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CSCH EXECUTIVE 2009–2012

At the 14th International Congress on Circumpolar Health, CSCH elected a new executive to carry out and expand the activities of the organization. With the dawn of a new era of circumpolar research and cooperation, the executive looks forward to working with members on initiatives of mutual interest.

PRESIDENT

Susan Chatwood is the Executive and Scientific Director of the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and assistant professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto.



Susan has an interest in building sustainable health research capacity in northern regions. She has spent most of her career in remote and northern communities, working in the clinical setting, public health and research. Her current projects within ICHR include the development of health research ethics boards and models for review, knowledge synthesis, and dissemination of evidence for northern populations, participatory projects with a focus on community wellness and the facilitation of a number of research projects and related activities in the circumpolar regions.

TREASURER



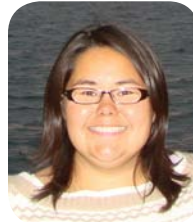
Catherine Carry has been a member of CSCH for a number of years. Between 1994-2004, Catherine held a variety of coordination and management positions at Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association, developing health promotion projects, multi-media resources and training for community workers. In 2004, she joined Inuit Tuttarvingat (formerly the Ajunnginiq Centre) at the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) in Ottawa and is currently the Senior Program Officer.

Catherine focuses on Inuit health and wellness information and a range of public health

issues including health promotion, maternal health, lung health and related research. She coordinates a Web site on Inuit midwifery (www.inuitmidwifery.ca) with an accompanying E-mail listserv for the Innuksuusiiniq – Inuit Midwifery Network and another for the Inuit Tobacco-free Network (ITN). Catherine's connection with the North and its peoples is life-long and her family spent over a decade in Iqaluit, Nunavut, where she learned rudimentary Inuktitut, worked as an educator, taught dance classes and volunteered with various community groups.

SECRETARY

Crystal Lennie is the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation's Health Policy Coordinator. Overseeing and supporting programs related to the Aboriginal Health Transition Fund, Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative, and various Health Research Projects.



She coordinates and facilitates the steering committee for the Inuvialuit portion of the Inuit Health Survey "Qanuqitpit?" She has directed various logistical components of the ship and land based surveys. Her experience working with broad partners and facilitation of health projects allows for ongoing commitment to Inuvialuit Healthcare within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Crystal represents the Inuvialuit on NICoH (National Inuit Committee on Health).

DIRECTORS

Michael Jong



Michael Jong is rural family physician and has spent the past 27 years in the remote community of Happy Valley-Goose Bay in Labrador, Canada.

He is a professor of family medicine at Memorial University of New-

foundland and Vice President of Medical Services for Labrador Grenfell Health. His interests are in rural and aboriginal health, health education and research. He developed the Northern Family Medicine (Norfam) program to train medical students and residents for rural and remote practice.

Marilyn Van Bibber

Marilyn Van Bibber has spent the last twenty-five years working for First Nations and Aboriginal organizations in BC and Yukon. Her education is in nursing, midwifery and political science. Marilyn has a long standing commitment to Aboriginal community health issues and the promotion of healthy families. She is a founding member of the Aboriginal Nurses of Canada, the BC FAS Resource Society and the Medical Services Foundation Ethics Review Committee (Vancouver Foundation).



Marilyn has participated in numerous community research projects including health needs assessments, evaluations and maternal child health. She researched and wrote the Health Canada publication, *It Takes a Community: A Resource Manual on Community-Based Prevention of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effects* and is currently working on the second edition.

Paul Brassard



Paul Brassard is a community medicine physician with graduate training in epidemiology and parasitology. As a clinician researcher at the McGill University Health Centre his current research has been

looking into the natural history of the human papillomavirus (HPV) infection and cervical cancer in Inuit women of Northern Québec. This research will hopefully help in the formulation of policies for inclusion of some form of HPV testing in a more effective cervical cancer screening and prevention program.

UPDATES

NEWS & EVENTS

Arctic Human Health Experts Group

The Arctic Human Health Experts Group (AHHEG) is a new strategic initiative formed over a series of organizational meetings, beginning with the recognition of challenges facing northern populations and the creation of the Arctic Council, and culminating in the agreement of the terms of reference for the AHHEG in Oslo, in May 2008. The Arctic Human Health Experts Group was created as a subsidiary of the Sustainable Development Working Group in order to strengthen cooperation and collaboration between Arctic Council Working Groups, academic institutions, circumpolar health organizations and Arctic populations. The group is currently co-chaired by Kue Young on behalf of Canada. More information on the activities of the Arctic Council and the Sustainable Working Group can be found at:

» portal.sdwg.org/content.php?doc=77&xwm=true

Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning

Dechinta is a northern-led initiative to deliver land-based, university credited educational experiences led by northern leaders, experts, elders and professors to engage northern and southern youth in a transformative curricula based on the cutting-edge needs of Canada's North.

A pilot semester is being held March – June 2010, where selected youth will attend a "bush" university at the Dechinta Centre a short flight from Yellowknife.

For more information, please contact: Kyla Kakfwi Scott, Program Manager dechintaadmin@gmail.com Tel: 867-445-1867

» dechinta.ca

Inuit Health Survey - Inuvialuit Settlement Region Update 2009

The ISR steering committee just got back from attending a results workshop in Montreal, Quebec. McGill University's CINE brought

together members of each of the steering committees from the three Inuit regions (Inuvialuit, Nunavut, and Nunatsiavut). The three regions participated in their 2007-2008 International Polar Year study called the Inuit Health Survey. The Inuit Health Survey went to the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in August 2008 by the Coast Guard ship Amundsen and visited the coastal communities of Tuktoyaktuk, Sachs Harbour, Paulatuk and Ulukhaktok. A land-based portion of the Inuit Health Survey was completed in September 2008 in Inuvik for the land-based communities of Inuvik and Aklavik. The ISR steering committee is a committee that is very representative of the communities within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. We also have advisors to the committee from various groups within the Northwest Territories. We look forward to seeing some results from this very large and comprehensive study in the near future. For more information on the steering committee or how the survey went, please visit:

» inuithealthsurvey.ca

Launch of Greenland-Canada Institutes for Circumpolar Health Research



In early November 2009 in Nuuk Greenland, the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research (ICHR) in Canada and the Greenland Institute for Circumpolar Health Research (GIHR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will formally launch sister ICHR organizations for Canada and Greenland. This new voluntary, non-monetary association brings together allied research interests from two circumpolar regions, and expands their respective roles in advancing health research in circumpolar regions. The MOU builds on shared perspectives and common interests in the study of circumpolar populations and will enhance opportunities for knowledge translation and study logistics in circumpolar health research due to proximity to stakeholders and partners. The Institutes look forward to working together in this mutually enriching partnership. More information can be found at:

» ichr.ca & gihrgl

Nursing Student and Faculty Exchange

Aurora College and Finnmark University are planning a nursing student and faculty exchange



Stephanie Gilbert Rose and Leanne Niziol are amongst the nursing students who will head to Hammerfest, Norway from Yellowknife

for Spring and Fall 2010. At Aurora College, the nursing students have been selected and plans made to travel to Hammerfest Norway and complete their Consolidated Practice Experience Course (CPE3) at the local hospital from May 11 to June 4th. Along with gaining credit in CPE 3, the purpose of the exchange is to facilitate an exchange of information about professional nursing practice, education and research in the circumpolar regions; to enhance the quality of care provided in the countries of the participants by learning about cultural diversity; to experience each other's culture through nursing practice experience and local socio-cultural events in each country; and, to broaden personal development, perspectives on nursing practice and critical appraisal of health care systems.

