



# DUNNA'EH HOUSE OF HEALING

Dunna'eh House of Healing embodies our vision of a sanctuary where wellness, culture, ceremony and community come together to promote healing.

# President's Message

## Dunna'eh House of Healing Society



As former Chief of the Tahltan Nation, I have seen the struggles our people face when traveling to Vancouver for medical care. Too often, patients must come alone because Patient Travel funds do not cover family support, and the high cost of hotels forces them to stay far from the hospital. For some, leaving the reserve for the first time is overwhelming and deeply traumatic.

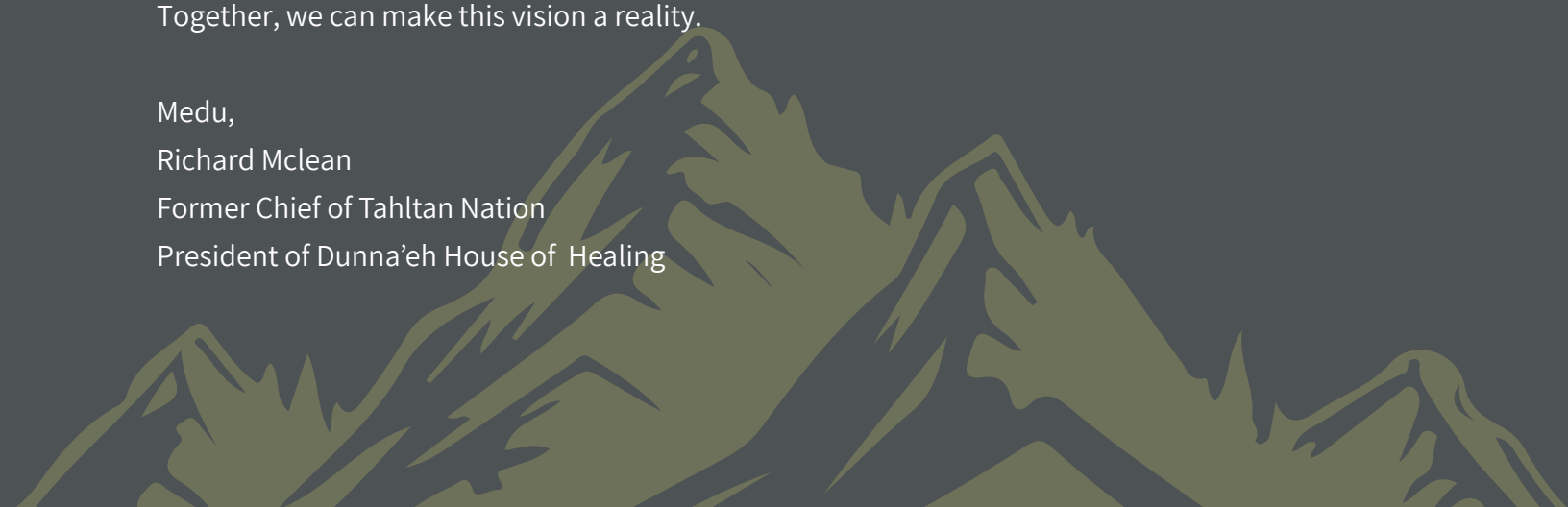
The Dunna'eh House of Healing was envisioned to change this reality. Our mission is to create a residential lodge grounded in cultural safety, where Indigenous patients and their families can stay together while receiving medical care in the Vancouver area. By embedding cultural safety at the heart of the design, we ensure that families feel supported, respected, and at home. This environment of care not only reduces stress but also strengthens spirit, shortens recovery times, and leads to better health outcomes.

This not-for-profit society will provide affordable accommodations alongside spaces that reflect Indigenous values of balance and wellness. The development also creates room for a full-service Indigenous-focused health clinic, with services such as vision care, dental, mental health, pharmacy, naturopathic care, and cultural wellness supports. Over time, these services will expand and adapt to meet the evolving needs of our people.

