

## **Biography**- March, 2005

Ernie Dal Grande

Ernie is the National Telehealth Program Manager, with the position located within the Primary Health Care Division of the Primary Health Care and Public Health Directorate with the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB), Health Canada, headquartered in Ottawa, Ontario.

For the past eight years, he has managed the development of an emerging FNIHB Telehealth Program working directly with First Nations communities and provincial telehealth directors. This included managing a 3 year research project (1998-2001) in 5 First Nations communities as part of the National Health Transition Fund. To date, Ernie has worked closely with Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba and New Brunswick First Nations communities/provinces to assist with the securing of resources in order to deploy telehealth in those regions.

Recently (2003), Ernie helped establish the Branch Strategic direction of using e-Health services/tools to help meet key Branch business priorities and modernize health care delivery into First Nations communities. This included the establishment of an e-Health Solutions Units in Ottawa and Regions, with a broad mandate to deploy e-Health solutions to meet community health business needs.

Ernie has broad experience with Aboriginal programming having worked 8 years with the Department of Indian Affairs and the past 16 years in the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch on a variety of management improvement projects. His formal education is in Political Science from Carleton University, Ottawa.