The Canadian and Norwegian faculties have been planning the details of each visit since September 2009. Ruth Yttervik and Grete Mehus visited Yellowknife Campus, Aurora College in October and emails between the Finnmark University faculty and Aurora College faculty have been steady since the visit. The exchange between the two countries requires additional financing for students and faculty so a fund-raising meeting was initiated and beginning initiatives brain-stormed.

For further information about the exchange please contact: Pertice Moffitt (pmoffitt@auroracollege.nt.ca) and Ruth Yttervik (Ruth.Yttervik@hifm.no).

PHAC Update

Bree Denning was a PHAC Research Affiliate Program student from May 2008 to September of 2009. During this time, she completed her Master's thesis, entitled *Indicators for Prenatal Support and Neonatal Outcomes in Northern Canada*, and helped to organize the student activities for the 14th International Congress on Circumpolar Health. After completing her M.Sc., she accepted a position as a Public Health Officer through the PHAC bridging program, and is currently stationed at the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.



Dinner aboard the Discovery ship, moored in Dundee Scotland. In photo are medical directors of Antarctic research stations. Countries represented in the photo include, Canada, Britain, Japan, France, USA and Germany.

Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, Expert group on human biology and medicine held their annual meeting in Dundee Scotland in October 2009. CSCH was represented by Susan Chatwood. The activities of the Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health were introduced. The potential for partnerships between Canada's Arctic regions and Antarctic regions were explored.

» scar.org

SENNORCA and Nunavut Social Economy Summit



In conjunction with the annual meeting of the Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada (SENNORCA), The Nunavut Research Institute hosted the first Nunavut Social Economy Summit in Iqaluit this past November 2009.

The summit brought together knowledgeable practitioners in the social economy with researchers working in the field. The two days of workshops explored everything from defining the nature of the social economy in Nunavut and the rest of Northern Canada, as well as exploring what current research on the social economy offers social enterprises confronting the issues and challenges of operating in Nunavut. The role of Inuit organizations in the social economy was particularly emphasized. The event was also co-sponsored by the Canadian CED Network and Nunavut Economic Forum.

The pan-Northern SERNNOCA team and steering committee also took this opportunity to convene their annual meeting and set about the task of planning the coming year. The possibility of convening research projects focused especially on poverty in the North was noted.

Audio clips and presentations from the summit can be downloaded from the Social Economy Hub website.

» socialeconomyhub.ca,
dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/ &
sennorca.circumpolarhealth.org

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Establishing a Health REB in Northern Jurisdictions

February 2-3, 2010 • Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Co-hosted by the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research, Arctic Health Research Network – Nunavut, Arctic Health Research Network – Yukon, and The National Council on Ethics in Human Research. Funded by Tri Territory Health Access Fund. Open to organizations and institutes who have, or are establishing REBs.

» ichr.ca



IPY Canada Early Results Workshop

February 16-18, 2010, Ottawa, Ontario

The IPY community in Canada will convene for the IPY Canada Early Results Workshop in Ottawa to note IPY's achievements, showcase preliminary findings from Canadian IPY projects, explore ideas for synthesizing and integrating results and begin focusing on the implications of IPY research in terms of climate change impacts and adaptations and health and well-being of northern communities. The IPY Canada Early Results Workshop will be the first opportunity for the broader IPY community in Canada to learn about the findings of IPY science that has been taking place in Canada since early 2007. This workshop will be the third in a series of workshops organized by the Government of Canada Program for IPY. Previous workshops in October 2007 and December 2008 initiated discussions on data management, knowledge transfer and integration. Specific communications activities focused on bringing IPY results to northern audiences over the upcoming year are under development in collaboration with the four IPY Northern Coordination Offices in Whitehorse, Inuvik, Iqaluit, and Kuujuaq.

In association with the IPY Canada Early Results Workshop, Health Canada will be hosting the *Health Canada Science and Policy Round Table on Northern Health and Community Well-being*. This round table will feature presentations and discussions on issues surrounding Northern health research and community well-being. It is part of an ongoing initiative to improve science-policy integration across the federal health portfolio and it strives to inform and bring together the scientific and policy communities on specific health science issues. This round table offers a unique opportunity to bring together the IPY researcher community and those interested in the policy implications of their research.

» ipygc.ca



2010 CADTH Symposium

April 18 – 20, 2010 • Halifax, Nova Scotia

Connect with other experts in the production and use of evidence-based information on drugs and other health technologies. Early registration closes January 31, 2010.

» cadth.ca/index.php/en/events/symposium-2010

INCHR Annual Meeting & Summer Institute on Circumpolar Health Research



May 17-21, 2010 • Copenhagen, Denmark

The Annual Meeting of the International Network on Circumpolar Health Research is meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark as a follow up to ICCH14. A satellite web development workshop is also being organized in hopes of increasing integration and communication between various circumpolar health research initiatives across the globe.

» inchr.circumpolarhealth.org

This year, two short courses on *Dietary Assessment* and *Health Disparities* are being offered before and after the annual meeting.

» sichr.circumpolarhealth.org



14TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH

SECURING THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR LEGACY: FROM RESEARCH TO ACTION



NWT health minister with federal and aboriginal dignitaries at the opening ceremonies (courtesy ICHR)

Six hundred health professionals, researchers, indigenous representatives, and government officials from Canada, Greenland, Denmark, USA, Russia, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Finland and other countries interested in circumpolar health gathered in Yellowknife, NWT, Canada on July 11-16, 2009, to share health related research findings and program successes that will improve the quality of life for those living in circumpolar regions. The week-long event featured thought-provoking keynote addresses, workshops, information sessions, social activities, and networking activities that provided many opportunities for scientific, artistic, cultural, and social exchanges.

The International Congress, came at a special time as it closely followed the conclusion of the International Polar Year (IPY) www.ipy.org, a research initiative that takes place once every fifty years. From March 2007 to 2009, countries and communities have focused their attention on health and wellbeing and environmental issues in the circumpolar world. The theme of the congress recognized the end of the Polar Year and spoke to *Securing the IPY Legacy: From Research to Action*.

As an adhering body of the International Union for Circumpolar Health, CSCH co-hosted the week-long triennial event in Yellowknife for the first time in 35 years.

While results from much of the research conducted over the polar years are still pending, the congress programme contained a broad cross section of presenters, sessions and included some preliminary results from the International Polar Years. The sessions allowed for complimentary perspectives of researchers, clinicians, community representatives and governments on numerous topics which impact public health, health services delivery, the research process and Indigenous wellness in our circumpolar regions. Presentations demonstrated instances where research findings are applied in numerous settings, with uptake by clinicians, community organizations and governments. Presentations also recognized the contributions of numerous stakeholders through the research process with a particular focus on community engagement and participatory methods.

