

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH

GAZETTEER

WINTER/SPRING 2011

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SOCIETY NEWS



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 Innuksuiniq – 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.

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE POUR LA SANTÉ CIRCUMPOLAIRE
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Established in 1984, the Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health (CSCH) is a charitable organization dedicated to promoting research, exchanging knowledge, and fostering greater awareness and responsiveness to the health issues of circumpolar people. The CSCH also promotes and supports efforts of all circumpolar peoples in the attainment of better health.

Membership includes a one-year subscription to the *International Journal on Circumpolar Health* (www.ijch.fi) and the library services listed in this journal. Membership fees can be paid online via credit card through the CSCH website at:

— www.csch.ca —

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Front cover art: 1) Summer Institute in Copenhagen,
2) Water Project in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region,
3) Dene National Assembly in Fort Good Hope.

Back cover art: beadwork by Janet Grandjambe of Fort Good Hope, NT.

**“OUR VISION – A CIRCUMPOLAR WORLD
WHERE INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES, AND
PEOPLES ARE EMPOWERED THROUGH
KNOWLEDGE TO ACHIEVE BETTER HEALTH.”**

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to launch the second issue of the Gazetteer and are happy to provide this mechanism for CSCSH members to share accomplishments, ongoing activities and upcoming events. The newsletter continues to grow and demonstrate the vitality, innovation, and excitement in the circumpolar health community in Canada. I encourage members to provide feedback and directions for this communication tool. It is an enjoyable task to pull together events and learn of achievements of colleagues working in our circumpolar regions – and just as enjoyable to work with Rajiv Rawat, the editor, as he works his magic and pulls together these remarkable resources, our website www.cscsh.ca, and circumpolar health portal www.circumpolarhealth.org.

This year our annual gathering takes place Feb 8-10 at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa. As per our bylaws we are required to have an AGM each year. This provides an opportunity to revisit and develop bylaws and review the financial standing of CSCH. This gathering also provides an opportunity for a national gathering of the society and opportunities to share achievements and new findings. To this end, the intention is to hold AGMs in conjunction with groups working in circumpolar health throughout Canada.

This year we were pleased to partner with the First Nations Inuit Health Branch and hold our AGM and learning activity in Ottawa with the support of Health Canada. This event will bring together 150 individuals working in the area of climate change and health. Keynotes will be delivered by inspirational leaders Sheila Watt-Cloutier and François Paulette. Work presented by northern community-based researchers will highlight early findings in relation to climate change and health and feature community-based methods. Both the topic of study and the research methodologies are areas where Canada and specifically northern community researchers are doing innovative work, both in exploring impacts of climate change and health and



Susan and Peter Bjerregaard of the Centre for Health Research in Greenland

gaining insight on the challenges inherent in the “capacity gap” for researchers in northern and remote regions.

We are also pleased to have acquired funding for a special issue to be edited by Rhonda Johnson from the University of Alaska on participatory methods. This issue will be published in *International Journal of Circumpolar Health* early next year. I encourage our members and workshop participants to submit papers for consideration to this special issue.

On the administrative side, the CSCH continues to get back on our feet and I wish to thank the executive for their time and attention to the often arduous administrative matters at hand. In the past year we have successfully reinstated the CSCH as a society under the *NWT Societies Act*. In addition we have applied to Revenue Canada to reinstate our charitable status. Unfortunately at this time we are not able to offer tax receipts, however we thank the members for their ongoing support. At the upcoming AGM we will review the changes required as a result of the *NWT Societies Act* and by-law changes proposed to keep the CSCH responsive to the current circumpolar health fabric.

In recent months I co-authored with Kue Young an analysis piece in *CMAJ* entitled “Health care in the North: What Canada can learn from its

continued on page 18

UPDATES

NEWS & EVENTS

High Arctic Research Station

In August 2010, the federal government announced that the new Canadian High Arctic Research Station will be located in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.

“Through our Northern Strategy our Government is committed to realizing the full potential of Canada’s North” said Prime Minister Harper. “By building this leading-edge research station, we are advancing Canada’s knowledge of the Arctic’s resources and climate while at the same time ensuring that Northern communities are prosperous, vibrant and secure.”

