

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

An Indigenous Perspective



WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

Public health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play.

While a doctor treats people who are sick, public health works to prevent people from getting sick or injured in the first place. It promotes wellness by encouraging healthy behaviors.



WHAT IS SOCIAL JUSTICE?

Social Justice is the view that everyone deserves equal rights and opportunities.

This includes the right to good health, to assure that everyone has the opportunity to attain their highest level of health.



EXAMPLES OF SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Income

Education

Unemployment and job security

Working life conditions

Food Security

Housing

Early childhood development

Social inclusion and non-discrimination

Structural conflict

Access to affordable health services





WHAT ARE STRUCTURAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH?

Governing process, economic and social policies that affect pay, working conditions, housing and education





WHAT IS TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION?

Truth and reconciliation promotes the belief that confronting and reckoning with the past is necessary for successful transitions from conflict, resentment and tension to peace and connectedness.



THOUGHTS PERSPECTIVES EXAMPLES



Recommended reading: *Public Policy in the Trump Era*. 2021.
The Lancet Commission



*Intelligence is the ability to
adapt to change.*

Stephen Hawking, British astrophysicist

CONTACT

Michael E. Bird, MSW/MPH

505-615-2529

mlittlebird@msn.com

