

MAPS Stakeholder Communiqué

What is MAPS?

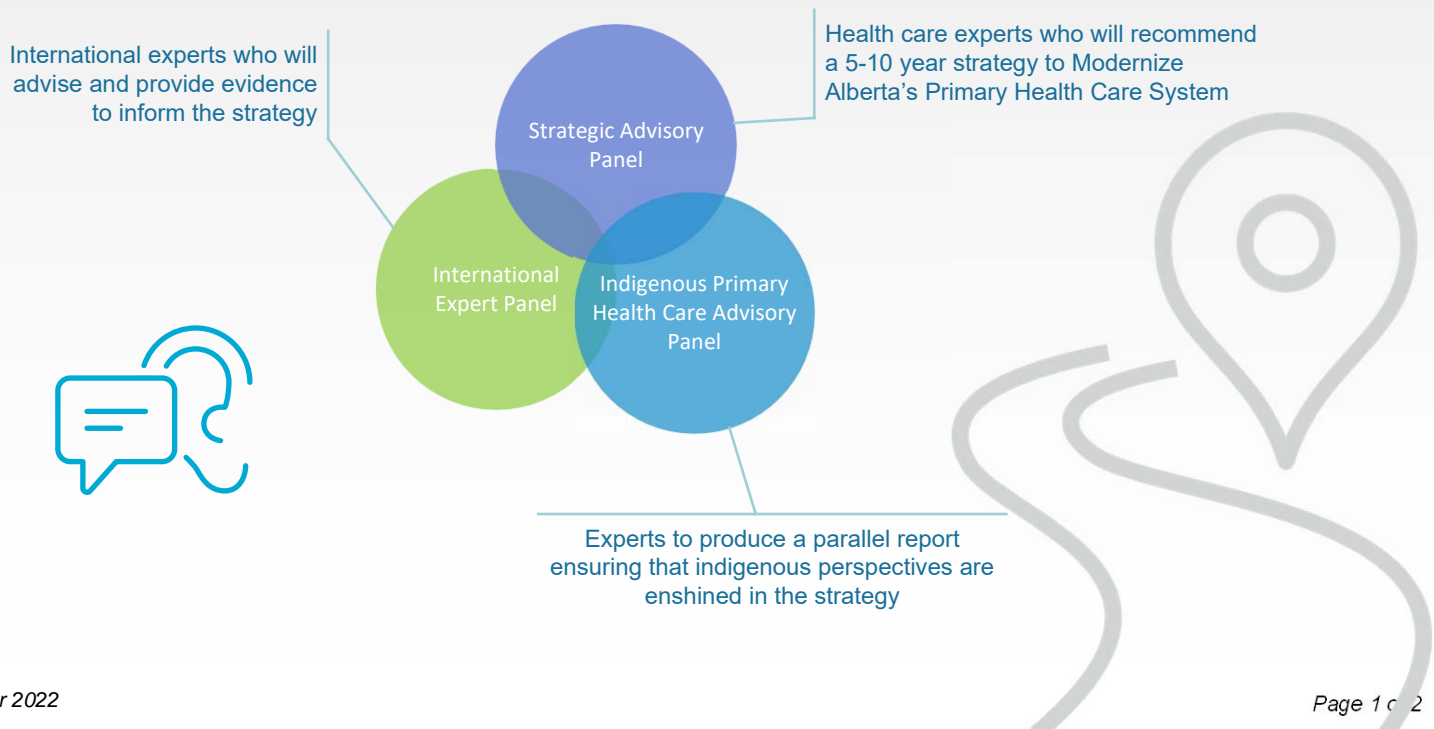
The Modernizing Alberta's Primary health Care System (MAPS) initiative is about continuing to improve primary health care in Alberta. Despite a strong foundation in primary health care, Alberta has challenges with respect to equitable access and quality of health care, especially in rural and remote areas of the province and for Indigenous Albertans. These challenges existed before the pandemic, but were exacerbated by it. Like other jurisdictions, Alberta's health system – including primary health care – is facing unprecedented pressures as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alberta has the opportunity to build from its primary health care assets, including Primary Care Networks, to strengthen the entire health system. The MAPS initiative will engage leaders and experts with hands-on experience in primary health care and health systems improvement. This process draw on their expertise and will examine the current landscape and to propose innovative improvements that will strengthen primary health care in Alberta.