The Canadian High Arctic Research Station will support Arctic science and technology with a mandate to:

- Develop and diversify the economy in Canada’s Arctic;
- Support the effective stewardship of Canada’s Arctic lands, waters, and resources;
- Create a hub for scientific activity in Canada’s vast and diverse Arctic;
- Promote self-sufficient, vibrant, and healthy Northern communities;
- Inspire and build capacity through training, education and outreach; and,
- Enhance Canada’s visible presence in the Arctic and strengthen Canada’s leadership on Arctic issues.

The Canadian High Arctic Research Station is slated to become an integral part of Canada’s four part Northern Strategy.

— Federal Press Release



New Board for the Canadian Polar Commission

In November 2010, John Duncan, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, appointed a new Board to the Canadian Polar Commission. The members are Bernard Funston (Chairperson), an expert in arctic legal,

policy, and science matters; Nellie Cournoyea (Vice Chairperson), Chair and CEO of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation; Barry Ford, lead International Polar Year coordinator for Nunavik; Martin Fortier, Executive Director of ArcticNet; Robert Gannicott, Chairman and CEO of the Harry Winston Diamond Corporation; David Hik, Canada Research Chair in Northern Ecology at the University of Alberta; Rob Huebert, a leading expert on Canadian arctic security and sovereignty; Maxim Jean-Louis, a specialist in distance education for remote northern communities; John Nightingale, President and CEO of the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre; and Danielle Talarico, a Whitehorse strategic planning consultant.

The Polar Commission (CPC) is the federal government’s lead agency for polar research. It monitors and disseminates polar knowledge, fosters cooperation in polar research, and recommends polar science policy direction to government. The Commission holds conferences and workshops, publishes information on polar research, and works closely with other agencies to promote and support Canadian Arctic and Antarctic research.

Visit www.polarcom.gc.ca find out more about the Commission and use its resources, like the Canadian Polar Information Network (CPIN), the interactive map of research facilities, and the northern research newsletter.

— Federal Press Release



Order of Canada for Dr. Kue Young

In June 2010, Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, announced new appointments to the Order of Canada. Our mentor, colleague, advisor, and friend, Dr. Kue Young, is among those newly honoured for his “commitment to advancing the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples, notably as a leading scholar in the field of Aboriginal health research.”

Established in 1967 by Queen Elizabeth II, the Order of Canada is the centrepiece of Canada’s honours system and recognizes a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. Recom-

mended by the Advisory Council for the Order of Canada, the new recipients were invited to accept their insignia at a ceremony held at a later date.

Based at the University of Toronto, Dr. Young is one of the foremost researchers in the areas of Aboriginal as well as circumpolar health. As president of the International Network for Circumpolar Health Research, he has also played a central role in building partnerships across the circumpolar world. His tireless advocacy for enhancing research capacity in the North has been instrumental in the growth of Northern research organizations.

Congratulation Kue and all the new award winners!



Northern Medical Unit Marks 40 Years of Service

The J.A. Hildes Northern Medical Unit celebrated its 40th Anniversary this past December with a medical education symposium and a gala dinner at the historic Millennium Centre in Winnipeg.

Initiated by pioneering doctor, Jack Hildes, the Northern Medical Unit went on to become Canada’s seminal medical education and research institution in remote northern health care. Several generations of doctors, nurses, social workers, and community health practitioners received training through the unit that continues to serve the people of northern Manitoba and Nunavut.

The Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health has a special connection with the unit as it was its home institution for its first ten years. The relationship has endured, with the most recent past-president of the society also hailing from the unit.

In turn Dr. Hildes was honoured upon his passing by the minting of the Hildes Medal by the Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health. The lifetime achievement award is conferred to nominees of each adhering body of the International Union for Circumpolar Health at its triennial congresses and constitutes the circumpolar health movement’s highest honour.



Representatives of research institutes from all parts of Northern Canada at the Whitehorse Social Economy meeting.

Northern Summit on the Social Economy

In conjunction with the annual meeting of the Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada (SERNNNoCa), Yukon College and the Northern Research Institute hosted the Northern Summit on the Social Economy in Whitehorse this past November 2010.