In addition to the focused sessions during the congress, the meetings, cultural events and social gatherings provided opportunities for networking and development of partnerships to support the ongoing uptake and enhancement of evidence as it applies to health and wellbeing in circumpolar regions. It is these partnerships which will contribute significantly to securing the IPY legacy and contribute to the creation of a forum where research can be turned into practical and applicable health care approaches and practices that can be sustained over the long term in our circumpolar regions.

Finally, but not lastly, the congress connected participants with the people, places, and experiences that make northern Canada spectacular and showcased the cultural richness and diversity of Yellowknife, the Northwest Territories, and the Canadian North. At the Weledeh Feast, the Northern Cultural Gala, and the specially-erected Teepee throughout the conference, local and regional aboriginal voices were front and centre, sharing knowledge, practices, and culture amongst the participants from the entire circumpolar world.

A special thank you to all the members of the planning committees who took extra attention to provide such a welcoming venue!

The congress website www.icch2009.com will be maintained in perpetuity as a living repository of congress-related information. Currently available are:

- streaming audio podcasts of keynote presentations
- photo galleries of the congress
- listings of award winners
- facebook pages for continued networking

The proceedings book is currently being prepared for publication in conjunction with the *International Journal on Circumpolar Health*. In addition to abstracts and submitted articles, the book will include various social glimpses of ICCH14.

CSCH HIGHLIGHTS OF ICCH14

please visit www.icch2009.com for a full gallery of photos from the week-long triennial congress.



A remarkable circumpolar gathering saw John B. Zoe of the Tłı̨cho Government share his nation's flag with Dr. Larisa Abrutina, a representative of the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North.



Dr. Bruce Martin was awarded the prestigious Dr. John Arthur Hildes Medal for his lifetime contribution to circumpolar health.



Graduate student Julie Bull received the Hart Hansen Award as an emerging researcher and health worker.

'ETHICAL SPACE': LABRADOR INNU, INUIT, AND INUIT-MÉTIS PERSPECTIVES ON THE GOVERNANCE OF HEALTH RESEARCH



From 2006 to 2008, the Labrador Aboriginal Health Research Committee (LAHRC) facilitated a research project with the Innu, Inuit, and Inuit-Métis in Labrador. This research was conducted by Julie Renee Bull in the Masters of Applied Health Services Research Program at the University of Prince Edward Island under the supervision of Drs Fern Brunger and Malcolm Murray. Julie was awarded the Hart Hansen Award at the 14th International Congress on Circumpolar Health.

Background

This study was conceptualized from a partnership between aboriginal communities in Labrador and the researcher as a result of *Community Health Research in Labrador: Listening, Learning, and Working Together* (2006), where research ethics and the governance of research involving Aboriginal people in Labrador were identified as research priorities. Based on this priority and the premise that Aboriginal Peoples have endured a history of exploitation through research, leaving people and communities vulnerable, this research examines the current state of ethical governance of health research with Aboriginal Peoples in Labrador.

Participants

Fifteen interviews were conducted with key informants. Seven of 15 participants were also members of the advisory committee to this research. Those who were not part of the team were identified by members of the advisory team. None of the participants were elders, and none were chiefs. None represented the perspectives of 'non-interested' lay persons. The intent was to interview those individuals who are leaders in the community charged with acting on behalf of the community to advocate for ethical research.

Methodology

A participatory action research (PAR) approach was used as it realigns the roles of 'researcher' and 'subject' with the assumption that all parties involved brings their own set of theoretical knowledge.

Results

1, Aboriginal peoples in Labrador are experiencing research fatigue. 2. Current local guidelines are developed around values of community, custom and cohesiveness. It is recognized

that a centralized approach to ethical governance of health research in Labrador may be beneficial. 3. Authentic ethical research in Labrador aboriginal communities is based on relevance, respect and reciprocity. Establishing and negotiating partnerships with researchers will foster the development of ownership, while experience in research builds capacity and contributes to access and control. 4. Requirements for consent in research are twofold: first, community consent is required and second, individual consent is required. 5. The CIHR Guidelines are useful, thorough and applicable to aboriginal communities. 6. There are concerns about governance of health research by the provincial ethics board. Community members currently involved in ethics review in Labrador want to become an approved research ethics body under the provincial board. Anything less would be seen as taking a step back regarding control, access, and ownership of research.

Acknowledgements

This project was funded by the Atlantic Aboriginal Health Research Program and the Atlantic Regional Training Centre

INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR

FOCUS ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING



International Polar Year (IPY) is an international program of coordinated, interdisciplinary science, research and observations in the Arctic and Antarctic. While previous IPY initiatives focused on the physical sciences, IPY 2007-08 was unique through its additional focus on health and community well-being. Through 16 health and well-being projects on such topics as general health status, infectious disease, food security, wastewater treatment, community resiliency and traditional knowledge, Canada has been a leader in promoting work in health and social sciences during IPY. Health and well-being are important not only at an individual level, but also at the level of the community. To provide a quick overview of Canada's contribution to IPY science in the realm of health and community well-being, highlighted below are many of the 16 projects addressing health-related topics.

Little is known about the general health status of populations in northern Canada. To address this, **Grace Egeland** (McGill University) is leading the Inuit Health Survey, the largest comprehensive assessment of Inuit health in the Canadian Arctic. As a complement to a similar survey completed in Nunavik in 2004, this project provides a snapshot of Inuit health through a look at general indicators of health, diet, risk for cardiovascular disease and diabetes and men-

Through 16 health and well-being projects, Canada has been a leader in promoting work in health and social sciences during IPY.

tal health in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut and Nunatsiavut.

While results from the Inuit Health Survey provide a general idea of northern health, it is already known that health disparities exist in the North. To understand why these disparities exist, it is necessary to look at the specific conditions, such as infectious disease, in northern populations. For example, the prevalence, distribution and social correlates of two infectious diseases that can lead to cancer are being investigated. **Gerald Minuk** (University of Manitoba) and colleagues are looking at Hepatitis B while **Yang Mao** (Public Health Agency of Canada) and colleagues are investigating Human Papillomavirus (HPV). At the same time, **Philippe De Wals** (Université Laval) and colleagues are evaluating the effectiveness of a vaccination program on respiratory infections and auditory problems in Nunavik children.

Health of communities is contingent on many things and determining what is most important

to a community's well-being can be a difficult task. To assess how communities perceive and respond to significant challenges, both environmental and societal, **Barry Smit** (University of Guelph) and colleagues are conducting several case studies in various communities across northern Canada.

While this work gives a broad sense of community vulnerability and resilience in the face of change, other IPY projects are looking in greater details at aspects like resource use, food and water. Specifically, **Dawn Bazely** (York University) and colleagues are focusing on how economic development through oil and gas activity is affecting northern communities while projects being led by **Cindy Dickson** (Council of Yukon First Nations) and **Claudio Aporta** (Carleton University) are incorporating traditional knowledge and modern methods to investigate community response to fluctuating caribou populations and changing sea ice patterns, respectively. Communities are sensitive to climate change, a concept that is being explored within these projects and that is complemented by work **Allie Winton** and colleagues in the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory where interviews with community members are documenting traditional knowledge pertaining to climate change and its impacts on lifestyles of northern communities.

