



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

HEALTH BENEFITS ANNOUNCEMENT

Health Benefits – Operations Medical Transportation Program

Update - Meal Rate Increase

As communicated recently on the FNHA website ([2014-2015 The Year Ahead](#)), Health Benefits will make changes to the meal rates effective April 1, 2014. The change to the patient travel meal rates is an evergreen commitment of \$638,000 dollars over the next 9 years of the Canada Funding Agreement for a total of \$5.75 million dollars.

This investment is made in response to the meal rate concerns raised by First Nations and to the First Nations Health Directors Association survey recommendations received in November of 2013.

The new meal rates for Medical Transportation, effective April 1, 2014 is as follows:

For trips that **are up to seven (7) nights** in duration:

- \$40 per night's stay
- \$25 per night's stay for children under 9

For trips that are **seven (7) or more nights in duration**, a weekly rate will apply

- A maximum weekly rate of \$163 per week, inclusive of the escort

There is no change to the rate of \$10.00 a day for those trips that are longer than 6 hours.

As we move forward, the Health Benefits team will continue to engage with each region to discuss program improvements in 2014-2015.

For more information on the Meal Rates for medical transportation, please contact Tara Bjornson, Director of Operations, Health Benefits at 604-693-6921 or email at Tara.Bjornson@fnha.ca