The event was recorded and segments published as podcasts here:

» sernnoca.posterous.com

SERNNNoCa is part of a national research program funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) with six regional networks and a national centre and facilitator - the Canadian Social Economy Hub. This node serves as the social economy research sector for Northern Canada. It is built around the three Northern Territorial Colleges and their respective research institutions and links researchers working in the North with Northern students, community organizations, and educational institutions.

More information on the ongoing activities of SERNNNoCa can be found here:

» dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/ & sernnoca.circumpolarhealth.org

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Labrador Symposium on the Social Economy

March 4-5, 2011, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador

Over the past four years, the Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada



(SERNNNoCa) has been engaged in an exciting research collaboration with universities, northern colleges, community organizations and students to examine the social economy in Northern Canada. As part of these activities we will be hosting a Labrador Symposium on the Social Economy in order to share research information and hear from social economy organizations. Building sustainable, vibrant communities is the result of careful planning with information and resources that supports their development. We will look at how the social economy currently addresses the pressing social and economic issues facing our communities and how it might be applied further for Labrador communities.

For more information, please visit:

» dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/Labrador

The Arctic as a Messenger for Global Processes

June 4-6, 2011 • Copenhagen, DK

In Copenhagen, the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) will present the results of its most recent climate change and pollution assessments. Recently updated assessments on human health and other pollution issues such as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and radioactivity will also be addressed.

Other general topics will include: Climate Change and its Impacts on the Arctic Cryosphere – Past, Present & Future, Pollution of the Arctic, Global and Arctic Systems, Arctic Ecosystems, Human Aspects of Climate Change and Pollution, and Science and Policy-Making.

A panel discussion will develop messages to be communicated to the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting that will take place in Greenland one week after the Conference.

For more information, please visit:

» amap.no

INCHR Annual Meeting & Summer Institute on Circumpolar Health Research

June 13-17, 2011 • Oulu, Finland

The Summer Institute in Circumpolar Health Research and the International Network for Circumpolar Health Research Annual Meeting will be held in Oulu Finland June 13-17, 2011.

The primary foci of the 2011 Summer Insti-



tute in Oulu will be Contaminants and Human Health, and Risk Communication. The INCHR meeting and scientific sessions will be in the middle (Tuesday afternoon June 14 and all day Wednesday June 15).

You can register online at:

» arctichealth.oulu.fi/suomi/SICHR.html

Seventh ICASS conference



June 22-26, 2011 • Akureyri, Iceland

The International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS) is held every three years and is a congress of the International Arctic Social Sciences put on by IASSA (International Arctic Social Sciences Association). This year, the Congress will be hosted by the University of Akureyri, the town of Akureyri, and the Stefansson Arctic Institute.

The theme of this seventh meeting will be: *Circumpolar Perspectives in Global Dialogue: Social Sciences beyond the International Polar Year.*

For more information, please visit:

» www.iassa.org

IPY 2012 From Knowledge to Action Conference



April 22-27, 2012, Montréal, Québec

Perhaps the final IPY conference, this upcoming international forum will be a valuable opportunity to demonstrate and apply the latest findings of polar research on a broad range of topics from oceans and sea ice, to permafrost, vegetation and wildlife, to changes in Arctic communities and beyond.

The conference will bring together internationally-renowned polar researchers with policy makers, analysts, community members, industry representatives, non-governmental organizations and other interested groups to discuss the results of the largest-ever coordinated program of multi-disciplinary research in the earth's polar regions. It will also examine the current state and key changes in the polar regions and identify actions that will be important in a global context.

As the program takes shape, please provide feedback to the conference at:

» www.ipy2012montreal.ca

PAN-ARCTIC RESULTS WORKSHOP

THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH ADAPTATION PROGRAM FOR NORTHERN FIRST NATIONS AND INUIT COMMUNITIES

The Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health (CSCH) is proud to present the Pan Arctic Results Workshop, being held from February 8 to 10 at Ottawa's Westin Hotel. The workshop, which is being co-hosted with Health Canada and five other Northern organizations, will focus on the challenges that climate change presents to the traditional way of life of Northern First Nation people.