Impacts of various changes on lifestyle are being experienced throughout the North for many reasons. Work by **Eric Dewailly** (CHUL-CHUQ) and colleagues have been targeting how change, such as environmental, societal and cultural, is affecting the diets of northerners in relation to precursors to disease. At the same time, **Manon Simard** (Makivik Corporation) and colleagues are establishing local monitoring capacity to quickly identify the presence and levels of parasites in food being eaten by local communities. Finally, as Arctic communities grow and become more urbanized, effectively treating wastewater has become a pressing concern. **Brent Wootton** (Fleming College) and colleagues are assessing and developing constructed wetlands around the Canadian Arctic. Constructed wetlands require low maintenance, operational and energy requirements and provide a flexible and sustainable solution.

IPY TIME CAPSULE PROJECT PHOTO CONTEST

The International Polar Year (IPY) Time Capsule Project will be launching an interactive exhibit of the Youth Time Capsule Project in Spring 2010. Photographs, poems, stories and artwork submitted by youth aged 12-18 throughout northern Canada will be displayed at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife, beginning April 4th. Youth are encouraged to come view their own submissions, or to create a piece on-site to contribute to the Time Capsule, to be opened in the next International Polar Year, twenty-five years from now.

The exhibit features the submissions of the IPY Time Capsule Project Photo Contest participants. Winners were announced in September 2009. All participants' photos will be featured in exhibit. Please come to see the exhibit in person or view it on our website at: www.ipytimecapsule.com. We are still accepting submissions of artwork, photography, or writing. For more information, email us at ipy.timecapsule@gmail.com.

SOME SAMPLE PHOTOS

Ashley Koonoo, Age 17

Pond Inlet, NU

Category: Polar Landscape and Wildlife

Description (by Ashley's mother): This photo was taken on June 2008 near Pond Inlet, Nunavut when we were out ski-dooing out on the ice. We were waiting for seals to come up and there came 5 seals one at a time to the same seal hole. There were 5 seals all together in one breathing hole. It was amazing; my daughter, Ashley, started taking pictures of the seals since she brought her digital camera with her.



Zander Affleck, Age 16

Yellowknife, NT

Category: Traditional Culture Today

Description: Boat in Antarctica



Amélie Duval, Age 15

Yellowknife, NT

Category: Traditional Culture Today

Description: Promenade en chiens de traîneau



QAUJIGIARTIIT PROJECTS

— For more information about Qaujigiartiit or these projects, contact Gwen at ahrn.nunavut@gmail.com —

In 2007-08, we conducted a literature review to examine methods for sharing knowledge between decision-makers, health professionals, community members, and researchers. In 2008-09, we undertook 2 pilot projects to explore the implementation of recommendations found in the literature and in consultation with stakeholders in Nunavut.

Food Security Brief for Policy and Decision Makers

The goal of this project involved the translation of health research evidence into policy and programs to address food insecurity in Nunavut by producing a knowledge-sharing document directed at policy-makers.

This topic has been identified at the community and tri-territorial level as an important area requiring political intervention in Nunavut and the other northern territories.

This project concluded with the development of a brief and related materials for policy- and decision-makers in Nunavut that are available on our website.

Youth Mental Health and Wellness Photovoice Project

This was a youth-led knowledge-sharing initiative directed at communities that includes innovative and creative methods such as photography, art, writing, video, performance art, music, etc.

This topic has been highlighted as priority area for raising awareness by the Qaujigiartiit Arctic Health Research Network Nunavut Board of Directors.

This project was a youth-implemented project to raise awareness about youth mental health issues in Nunavut. It was coordinated by Jesse Mike and involved a group of students from Inuksuk High School in Iqaluit. The photographs were taken by the students and developed into posters which will be shared with Nunavut communities through local schools, health centres, youth centres, the internet and other important community-based means of communication that the youth identify. The posters were printed with the student messages in English and Inuktitut and sent to all schools in Nunavut in Spring 2009.

Qaujigiartiit also pursued the following two projects on climate change and fetal fibronectin:

Climate change and health community photovoice research project

The goal of this project was to undertake a 3-day workshop in Iqaluit, Nunavut May 12-14, 2009 to provide training and experience to community members in Nunavut in photovoice methodology. This research project was developed after consultations with a number of community members on health priorities over the past 3 years. It was generated to respond to requests from communities to provide this type of hands-on learning and research opportunity.

FINDINGS:

Thematic areas identified by participants:

- Melting environment, transition, leaving our mark, vanishing mark
- Between a rock and a hard place, stuck
- Reversible, recycling, changing personal choice, necessary adaptation leads into
- Changing knowledge systems, thinking about the past, reflecting
- Impacts: contaminating our water, permafrost, contaminating our food, broken weather, isolating freedom and food access, early summer, loss



Iceicles = "Loss"

The theme of reflection and changing knowledge systems was identified as central to the relationship between climate change and health. Participants saw the capacity to reflect on the past and preserve traditional knowledge systems as essential to coping with the effect of climate change on health. Additionally, the importance of new knowledge about the changing environment and its implications on the land, was rec-



Kid's bike = "stuck" - (i.e., the bike is stuck and our children are stuck with what we leave behind. Mobility is restricted)

ognized, and participants saw the incorporation of new information into traditional knowledge systems as essential to the management of the health effects of climate change.

Extending from this central concept, emerged 4 subsequent themes. These were the tangible impacts of climate change on health, the transition from a colder climate to a warmer climate, the feeling of being caught between a dependence on environmentally unfavorable practices and a desire to slow climate change, and, the necessary adaptation that communities will need to undergo in order to cope with and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Change and adaptation must transpire at multiple socio-ecological levels ranging from individual choices to community, municipal, provincial and federal strategies. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants developed an action plan with a multilateral approach that reflects the multidimensional nature of the issue as well as the varied opportunities for adaptation in the north.

An instructional video about photovoice that was created during this project along with a gallery of photos taken for the climate change and health community will be available on our website in early 2010. All of the project information including a full report of the findings, a climate change model developed by the participants, and their action plan, will also be available:

» www.nunavut.arctichealth.ca

Exploring the use of Fetal Fibronectin "at term"

The Fetal Fibronectin Pilot Project team consists of researchers and clinicians from the Department of Health & Social Services in Nunavut, Qaujigiartiit Arctic Health Research Network Nunavut, the

AHRN-YUKON PROJECTS

— For more information about AHRN-Yukon or its activities, contact Jody at jody@arctichealth yukon.ca or Norma at norma@arctichealth yukon.ca —

The Arctic Health Research Network-Yukon (AHRN-YT) is located in Whitehorse, and was incorporated as a non-profit society in February 2007. The mandate of AHRN-YT is to facilitate the development and implementation of community-based health research to improve the health status of Yukon residents, particularly Yukon First Nations, and to contribute to circumpolar health research initiatives. We are currently updating our website, which will be completed in early 2010 (www.arctichealth yukon.ca).

Led by Jody Butler Walker and Norma Kassi, a Vuntut Gwich'in woman from Old Crow, the AHRN-YT has had an early focus on priority community health issues as identified by the Yukon First Nations (YFN) Health & Social Development Commission, in collaboration with the Council of Yukon First Nations (www.cyfn.ca). This Commission consists of the Directors of Health & Social from each of the 14 YFN communi-



The Home and Community Care coordinator from Teslin (Teslin Tlingit Council), Ms. Jade McGinty, co-presented the Falls Prevention poster with a physiotherapist from YG Health & Social Services, Ms. Linda McConnell, at the Canadian Home Care Conference in Banff in Oct. 09.

ties, as well as two communities in the far north of B.C. – Atlin (Taku River Tlingit) and Lower Post (Daylu Dena Council), and it is chaired by Lori Duncan, Director of Health & Social Development at CYFN.