The MAPS initiative is well underway and will provide recommendations to the Minister of Health about ways to strengthen primary health care and to achieve a primary health care-oriented health system. Overarching objectives include improvement in the domains of:

- **Access:** All Albertans have access to timely, appropriate primary health care services from a regular provider or team. Care options are flexible and reflect individual and population health needs.
- **Integration:** Every Albertan has a health home that provides primary health care services and seamless transitions to other health, social and community services. Coordination and communication between providers and organizations is promoted and facilitated by service planning and the provincial governance structure.
- **Quality:** Albertans receive high quality services from an accountable, innovative and sustainable primary health care system. Health service delivery is evidence informed, follows best practices, and uses resources efficiently.
- **Albertans as Partners:** Albertans and their social support networks are meaningful partners in achieving their health and wellness goals. Health services are proactive, recognize and address underlying influences on health outcomes, and respect individual needs and preferences.
- **Culturally Safe and Appropriate Care:** First Nations, Métis and Inuit persons have access to high quality, culturally safe care that is free of racism, and designed and delivered in a manner that respects their unique health care needs.

Primary health care leaders, indigenous primary health care experts, and national and global experts have been brought together to identify immediate and long-term improvements to strengthen Alberta's primary health care system. To capture their unique perspectives, three panels have been appointed.



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Status updates:



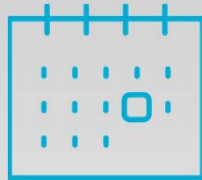
Advisory panel membership has been confirmed and initial meetings have all occurred. An oversight committee is meeting regularly.

- Strategic Advisory Panel meetings: 1
- International Expert Panel meetings: 1
- Indigenous Primary Health Care Advisory Panel meetings: 6



Engagement milestones:

- 39 Key Informant Interviews and Focus Groups
- Special engagements with:
 - the Provincial Primary Care Network Committee,
 - The Primary Care Alliance
 - The Primary Care Network Forum.
- Requests for written submissions sent to 26 different organizations



Innovation Forums have been confirmed:

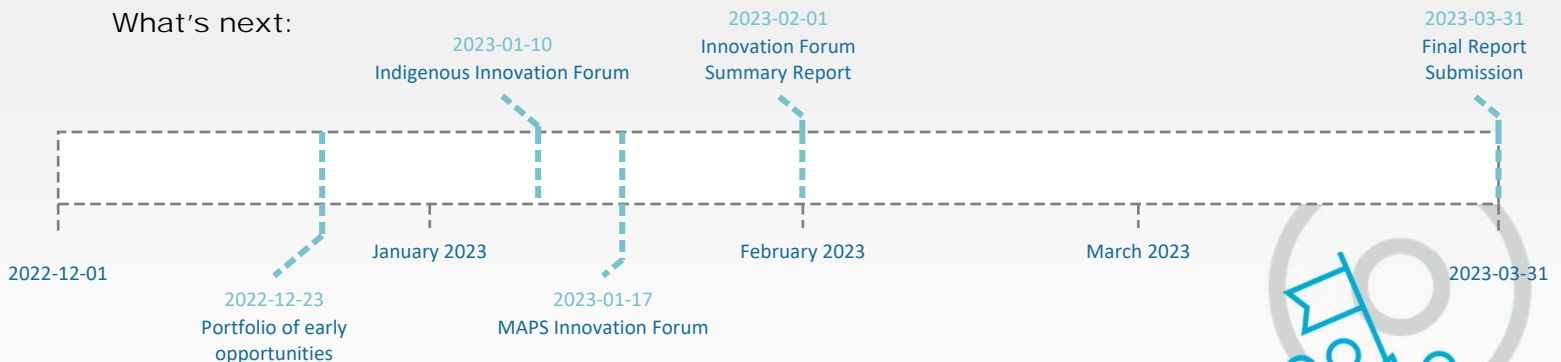
- Indigenous Innovation Forum January 11, 2023 (with an evening reception on January 10)
 - MAPS Innovation Forum January 17, 2023 (with an evening reception on January 16)
- *note: participation in Innovation Fora is by invitation only.



Numerous early opportunities for investment in the improvement and stabilization of primary health care, including several specifically focused on serving indigenous populations, have been solicited identified from panelists and stakeholders and are being compiled and evaluated for viability and readiness. The panels will make recommendations for early investment to the Minister of Health before the end of the 2022 calendar year.

Data analytics are underway to inform a current state report to the panels to help aid in their work and deliberations.

What's next:



A Final Report is due March 31, 2023 and will be a recommended MAPS Strategy, inclusive of actions, implementation roadmap, and costing for the next 5-10 years.



Have questions? Inquiries can be sent to health.MAPS@gov.ab.ca