The event is an opportunity for First Nations and Inuit communities who received funding from Health Canada's Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program during the past three years to showcase their results with other First Nations and Inuit community members, non-governmental organizations, academic researchers, and government representatives. This workshop is a learning opportunity for all participants as well as a forum to further disseminate the importance of community-based research.

About the Program

The Climate Change and Health Adaptation in Northern First Nations and Inuit Communities Program is a community-centred research

initiative of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Health Canada. From 2008 to 2011, the program funded 37 projects throughout the Canadian North to monitor, discuss, develop, and participate in the process of adaptation and the health implications of a changing climate. The Pan Arctic Climate Change Results Workshop is bringing these community researchers together for the first time to discuss their experiences, share their findings, and strategize for the future.

The workshop will feature keynote speakers Sheila Watt-Cloutier, Nobel Peace Prize Nominee and World Leader on Global Climate Change and Human Rights as well as other distinguished speakers such as Michael Westlake, Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) president Duane Smith, and the renowned Dene Elder François Paulette. Representatives from Health Canada will also be speaking on behalf of the Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program.

In addition to the critical knowledge sharing during the three day workshop, the event will also aid in raising awareness of the serious health implications that climate change presents to Canada's indigenous communities.



For more information on the Pan Arctic Results Workshop and the individual projects funded by the Climate Change and Health Adaptation program, please visit:

» <http://csch.ca/workshop/>

AT-A-GLANCE



Teslin (Leslie Jackson)



Old Crow (Katelyn Friendship)



Aklavik (Denise Kurszewski)

Thirty presentations, seven films, four training workshops, and four keynotes – that's the impressive lineup that will focus attention on the accomplishments of the Climate Change and Health Adaptation program in February 2011. Indeed, three years of catalyzing grassroots community research has unearthed a deep reservoir of knowledge and experience across the North. It has provided a space for discussing the transformations of the landscape and livelihoods already underway as well as evolving strategies of adaptation that maintain healthy individuals and communities. From youth-Elder interaction and co-learning, to the sharing of traditional knowledge and rediscovery of life ways, each project has highlighted novel aspects and approaches to the climate change challenge.

NEW SUPPORT FOR YOUTH AND CHILD MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH IN NUNAVUT

In February 2011, Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, announced \$2.4 million of funding over five years for a research, intervention and community advocacy project led by Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre to improve the mental health of children and youth in Nunavut.



The Child and Youth Mental Health Wellness Research, Intervention and Community Advocacy project will help Nunavut communities promote positive mental health among children and youth.

The project will raise awareness of mental health and wellness, provide youth perspectives on mental health issues and support parents in raising healthy children.

This community project is conducted by Northerners and employs both traditional Inuit knowledge and current science to create healthy

environments and improve the health of Aboriginal children and youth. Knowledge gained from this project will also be shared with other communities across Canada. More details about this and other Qaujigiartiit projects can be found on page 9.



Through the Declaration on Prevention and Promotion, Canada's Ministers of Health have agreed to make health promotion a priority for action. The Government of Canada is committed to working with partners—within and outside the health sector—to design and implement new approaches to promote the health and well-being of Canada's children and youth.



— Public Health Agency of Canada Press Release

Photos are from the Youth Mental Health and Wellness Photovoice Research Project conducted in April 2010.

CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH OBSERVATORY



Introducing CircHOB

The Circumpolar Health Observatory (CircHOB) is a new international collaborative health information system, involved in systematic, standardized, and consistent data collection and analysis. In addition to aggregating online and print resources, CircHOB is population-based and produces data for all northern regions in all circumpolar countries.

CircHOB's purpose is to monitor trends and patterns in health status, health determinants, and health care, provides qualitative and quantitative evidence for planning and evaluation of health programs and services. It is on-going and sustainable with periodic updates.

Origins

CircHOB is a project proposed by the Arctic Human Health Expert Group and authorized by the Arctic Council at its Senior Arctic Officials meeting in May 2010. In January 2011, CircHOB was also accepted as a Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) task. Initial

funding for CircHOB was provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Health Canada.

