



## Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS TO DEVELOP FUTURE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS™

P.O. Box 1300  
61 Queen Street  
Sioux Lookout, ON  
P8T 1B8

Phone: (807) 737-1802  
Fax: (807) 737-1076  
Toll Free: 1-800-842-0681

---

*The Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority acknowledges that it is situated on the traditional territory of Lac Seul First Nation, signatory to Treaty #3, and the Fort William First Nations, signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850.*

## Media Release

### SIoux LOOKOUT FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY OPENS THUNDER BAY OFFICE

**April 21, 2022**  
**Thunder Bay, ON**

Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority (SLFNHA) held a small opening ceremony today at their new satellite office location in Thunder Bay, at 981 Balmoral Street, Suite 200.

CEO and President James Morris and Acting Board Chair Howard Meshake were on hand with Elders and local dignitaries to offer blessings to the new site.

The current offices in Sioux Lookout remain fully operational. The expanding needs of the communities served by SLFNHA, which number 33 First Nations and include more than 40,000 people, both on and off-reserve, has required the expansion of SLFNHA to Thunder Bay.

Since April 2021, there have been nearly 5,100 visits by SLFNHA community members to Thunder Bay for medical appointments. That number was almost 800 in November 2021 alone.

The move to create a Thunder Bay office comes after much thought and consideration by the SLFNHA Board, which was advised in a 2021 report by Public Health Physician Dr. John Guilfoyle that a presence in Thunder Bay would address the growing needs of SLFNHA community members in urban settings. Guilfoyle, who has since retired, speaks with over 30 years of experience in the Public Health field.

The Thunder Bay office is currently operating with essential staff only, as aligned with current SLFNHA health and safety policy.



## Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS TO DEVELOP FUTURE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS"

P.O. Box 1300  
61 Queen Street  
Sioux Lookout, ON  
P8T 1B8

Phone: (807) 737-1802  
Fax: (807) 737-1076  
Toll Free: 1-800-842-0681

---

### Quotes:

"Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority serves over 40,000 people in 33 First Nations Communities across the Northwest. Many people from these communities find themselves needing medical services in urban settings like Thunder Bay. Having an office here in Thunder Bay will help with patient navigation, facilitate relationships with local stakeholders, and address the growing staffing needs of SLFNHA."

- James Morris, CEO and President, SLFNHA

### Quick Facts:

- SLFNHA serves 33 First Nations Communities.
- There are over 25,000 people on-reserve in these 33 Communities
- There are over 15,000 people from these communities living off-reserve.
- More than 5,000 SLFNHA community members visited Thunder Bay for medical appointments in the past 12 months.
- SLFNHA currently employs nearly 500 staff, with 48 positions in Thunder Bay, 16 of them currently vacant.
- SLFNHA's Thunder Bay office is located at:

- 981 Balmoral St,  
Thunder Bay, Ont.  
P7B 0A6

(Corner of Balmoral and William St,  
Across from the Thunder Bay District Health Unit)

For more information, please contact:

Hugh Mullally  
Communications Manager  
[hugh.mullally@slfnha.com](mailto:hugh.mullally@slfnha.com)  
807.697.3206 (o)  
807.738.6108 (m)