Goba Care: Bridging the Gap in Healthcare for Northern Indigenous & Inuit Travellers

March 4, 2027

1:30-3:00pm MT

Join Goba Care to learn how our Indigenous-led organization provides culturally grounded support to Northern Indigenous, Inuit patients and their families receiving medical treatment away from home. This presentation will highlight the challenges medical travellers face, the importance of culturally safe healthcare, and how Goba Care bridges gaps through advocacy, traditional healing, community connections, and compassionate support.



Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the unique challenges Northern Indigenous medical travellers and their escorts face when accessing healthcare away from their home communities
- Learn about Goba Care's program and services, including hospital, Larga, Hotels and international airport visists, patient advocacy, traditional medicines, cultural activities, emergency family support, end of life care support and fundraising
- Recognize the importance of culturally safe healthcare and how traditional Indigenous knowledge, healing practices, and community connections contribute to patient well-being
- Identify opportunities for First Nations, healthcare providers, and community organizations to collaborate with Goba Care to impove support for Indigenous medical travellers

Speakers:

Melinda Laboucan, Founder, Goba Care/Goba NWT Ltd. - Melinda Laboucan is K'asho Got'ine First Nation treaty 11 from Fort Good Hope, Northwest Territories and the founder/Director of Goba Care, an Indigenous-led organization dedicated to supporting Northern medical travellers receiving healthcare in Alberta. Drawing on her Northern roots and experience supporting Indigenous patients and families, Melinda works to bridge gaps in healthcare through culturally grounded services, advocacy, traditional healing, and compassionate community support. Her work focuses on ensuring that Indigenous patients and their families feel supported, respected, and connected to their culture while receiving medical treatment away from home



Target Audience: First Nations community members, health directors, community health representatives, patient navigators, medical travel coordinators, healthcare professionals, Elders, Indigenous organizations, and anyone interested in improving healthcare experiences for Indigenous patients and families.

Please register for session at: https://fntn.ca/Home/Register-VC?eid=23279

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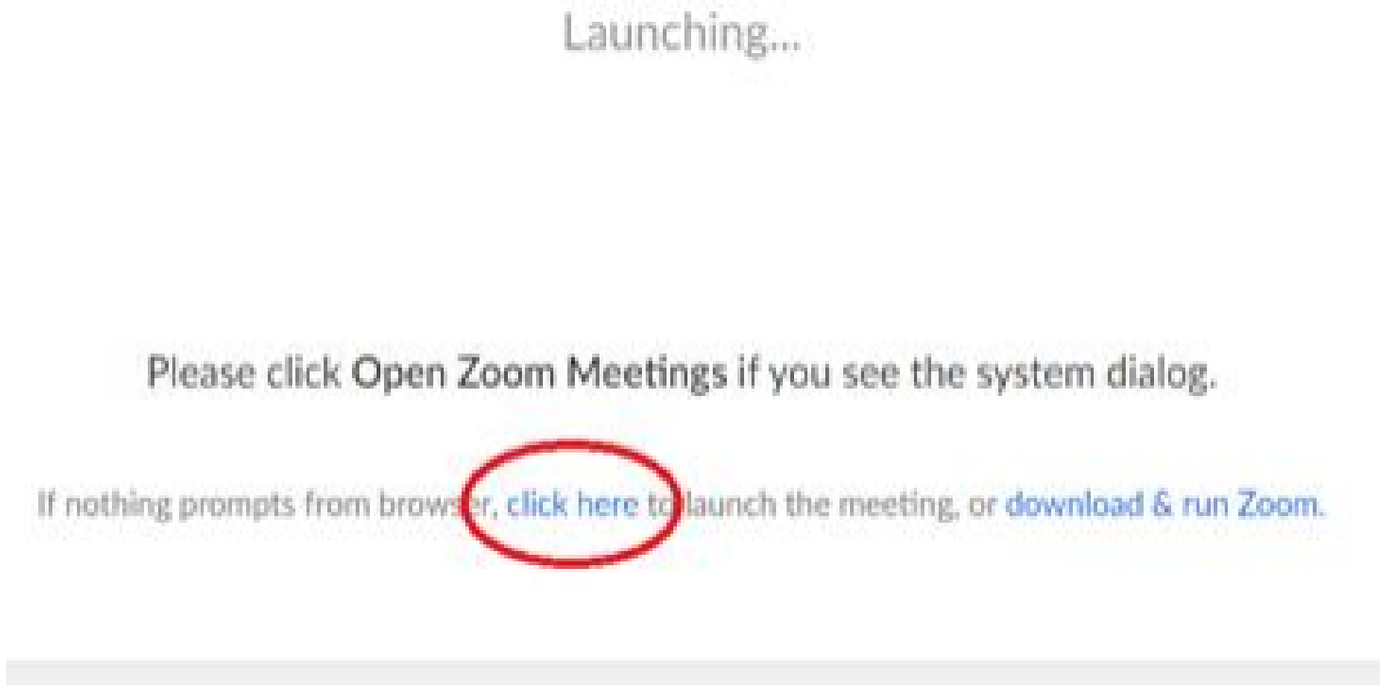

