

Climate Adaptation Strategies

The RHSRNbc's third chapter aims to outline actions that reduce the negative impacts and optimize the new opportunities that arise from a changing climate that is vital for rural health.

Key considerations when developing global adaptation initiative frameworks



The BC government is taking 2 strategic approaches to climate adaptation:

The Preliminary Climate Risk Assessment

is an evidence-based evaluation of the impacts of 15 climate risks to BC in the short term and for 2050

BC's 2010 Adaptation Strategy

will build a strong foundation in climate knowledge and tools by assessing risk and implementing priority adaptation actions

Climate change resilience in Indigenous communities

Adaptation and empowerment through food security and food sovereignty



of rural Indigenous communities in BC are experiencing food insecurity^[1]

Climate change has altered the environment, threatening food access and safety

Harvesting and consuming traditional foods strengthen cultural capacity and wellbeing

Access to traditional foods should be a priority for rural health services planning

Over half of all First Nations adults engaging in harvesting reported that climate change has impacted harvesting

According to a 2019 report for eight Assembly of First Nations regions, the following measures should be taken to protect traditional food sources in the face of climate change:

- Generate sustained public health risk-benefit communications **promoting the importance of harvesting traditional food** while decreasing exposure to environmental contaminants such as mercury
- Monitor, protect, and **ensure healthy local ecosystems** and allow for Indigenous access to traditional food
- Develop a long-term traditional food contaminant monitoring program and guidelines for **protecting aquatic, land, and human health to avoid unnecessary exposure to pharmaceuticals and other contaminants**

Climate adaptation in the health care sector

Epidemiological surveillance

Reducing factors that amplify vulnerability

Enhancing social capital

PlanH

The PlanH Healthy Communities Grant Program aims to facilitate local government learning, partnership, and planning to improve the health of BC's communities

Encourages the public health sector to contribute to local adaptation and resilience building initiatives:

- Climate knowledge translation
- Mitigating climate change-related health incidents
- Contributing health information to inform local and provincial adaptation policy planning

Read the full chapter here: <https://tinyurl.com/RHSRNbcChapters>

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[1] <https://uwbc.ca/blog/united-way-british-columbia-supports-food-security-in-rural-and-indigenous-communities/#:~:text=In%20fact%2C%20almost%2012%25%20of,Interior%20First%20Nations%20communities%20respectively.>