The name Dunna'eh carries deep personal meaning. It is my Tahltan name, given to me by my grandmother, meaning "man on a mountain." Her teachings of vision, responsibility, and care inspires this project, which stands as a legacy of cultural safety, healing, and community.

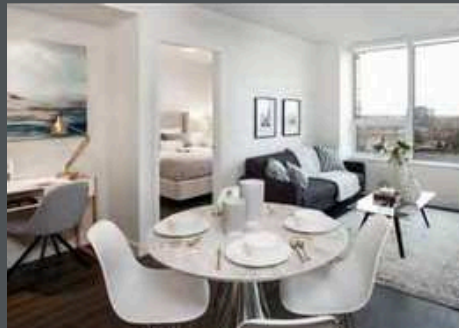
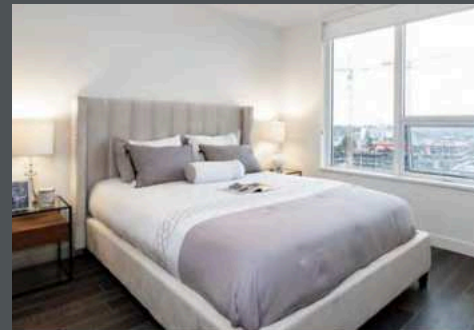
The Dunna'eh House of Healing is more than a building. It is a vision of dignity and reconciliation in action - a place where patients and families can find comfort, connection, and true healing. Together, we can make this vision a reality.

Medu,  
Richard Mclean  
Former Chief of Tahltan Nation  
President of Dunna'eh House of Healing



# DUNNA'EH HOUSE OF HEALING

The Dunna'eh House of Healing brings together medical travel lodge services and cultural wellness spaces in a 28-storey mixed-use building in Vancouver's Broadway Corridor. Designed as a healing environment grounded in cultural safety, the project reflects Indigenous values of balance, connection, and respect for wellness, family, and community. The development will feature: 200 Patient Travel Lodge Rooms offering affordable, culturally safe accommodations with supportive amenities for Indigenous patients and families traveling to Vancouver for medical care, and 58 moderate income housing units.



## Healing Residence Features

- Studio, 1, 2, and 3 Bedroom and flex units
- Fully equipped kitchens with appliances
- In-Suite Washer and Dryer
- Air Conditioning for occupant comfort
- Wheelchair accessible washrooms and grab bars
- Window roller shades
- Telephone and Internet
- Parking

## Amenity

- Exercise facility
- Rooftop outdoor spaces and bbq
- Lounge/Library/Reading Room
- Meeting spaces
- Bike Room

## Cultural Amenity

- Sweat Lodge
- Medicinal gardens
- Sacred gathering spaces
- Specialized storage for cultural food
- Workshop





## Patient-Centered Services

Facilitating a healing environment is our top priority. The Dunna'eh House of Healing will provide patient-centered services rooted in cultural safety, with reception and concierge staff trained to offer guidance, health navigation, and system support. Housekeeping and laundry will maintain clean, low-stress environments, while family rooms and suites allow larger groups to remain together. An on-site shuttle will connect the lodge directly to Vancouver hospitals, ensuring stress-free transportation. Beyond accommodations, the House of Healing will host a flagship Indigenous Health Care Clinic that unites conventional medicine, Naturopathic and Indigenous medicine. Supported by health and wellness concierges and navigators, the clinic will deliver wraparound care for patients and families - combining cultural support, and preventative health to improve outcomes and strengthen the healing journey.