Priorities at the community level include diabetes, depression, food security, residential school trauma, substance use and injury prevention.

Capacity building for front line health resource workers has been identified as an overarching community health priority. While this was not intended to be a comprehensive list of priorities, they have provided important direction for AHRN-YT in terms of partnership and proposal development

One project we've worked on collaboratively with Yukon First Nations, CYFN, YG Health & Social Services, and the B.C. Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU) this year is in the area of Falls Prevention. A Checklist to assess homes for risks associated with falls, particularly for elders, was adapted by YFN Home/Community Care Coordinators with permission of Dr. Vicky Scott (BCIPRU). The Checklist has been implemented in partnership between the Yukon First Nations' communities and YG Health & Social Services (Yukon Home Care Program), and was co-presented at the Canadian Home Care Conference in Banff, AB in October, 2009.

Centre for Rural Health Research at the University of British Columbia, the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Ottawa, and Qullit Nunavut Status of Women's Council.

The Context of Birth in Rural and Remote Communities

In Canada, 3,000–5,000 women a year living in rural and remote communities have to leave their home communities at 36 weeks to give birth, due to a lack of local maternity services. This can create negative health outcomes and social stress for rural women and their families. The fetal fibronectin pilot project team was interested to see if the 'fetal fibronectin test' used to predict the onset of preterm labour, would also work for predicting labour 'at term' for rural women and their families. If so, women would be able to stay in their home communities for longer, before having to leave to the referral hospital.

Methodology

Thirty pregnant women participated in this project and took a series of fetal fibronectin tests starting at 36 weeks in the pregnancy. Ethical approval was obtained from the Nunavut Research Institute, the University of British Columbia and the University of Ottawa.

Participation

The fetal fibronectin pilot study established that women are willing to participate in a project looking at the use of fFN to predict the delay in labour 'at term.' Out of the 30 women who participated, only 2 women stopped participating. Most women showed up to all of their appointments and the evaluations reflected that participants felt comfortable in the testing environment and with the testing schedule. In total 135 tests were collected.

Out of the 30 women who participated in the study, only 17 women's test results were included in the final analysis. The test results of 13 participants were excluded from the study due to one of the following factors: participant dropped out of the study, participant delivered before a sample was collected, participant had a medical condition (pre-eclampsia); participant received a positive fFN score on their first test; participant received a cesarean section or induction so did not deliver vaginally.

Fetal Fibronectin Pilot Outcomes

Based on the pilot test results, it appears that, as the fFN test is currently used the level of fFN in a woman 'at term' is not predictive of the

number of days a woman can stay in the community before giving birth. In order for the test to be useful for rural women, the test needs to be accurate in showing that a negative test result means that women will not go into labour for a minimum of 7 days, which according to our pilot project is not the case. Out of the 17 women included in analyses, 12 women delivered less than 7 days after their last negative fFN test.

While the results do not indicate the test is useful for predicting labour at term as it is, this pilot project resulted in the clarifying the research questions and methodology required to complete such a study, and has laid the foundation for further examination of the test and the science behind it.

Many Thanks

The research team would like to extend heartfelt thanks and our most sincere appreciation to the women who participated in the study. In addition, this study would not have been possible without the dedicated cooperation and collaboration of the multi-disciplinary team of researchers, northern clinicians and community members who guided and supervised this project.



CIRCUMPOLAR COLLABORATION

Sexual Health in Greenland

Greenland (population 56,000) reports the highest rates of sexually transmitted infection in the Arctic. To find out

why, the Greenland Sexual Health Project was initiated as an international, community based participatory research project involving Canadian Researcher Dionne Gesink (University of Toronto), Gert Mulvad (Centre for Primary Care, Nuuk, Greenland), Anders Koch (Statens Serum Institut, Denmark), and Elizabeth Rink (Montana State University).

This past November, 165 Greenlanders (predominantly Inuit) were recruited into the study as the Project extended into Sisimiut, the sec-

ond largest community in Greenland. The previous year, 149 Greenlanders were recruited in Nuuk, the capital of, and largest community in, Greenland. Preliminary results are being used to inform sexual health interventions, public health policy, and health care delivery as it pertains to the testing and treatment of sexual infections and treatment algorithms for persistent/recurrent infections. The Greenland Sexual Health Project is also the first community based participatory research project to be conducted in Greenland.

NWT HPV STUDY UPDATE

The Prevalence of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and its Impact on Cervical Dysplasia in the Northwest Territories

Purpose

The purpose of the study is to determine the overall prevalence of HPV and which HPV strains are most common in the NWT population. We also want to understand which life habits put women at greatest risk for HPV infection. The information will then be used by NWT public health professionals to develop effective cancer prevention and screening programs for women in the North.

Partners

NWT HPV Study partners include the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Government of

the Northwest Territories Department of Health and Social Services, McGill University, and the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research.

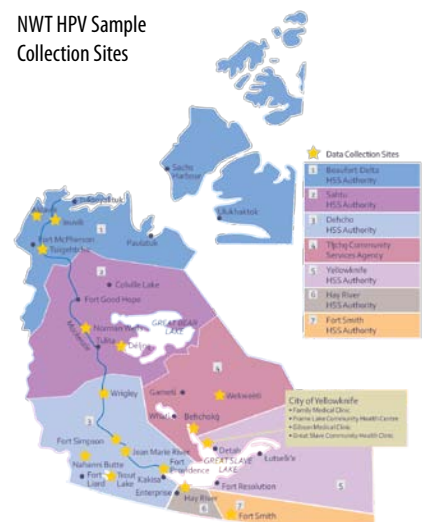
Preliminary Results

Phase II began in March 2009 and is ongoing in all regions of the NWT until December 31, 2009. Over 19 study sites around the NWT (including 4 in Yellowknife) are currently participating. This phase involves a 5-minute self-administered questionnaire completed during a regular pap test visit and no additional medical procedures. A portion of the Pap test sample is sent to the Winnipeg lab of the Public Health Agency of Canada for further DNA testing once the Alberta DynaLife laboratory in Edmonton finishes regular pap testing. This study follows proper clinical guidelines for HPV management and healthcare providers receive the usual Pap test results for study participants. Over 1000 questionnaires and samples have been collected up to mid-August for Phase II.

Acknowledgements

A special thanks to all nurses, nurse practitioners, midwives, physicians, and staff for their active participation in this study! Also, thank

NWT HPV Sample Collection Sites



you to the study steering committee members for your time and expertise.

Data collection is ongoing until late March 2010. If you require more data collection packages or have any questions/comments/concerns, please contact Candice Lys (NWT Study Coordinator) at hpv@ichr.ca or 1.888.698.2476.