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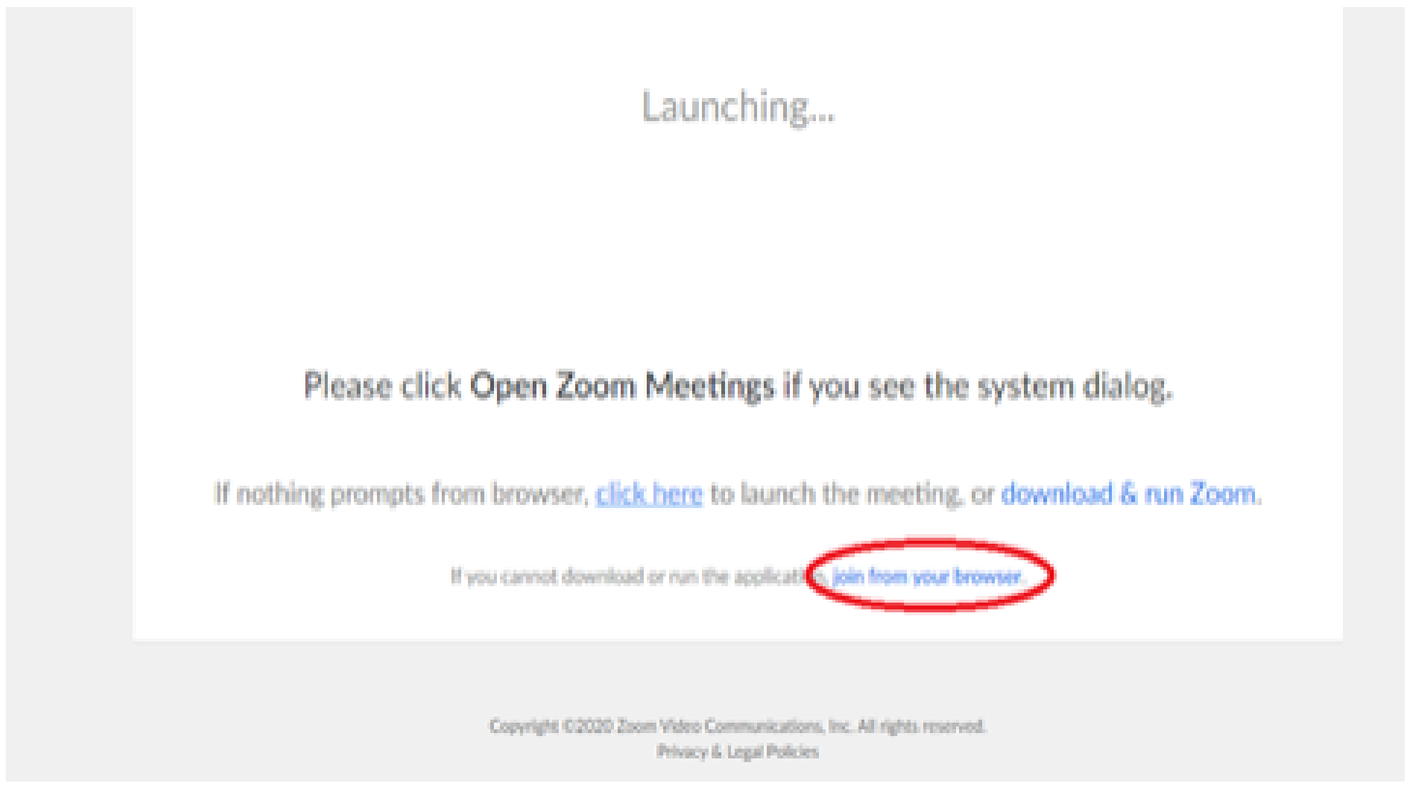

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