Research Centre

The Observatory is based at the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research in Yellowknife and will constitute a central activity of a new health research facility when it officially opens in 2011. Supported by the Arctic Research Infrastructure Fund, the facility will also host a Statistics Canada Research Data Centre. CircHOB will in addition expand the capacity of the centre by helping build and sustain a databank of both print and electronic resources drawn from across the circumpolar world.

CircHOB has its origins in the 2008 *Circumpolar Health Supplement* entitled, "Circumpolar Health Indicators: Sources, Data and Maps." Since the publication of that comprehensive monograph, CircHOB has begun producing periodic Data Briefs highlighting specific aspects of the data collection which are published by the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*. The first brief was published in October 2010.



Website

The Observatory website (circhob.circumpolar-health.org) offers several resources for researchers including complete datasets for 2000-2004, an interactive thematic mapping tool, and in the future, a searchable catalogue of print and electronic materials.

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL UPDATE



Duane Smith, President of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada)

Circumpolar Inuit health is one of the top priorities for the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) with ICC Canada having responsibility within the ICC network for the organization's work in this area.

Circumpolar Inuit Health Strategy

At the ICC's most recent general assembly, which was held in Nuuk last year, Inuit delegates from the four ICC regions – Alaska, Canada, Chukotka (Russia) and Greenland – agreed to the 2010-2014 *Circumpolar Inuit Health Strategy*. This strategy has as its aim the improvement of Inuit health and wellbeing across the Arctic.

The strategy sets out the action which ICC will undertake over the next four years to achieve the five goals which guide this work. The goals include influencing international, regional and national policies and programs that impact on Inuit health and wellbeing. It also seeks to improve awareness of Inuit health issues across the Arctic.

Arctic Council's Human Health Experts Group

As part of the work now being carried out to meet the strategy's aim and goals, ICC Canada is an active member of the Arctic Council's Human Health Experts Group. Through this group, ICC is contributing to a major body of research on circumpolar health systems. ICC's contribution will look at the different systems serving Inuit communities across the Arctic and attempt to identify the promising practices emanating from each.

Contaminants

Another important focus of ICC Canada's health work is related to its activities on contaminants. Circumpolar Inuit are impacted by high contaminant levels in animals that are part of their traditional diet, particularly some marine mammals. Most of the contaminants that accumulate in the Arctic are not of local origin, but from sources far away, and are transported

to the Arctic by air and ocean currents. Therefore, ICC Canada is involved in global efforts to achieve a contaminant-free Arctic. For example, with funding from the Northern Contaminants Program of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, ICC Canada participates in the international negotiations for a mercury agreement as well as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and related meetings under the United Nations Environment Programme. Specifically, ICC Canada attended the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee on a global, legally-binding agreement on mercury (in Chiba, Japan, January 24 – 28, 2011) as part of the Canadian delegation.

ICC Canada will also attend the 5th meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Geneva, Switzerland April 25-29, 2011, and the POP Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in October 10-14 also in Geneva.

– Eva Kruemmel



QITURNGATTA “OUR CHILDREN” SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM



Although most infants are born healthy, Nunavut leads the country in adverse early child health outcomes such as infant mortality, rates of birth defects, low birth weight and prematurity. This demonstrates the need to collect Nunavut specific maternal and child data that include the broader determinants of health as they impact the health and wellbeing of Nunavummiut.

To address this need, the Government of Nunavut in partnership with the University of British Columbia, is currently piloting the Qiturngatta “Our Children” Sur-

veillance System (QSS). This system involves collecting data on standardized territorial health care records that will be used by health care professionals in Nunavut. Data will be compiled from a number of sources including the Prenatal Record, Labour and Delivery Record and the Well-Baby Record. Nunavut will be the first Canadian jurisdiction with a complete maternal and child health database collecting data from the first prenatal visit through infancy to age 5.

For more information, please contact Samantha Lauson, QSS Coordinator, at 1-888-853-8924 or qss@uvic.ca.