OUR NORTH/OUR FUTURE: TALKING CHANGE, SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY WITH NORTHERN YOUTH



Our North/Our Future: Talking Change, Security and Sustainability with Northern Youth was a collaborative project between the International Polar Year GAPS Project (www.ipygaps.org), the Arctic Indigenous Alliance, the International Polar Year Time Capsule Project (www.ipytimecapsule.com), and the Health Canada-funded Sustainability's Paradox Video Project. Project organizers included Julia Christensen, Erin Freeland-Ballantyne, Alana Kronstal, Jessica Simpson, and Teresa Winter, who are a group of graduate students and community activists in the NWT. In April 2009, 14 youth between the ages of 18 and 22 gathered in Tuktoyaktuk, NWT, for a three-day retreat and workshop.

The idea of change in the North receives a lot of attention from media, researchers, environmentalists, and politicians -- but what about northern youth? The aim of the Our North/Our Future workshop was to provide an opportunity for youth to include their voice in these discussions on the future of the North. Northern youth from Paulatuk, Fort Good Hope, Aklavik, Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk gathered to talk with one another about the challenges and opportunities they encounter today, as well as their visions for the future of their communities.

As part of the workshop, sessions on video, photography, and blogging were held to train participants on using these media to explore and share

The idea of change in the North receives a lot of attention from media, researchers, environmentalists, and politicians -- but what about northern youth?

their thoughts on life in the North. Alfred Moses, a youth/volunteer officer who was born and raised in the Beaufort Delta, spoke to the youth about the importance of getting involved in one's community. Participants also heard from Deneze Nakehk'ó (CBC North) and Amos Scott (Aboriginal Peoples Television Network), who spoke about their experiences as Aboriginal journalists born and raised in the North and the importance of having northern people tell northern stories. The workshop was held during Beluga Jamboree weekend, which provided an amazing opportunity for the participants to go out into the community of Tuktoyaktuk with video and still cameras and interview residents on their own perspectives on change and their hopes for the future of their community. At the end of the weekend, a blog was assembled using the photos, video and interviews, which can be found at ournorthourfuture.blogspot.com. This virtual meeting place continues as an forum for maintaining the discussions that began over the course of the workshop weekend.

ABORIGINAL HEALTH RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP



In Manitoba, the Aboriginal Health Research Partnership is engaged in a number of projects:

- The role of macrophage and Vitamin D in susceptibility/resistance to infection – a CIHR funded project in partnership with the Northlands Band of Lac Brochet
- Virulence of Mycobacterium tuberculosis strains in a mouse model – a National Sanatorium Association funded project in partnership with the National Microbiology Laboratory
- Housing as a Determinant of Tuberculosis infection and disease – in partnership with several Manitoba communities
- Genetics of the immune response to tuberculosis in indigenous populations – in partnership with Dr. Andrew Kozlov in Perm, Russia
- Narrative experiences of health and illness, with a focus on tuberculosis – a sociocultural, historical and anthropologic analysis
- Immune response to H1N1 influenza antigens – in partnership with First Nations communities in Manitoba.
- Determinants of Tuberculosis Transmission – a CIHR funded study across the 3 prairie provinces. Principal investigator is Dr. Richard Long.
- Interferon Gamma release assay and the immune response to tuberculosis – in partnership with Blake Ball and colleagues at the National Microbiology Laboratory.
- Adherence to Tuberculosis therapy, and Definition of a TB Outbreak on Reserve – projects in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Manitoba Members of this partnership include: First Nations community members, particularly Chief Joe Dantouze of Lac Brochet, and from the University of Manitoba: Dr. Linda Larcombe, Dr. Pamela Orr, Carmen Lopez, Matthew Singer, Caroline Slivinski, Dr. Yoav Keynan, Dr. Ethan Rubinstein.



“ IN PROFILE

Cheryl Case

I am in my third year of a master’s degree in public health (MPH) with the University of Alaska Anchorage, a web-based distance program. Dr. Cindy Orlaw, a Yellowknife Family Physician is also a student in the MPH program.

Enrolling in this degree program after 27 years of working in the healthcare field in the Northwest Territories has been an awesome experience, particularly for personal development. It is wonderful to learn and share with students from Alaska, our circumpolar neighbour and Dr. Orlaw. In my studies, I am adding public health theory to my practical public health experience as a communicable disease specialist with the Department of Health and Social Services.

As I embark on my thesis research project titled, “Examining the Epidemiology of DNA Fingerprinting for Tuberculosis (TB) in the Northwest Territories”, I am able to apply theory and research to the secondary data gathered at the Department for the TB program. In my study, I will examine epidemiology data as it relates to demographic and social history for each reported case of TB, along with the DNA fingerprint for each M. tuberculosis isolate from each patient. Tuberculosis continues to be a communicable disease of great concern among our northern population as it continues to be transmitted to others. In my study, I want to learn more about the transmission patterns to prevent and stop TB.

A special thanks goes to the team at the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research for supporting my educational endeavours. The website for University of Alaska Anchorage is:

» www.uaa.alaska.edu/mph



ANNOUNCEMENT OF RETIREMENT: DR JOHN DAVID MARTIN

In January 2010 Dr. John David (Dave) Martin retired from First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada after a long and distinguished career which has spanned four decades.

Dr. Martin’s involvement in Aboriginal and Circumpolar Health began immediately after graduating from the University of Toronto School of Medicine in 1964 and interning at the Toronto Western Hospital. In 1965, he joined the Department of National Health and Welfare, serving initially for a year as a Field Medical Officer in Norway House, a then fly-in Aboriginal community 300 miles north of Winnipeg and for a second year at Fort Rae, Northwest Territories located 70 miles northwest of Yellowknife from where he held clinics all over the Western Arctic, including Snowdrift at the eastern end of Great Slave Lake, Fort Providence in the south, Lac La Martre, isolated Dog Rib Indian hunting camps on the edge of the barrens at Snare Lake and the high Arctic settlements of Coppermine and Holman Island.

In 1967 joined the Whitehorse Medical Clinic and in 1969, he and his partners built a large medical and dental centre with the capacity to support twelve physicians. At the time he

left clinical practice, in 1975, he had delivered approximately 800 babies as part of a busy and diversified northern medical practice.

He rejoined the Medical Services Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare, in 1975 and in 1983, was called back to Ottawa to take the position of national Director of Indian and Inuit Health Services with Medical Services Branch of Health Canada.

In 1986, he returned to the Pacific Regional Office in Vancouver as the Programs Medical Officer (Regional Medical Officer) for British Columbia.

In addition to his governmental role, Dr. Martin has been a Clinical Associate Professor and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia for the past 22 years and has been a teacher and mentor to a generation of medical students and residents. His enthusiasm and commitment has guided many young doctors to enter the fields of Public Health and Aboriginal Health.

He and his wife Patricia (Pat) have been married for 47 years and have six children (three boys and three girls), twelve grandchildren and four great grandchildren.



THE AKLAVIK HEALTH PROMOTION RESEARCH PROJECT (AHPRP)

According to the WHO’s Ottawa Charter on Health Promotion (1986), health promotion programmes are meant to enable people to improve and increase control over their health and its determinants. Canada has played a key role in conceptualizing the social determinants of health – the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, age, and access preventative and clinical care. Yet, like many circumpolar countries, Canada faces an implementation gap between evidence on the determinants of health and program delivery. In May 2009, medical anthropology student Andrew Bresnahan joined members of the Aklavik Health Committee to explore this implementation gap, documenting people’s perceptions of the meaning and determinants of health, as well as local health priorities and existing health promotion programs in the community of Aklavik, Northwest Territories. For more information on this project, feel free to contact Andrew Bresnahan at andrew.bresnahan@utoronto.ca.



