
Tooyksim niin (Nisga'a)  
Kukwstsétsemc (Secwepemc)  
čěčəhaθεč (Ayajuthem)  
Sechanalyagh (Tsilhqot'in)  
kw'as ho:y (Halqeméylem)  
T'oyaxsim nisim (Gitksan)