Dear valued patients and community supporting the Indigenous Health Program at Providence Health Care,

It has come to our attention that false and misleading information regarding the Indigenous Health Program at Providence Health Care is being shared on social media.

To all the patients who have been hurt by this misinformation and are feeling anxious or upset, and to those who have contacted St. Paul’s Hospital nursing and clinical support staff expressing their concerns, we want to assure you that the Indigenous Health Team is not being dissolved. We are not stopping service. With the support of the provincial government, Providence is actually enhancing and investing additional funds in the Indigenous Health Program and services. This includes doubling the Indigenous Health support staffing on the team.

In response to the ongoing investigation into anti-Indigenous racism in B.C. healthcare and the immediate recommended actions from the Ministry of Health to advance Indigenous cultural safety and humility within health services, we at Providence are working hard to take action following these recommendations and uphold the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) 94 Calls to Action. A critical part of this means making positive changes and working to enhance and align our services with the rest of the province. We take the immediate recommendations from the Ministry of Health and TRC Calls to Action very seriously, and are doing everything we can to ensure Indigenous patients receive culturally safe experiences while receiving our services.

To all the Warriors in the community and allies who have expressed support for the Indigenous Health Program, we raise our hands to you with our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you for coming together for the Indigenous Health Program and sharing how vitally important it is for the community.

We look forward to sharing updates on the expanded Indigenous Health Program services in the coming weeks and months.

Wishing everyone continued health, wellness and safety.

All My Relations.

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Anishinaabe (She/Her/Hers)  
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