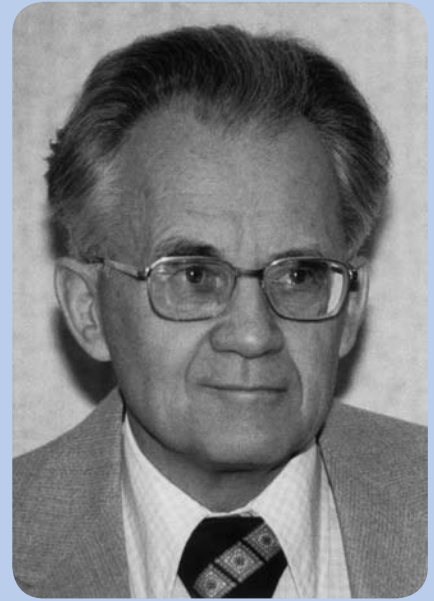
Andrew Bresnahan is a MSc Candidate in Medical Anthropology at the University of Toronto, and a Research Affiliate with the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

REMEMBRANCE: DR OTTO SHAEFER

Dr. Otto Schaefer, born in Germany October 2, 1919, died peacefully at his home in Jasper on Nov. 2, 2009, at the age of 90. Otto lived in Germany until 1951, when he immigrated to Canada to realize his dream of working with the Inuit in Canada's arctic. He was a medical doctor who gave 32 years of his life to caring for the Inuit from Aklavik to Pangnirtung, learning their language, traveling by dog team, and researching health and nutrition issues in the north. His work with the Inuit and his contribution to medical literature won him widespread recognition, awards, and honours from several universities, governments, and other institutions. He was also made a member of the Order of Canada and came to be known as Luttaakuluk or "dear little doctor". It was Otto's request that his body be donated for medical education, his parting gift to medical science.

He is survived by his sister Resi of Germany, sons Lothar (Debbie) of Smithers, Alfred (Elfriede) of Germany, daughters Taoya (Ian) of Invermere, and Monika of Jasper, as well as grandchildren Alfred, Kara, Seamus, Harold, Heidi, and Alastair. Otto was predeceased by his wife Editha (a.k.a. Didi) in 1992, and his youngest daughter Heidi in 1988. He was also predeceased by brothers Josef, Theo, Hugo, Alfred, Franz, Werner, and sister Lisbeth.

Otto's life work amongst the Inuit has been detailed in the 2000 book, *Sunrise over Pangnirtung* published by the Arctic Institute for North America.



ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS AFFECTING THE HEALTH OF YOUR COMMUNITY?

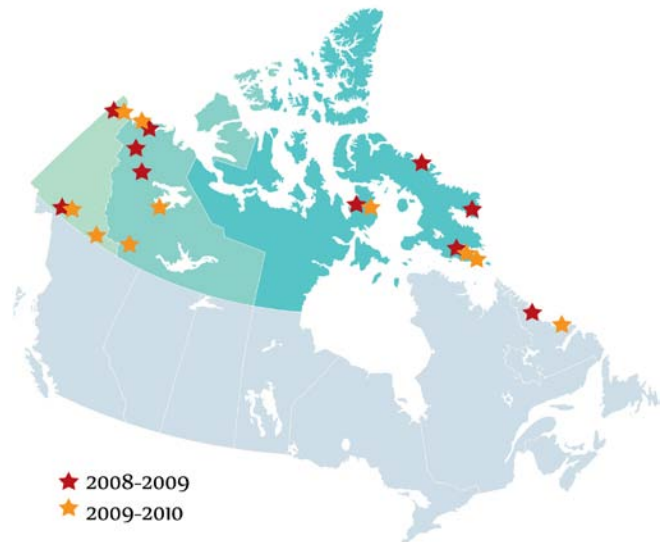
Over the last decade, Northern communities as well as climate change researchers have begun to understand the degree to which climate change is impacting the health of Northern peoples in Canada. Climate change is not just an environmental issue but it is becoming very much a human health issue. The health implications resulting from a warmer and more unpredictable climate will not be distributed evenly: current health status, geography, age, economics, gender and genetics are all key variables affecting the ability of individuals and communities to adapt and reduce the effects of climate change.

To help address these issues, it is important to involve communities in planning and participating in adaptation. Health Canada, as a part of the federal government's overall climate change strategy, has developed a program to fund community-centred research, where the research is to be done by community members to find appropriate and locally-based, long-term human health adaptation strategies.

Health Canada's Program for Climate Change and Health Adaptation in Northern First Nation and Inuit Communities is designed to be carried out by communities in cooperation with Aboriginal associations, academics, governments and agencies. One of the aims of funding community-based research is to build capacity and develop relevant communication materials that will help in adaptation decision-making at the community, regional, and national levels with respect to human health and a changing environment.

Since the launch of the Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program in 2008, Health Canada has funded 20 community-based projects which stretch across the North which look at various research topics that explore climate change and health issues.

Presently, there is a call out for proposals for the 2010-2011 funding year. The deadline for submission is January 24th, 2010. All the proposals, that



meet the basic criteria, will be submitted to either a First Nations or Inuit Selection committee. It is the Committees' decision as to who receives funding based on the mandate of the Program.

For more information on the climate change and Health Adaptation in Northern First Nations and Inuit Communities Program or to obtain a 2010-2011 Application Guide, please feel free to contact Diane McClymont Peace, Program Manager (diane_mcclymont-peace@hc-sc.gc.ca) or Erin Myers, Program Officer (erin_myers@hc-sc.gc.ca).

REFERENCE SCAN

C SCH members can contact Janice Linton (janice_linton@umanitoba.ca), Aboriginal Health Librarian, Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library, University of Manitoba for more information about these publications or assistance obtaining copies of published articles.

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REPORTS & MONOGRAPHS

AMBIO

The journal, *AMBIO: A Journal of the Human Environment*, published a special issue on climate change in Northern Canada, Vol. 38, No. 5 (July 2009).

» ambio.allenpress.com/perlserv/?request=get-toc&issn=0044-7447&volume=38&issue=5

CADTH

Suicide Prevention Therapy in Adolescents

CADTH's April 2009 report entitled, *Dialectical Behaviour Therapy in Adolescents for Suicide Prevention: Systematic Review of Clinical-Effectiveness*, attempts to answer the question, "what is the evidence on the clinical effectiveness of dialectical behaviour therapy for suicide prevention in adolescents (18 years of age or younger)?"

» www.cadth.ca/index.php/en/hta/reports-publications/search/publication/903

Self-Monitoring of Blood Glucose

Have you heard about the work CADTH is doing surrounding *Self-Monitoring of Blood Glucose*? For Northerners with diabetes and those who treat them the information is invaluable.

» www.cadth.ca/index.php/en/compus/blood-glucose

Crisis of Chronic Disease Among Aboriginal Peoples

The Crisis of Chronic Disease Among Aboriginal Peoples: A Challenge for Public Health, Population Health and Social Policy by Jeff Reading, Director, University of Victoria's Centre for Aboriginal Health Research. This comprehensive book is available in hard cover from the Centre.