### Culturally Safe & Trauma-Informed Health Care

- Physician and Nurse Practitioner services
- Nursing services
- Vision Care
- Mental Health Services
- Dental Care
- Physiotherapy
- Naturopathic Doctor
- IV Lounge
- Nutritionist

### Traditional Wellness Services

- Indigenous Medicine and Compounding Pharmacy
- Spiritual Healing Services
- Elders and Knowledge Keepers in residence
- Cultural Healing and Wellness Services
- Language Speakers/Interpretation Services
- Wellness navigation and transportation
- First Nations Benefit Program

# Integrated Food Strategy

The Dunna'eh House of Healing will showcase wellness, food sovereignty, and cultural revitalization through Indigenous Food & Healing Gardens, an on-site pharmacy, and a flagship restaurant. A closed-loop system will grow, prepare, and serve traditional foods to support ceremony, health, and culture. Facilities such as a smokehouse, food storage, and community kitchen will allow families to cook, share meals together while hosting cultural and ceremonial practices.



The ground-level Indigenous-owned restaurant will offer nutritious, culturally meaningful meals - with options for in-room delivery - making it both a place of nourishment and cultural expression. Elders will guide intergenerational learning in planting, harvesting, and food protocols, ensuring continuity of tradition. By placing food and culture at the heart of healing, Dunna'eh House will embody resilience - restoring the body, spirit, and community through nourishment and tradition.

# Childcare and Early Learning Centre (Drop In-Service)

The Childcare and Early Learning Centre at the Dunna'eh House of Healing will operate as a licensed childcare facility, offering high-quality early learning in a culturally safe and supportive environment. More than a support service, it will function as a fully developed early education program where Indigenous knowledge, language, and cultural practices are woven into the curriculum. The centre will provide stability and continuity for children whose families are in Vancouver for medical treatment, ensuring they feel grounded and nurtured while parents and caregivers focus on healing. In addition to full-time care, the centre will also offer flexible drop-in services to meet the immediate needs of families experiencing illness, travel, or recovery.

## Public Art Installation

Public art will be integrated directly into the building façade through three colored bricks that flow from the corner of Broadway and Birch, across the patio paving, and into the residential entry. The wave-like patterns and colors reflect the importance of nature and the ocean, while the tall brick façade and street-level details draw inspiration from traditional Salish textiles. Representing a powerful waterfall transitioning into the river below, the design symbolizes our shared connection to water and its path to the ocean. Traditional Salish patterns will also frame the residential entryway, honoring the unceded lands on which the Dunna'eh House of Healing stands and embedding cultural meaning into the architecture in a lasting and visible way.



### Public Art by Debra Sparrow

Debra Sparrow ʔƏLIXʷƏLʷƏT  
Musqueam First Nation



## Project Location: 2538 Birch Street, Vancouver, BC

The Dunna'eh House of Healing is ideally located in Vancouver's Broadway Corridor, offering exceptional walkability and access to transit. Within a 5–6 minute walk of the future South Granville and Oak-VGH SkyTrain stations, and just 950 metres from Vancouver General Hospital, the site ensures convenient connections for patients and families. With a walk score of 93 and a bike score of 87, the location is well-served by cycling routes, nearby community centres, and a full range of amenities along West Broadway, reducing reliance on cars and supporting easy, stress-free access to care and services.



## About First Peoples Group



First Peoples Group is a 100% Indigenous-owned and operated advisory firm with more than 25 years of experience working alongside First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities across Canada. Led by Indigenous professionals, the firm is recognized for its ability to strengthen relationships between Indigenous Peoples, governments, and industry through culturally grounded engagement and strategic guidance. With deep expertise in areas such as health, education, and social development, First Peoples Group brings trusted knowledge and an Indigenous-led approach that ensures projects are shaped by the voices, values, and priorities of the communities they serve. Their involvement in the Dunna'eh House of Healing reflects a commitment to advancing cultural safety, reconciliation, and long-term Indigenous well-being.

*We acknowledge with deep respect that the Dunna'eh House of Healing will be built on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəʔəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), and səlilwataʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We offer our gratitude to the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh people for their ongoing leadership and teachings, and we recognize that the success of this project rests on a foundation of respect, partnership, and reconciliation.*