

**Date:** November 13, 2020

**To:** Indigenous Health Program Staff

**From:** Wayne Labonte – Manager, Primary Care Access

**RE:** Indigenous Cancer Patient Navigator Services (North)

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We are very pleased to announce that Kelsey Salpeter has recently started in her role as the **Indigenous Cancer Patient Navigator (ICPN)** for CCA North and is ready to receive referrals. This ICPN role supports Indigenous patients and their families in the Northern part of the province, as they move through their cancer experience. Supporting both patients and providers in navigating the cancer system, the ICPN helps patients understand their diagnosis and treatment choices, and resources available to them.

### **Who is the Indigenous Cancer Patient Navigator?**

- The ICPN, **Kelsey Salpeter**, is a registered nurse who is passionate about providing quality health care to Indigenous peoples. Kelsey's previous experience includes working at Paul Band First Nation as a community health nurse, as well as working with the RAH Indigenous Wellness Clinic to help fight the opioid crisis through harm reduction based strategies. Her experience at the Indigenous Wellness clinic allowed her to partner and build relationships within the inner city and with surrounding First Nations Communities and Metis Settlements. Kelsey looks forward to starting her role as the ICPN at the Cross Cancer Institute (CCI) as she believes that it is essential to support Indigenous patients and their families in navigating the health care system, supporting them where and when needed, connecting them to resources, and advocating on their behalf. Kelsey is looking forward to working with health care providers at the CCI and knows that, as a team, we can work towards providing our Indigenous patients with the best care possible.

### **What can an ICPN do?**

- Help to ensure that Indigenous peoples experiencing cancer have access to information, supports, or referrals
- Be a client advocate and support
- Help patients and families navigate the health care system
- Support social work to help navigate transportation, accommodation, and medical coverage, either through NIHB or other methods
- Connect patients and families with cultural support workers to help facilitate cultural practices and/or ceremonies
- Assist with patients' questions about diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship
- Connect clients to hospital, community-based services, resources, or programs
- Assist health professionals to build relationships with Indigenous patients and their families, through education and support
- Connect Health Care Providers with Indigenous resources

## How do I refer to the ICPN?

- Patients can be referred at any point in the cancer experience, and can **self-refer**
- Outside of the Cross Cancer Institute:
  - Email the ICPN Referral form to [ICPN\\_North@ahs.ca](mailto:ICPN_North@ahs.ca) (attached)

If you have any questions, please feel free to email or call Kelsey Salpeter:

- [ICPN\\_North@ahs.ca](mailto:ICPN_North@ahs.ca)
- Phone: **780-432-8747**
- Fax: **780-432-8357**

Respectfully,



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