» cahr.uvic.ca/

Dental Health Manual

The Government of Nunavut, Department of Health & Social Services, recently published the *Dental Health Manual* for pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 with plenty of activities and information for teachers, parents, and health care providers.

» Inuktitut: www.gov.nu.ca/health/Dental_Health_Manual_inuktitut.pdf

» English: www.gov.nu.ca/health/Dental_Health_Manual_english.pdf

Indigenous Children's Health

Edited by Janet Smylie and Paul Adomako, *Indigenous Children's Health Report: Health Assessment in Action*, presents the challenges to Inuit, First Nations and Northern child health in Canada in the context of Indigenous child health status in the US, Australia, and New Zealand.

» www.stmichaelshospital.com/crich/indigenous_childrens_health_report.php

International Journal of Circumpolar Health

Visit the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health* website for the latest issue which includes a summary of the 14th International Congress on Circumpolar Health and the latest supplement 2009 (4) 'International Circumpolar Surveillance: Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases: 1999 - 2008', by Tammy Zulz, Michael G. Bruce, and Alan J. Parkinson.

» ijch.fi/issues/684/684.html

Inuit Tuttarvingat

Resource Development in Inuit Communities

Impact Benefit Agreements: A Tool For Healthy Inuit Communities? provides a general overview of the nature of IBAs currently in place in the Arctic regions of Canada, and provides examples of similar agreements with Indigenous populations in other countries, in particular Australia.

Special attention is devoted to learning processes and good practices in negotiating, developing and implementing IBAs, including the success stories and lessons learned. The paper discusses IBAs from the perspectives of negotiators for Indigenous organizations, industry negotiators and government.

» www.naho.ca/inuit

Inuit Tobacco-free Network

Inuit Tuttarvingat has created a new resource Web site and listserv for Inuit smoking cessation counsellors, health-care providers and smokers themselves to provide them with information about the latest research on tobacco, quitting and reducing tobacco use, and health promotion materials that can be used in Inuit communities. Called the *Inuit Tobacco-free Network*, this Inuktitut-English Web site links users to research reports, journal articles, cessation and quitting tips, and tobacco-related news from the North. Inuit smoking cessation counsellors and others working in tobacco reduction can join the Network through a listserv, itn@nahoc.ca.

» www.InuitTobaccofree.ca

Pediatric Clinics of North America

The journal, *Pediatric Clinics of North America*, published a thematic issue on child health, 'Health Issues in Indigenous children: An Evidence-Based Approach for the General Pediatrician', Vol. 56, Issue 6 (December 2009).

» [www.pediatric.theclinics.com/issues/contents?issue_key=S0031-3955\(09\)X0006-4](http://www.pediatric.theclinics.com/issues/contents?issue_key=S0031-3955(09)X0006-4)

Pimatisiwin

Pimatisiwin: A Journal of Indigenous and Aboriginal Community Health publishes two volumes each year, so visit their website to see what is new. There is no cost for the journal and all back issues are available online.

» www.pimatisiwin.com

Public Policy and Child and Youth

The Canadian Paediatric Society published a new report, entitled *Are We Doing Enough? A Status Report on Canadian Public Policy and Child and Youth*, featuring policy analysis and recommendations for all of us to do our part to enhance the health of Aboriginal children.

» www.cps.ca/English/Advocacy/StatusReport.htm

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR CSCH MEMBERS

The Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library, University of Manitoba has been providing library services to health researchers and community partners throughout the Canadian North since 2006. As a partner/services provider for the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) Team, the library would like to extend access to these services to CSCH members until the end of the CIHR funding (March 31, 2011).

CSCH members can contact the NJM Library directly anytime to access library services. These services include:

- **Literature search services:** librarians can provide expert search services to identify academic, community-based, professional, and evidence-based publications on research topics of your choice. We will search many commercial databases to provide the literature you need.
- **Document delivery services:** this service can provide CSCH members with access to journal articles, government reports, book chapters and web-based resources at no cost to CSCH members. In most cases, copies of publications are retrieved for researchers, making it a great, easy-to-use service.
- **Consultation & training:** researchers are welcome to discuss best practices for information retrieval in Aboriginal, Inuit or Arctic Health. Our librarians can also set up Table of Contents services to assist CSCH members to keep up with the latest research.

Contact Janice Linton (janice_linton@umanitoba.ca), Aboriginal Health Librarian, NJMHSL, University of Manitoba, 204-789-3878.

New Health Research Library

The NJM Library is also working with Institute for Circumpolar Health Research (ICHR) to develop a health research library in Yellowknife. Please contact us if you have title recommendations or would like to donate books and reports. In addition to publications documenting Northern experiences, health projects, and programs, contributions of hard-to-find and out-of-print volumes are particularly encouraged.

Stats Canada Data Centre in the North

ICHR is pleased to announce it will be hosting a StatsCan Regional Data Centre branch as part of a newly renovated public health facility in Yellowknife. Financed by the federal government's *Arctic Research Infrastructure Fund*, the facility along with the centre will open in 2011.

This infrastructure is long over due in the north and will serve as a great resource to support researchers and policy makers in northern jurisdictions.

» www.statcan.gc.ca/rdc-cdr/network-reseau-eng.htm

The Research Data Centres program is operated through a partnership with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), Statistics Canada, and a consortium of Canadian universities.

Digital Archives of the NWT Legislative Library

The Government of the Northwest Territories has recently stopped distributing its materials in paper form. Instead, library staff at the NWT Legislative Library have started a project to archive digital versions of these materials. They are actively harvesting publications from departmental web sites and adding new materials as they become available. While they are still in the early stages of the project, access to archived e-materials is available through their library catalogue (look for the "click for online access" link in the record):

» www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/_live/pages/wpPages/LibraryCatalogue.aspx

Circumpolar Rounds

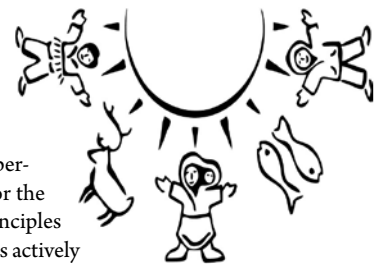
ICHR has begun producing and hosting audio podcasts on its website and the iTunes Store to broaden access to health information and medical education in the North. In addition to conference keynotes and presentations, the podcast feed will feature circumpolar medical rounds and seminars of note held in the Yellowknife area. Please stay tuned!

» ichr.ca/category/podcasts/



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND NUNAVUT PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

The Northwest Territories and Nunavut Public Health Association (NTNUPHA) has an active membership of 31 members from across the NWT and NU. This Association is a resource that advocates for the improvement and maintenance of personal and community health according to the public health principles of disease prevention, health promotion and protection and healthy public policy. Currently, the Association is actively partnering in NWT projects that include Healthy Foods North and Chronic Disease Management. The Executive Board, which meets every 2 months, has as its members: President Faye Stark, Past President Dr. Isaac Sobol, Secretary and Editor of the newsletter Frederick Montpetit, Treasurer Marnie Bell, Director of Special Projects for the NWT Jill Christensen, Director Maria Santos, Director Pertice Moffitt, Director Cheryl Case. To contact the Association please e-mail: cphantnu@ssimicro.com



Thank You!



International Union for Circumpolar Health

14th

International Congress on Circumpolar Health

Securing the IPY Legacy: From Research to Action

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