QAUJIGIARTIIT UPDATE

New research reports and publications available in Inuktitut and English online at www.qhrc.ca



Child and Youth Mental Health and Wellness Research, Intervention and Community Advocacy in Nunavut

Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre was granted funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada in the amount of \$2.4 million over the next 4 years to implement our programme of research entitled Child and Youth Mental Health and Wellness Research, Intervention and Community Advocacy in Nunavut. The programme consists of 4 components including evidence-based health and empowerment camps for children; photovoice research projects led by youth; the development of an evidence-based parenting support program that meets the needs of Nunavummiut; and a scan of child and youth mental health services. This funding will allow us to continue the work we have already been doing for the past year. We are continuing to look for ways to collaborate with organizations and individuals with an interest in child and youth mental health and wellness, and hope we can all work together to improve health for young people in Nunavut.

Atii! Gameshow

Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and a researcher from University of Toronto recently received funding to promote healthy living through the Atii! Gameshow, a youth-led intervention to get kids moving and learning! The

team-style game, developed by and for Nunavut youth, is geared toward 8-12 year olds. This project involves formalizing the game content; and evaluating and piloting the intervention in 4-5 schools in Nunavut in 2011.

Infant Sleeping Practices

Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre is collaborating with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the Nunavut Dept. of Health and Social Services, and Dr. Laura Arbour from the University of Victoria to explore infant sleeping practices and sources of knowledge among new mothers about safe sleeping positions for infants. The purpose of the project is to identify key areas for public health promotion efforts that will raise awareness about the importance of the role of infant sleep position in reducing rates of infant mortality.

Makimautiksat Health and Empowerment Camps

Makimautiksat is a comprehensive, evidence-based, best practices health and wellness camp model specifically designed to support youth in Nunavut.

The camp is centred around 8-learning modules - we have titled the camp model the "Eight Ujarait/Rocks Model" to symbolize the way the 8 modules provide the solid stone foundation of skills and knowledge upon which young people can build their lives. The 8 evidence-based modules focus on topics highlighted by youth, parents/guardians, grandparents, youth workers

The learning modules include the following: 1) Healthy Relationships, 2) Improving Coping Skills, 3) Increasing Awareness of the Body, 4) Exploring Creativity, 5) Increasing Self-Esteem, 6) Self Discovery and Future Planning, 7) Promoting Healthy Choices (Tackling Peer Pressure & Substance Abuse), and 8) Celebrating Inuit Culture.

and the literature as important in achieving and maintaining a strong sense of self.

The model has been used as the foundation upon which to build a curriculum and series of activities for the camp - the Makimautiksat Youth Wellness and Empowerment Camp. This curriculum incorporates a number of ways of learning, including group discussions, individual reflection, observational learning, activity-based learning, and role-playing. The curriculum includes celebrating the arts and creativity, teachings from Elders, practicing of skills, and, most importantly, having fun! The involvement of healthy role models is a core component of the camp. Role models can include youth mentors, Elders, and community members sharing their wisdom and experiences related to the topics in the learning modules. The spirit of the camp is one of inclusion, acceptance, the celebration of diversity, and the empowerment of youth.

Next Steps

Plans are underway to pilot and evaluate the camp in 3 Nunavut communities in 2011, and more over the next 2 years. It is our intent to evaluate each pilot of the camp in order to a) improve content, b) improve the mode of delivery, and c) be responsive to the needs of youth and their parents/guardians and d) measure outcomes and indicators associated with skill-building and wellness. Once the pilot phase is completed, the Makimautiksat Camp curriculum and training materials will be made available, at no cost, to any and all organizations and individuals in Nunavut who wish to use it as a resource. It will be available for download on our website once the evaluation is complete.

— Gwen Healey

PHOTOVOICE PROJECTS

The following youth-oriented photovoice projects were part of a pilot study of a larger ArcticNet funded pan-Northern Photovoice Project. Led by James Ford of McGill University, the project is being conducted in Inuvik, Iqaluit, Arviat, and Kuujuaq to characterize the nature of the food system for at-risk people (e.g., role of traditional foods, sharing networks, food banks, etc), examine determinants of food insecurity, document and describe adaptive strategies, and characterize the role of climatic stresses in affecting food security.



INUVIK

The purpose of this project was to gain in-depth information on the affects of climate change on food security among at-risk populations in Inuvik, NT. The project was developed following consultation with community members on health priorities over the past three years.

The project employed the participatory methodology “Photovoice” to study this public health issue in Inuvik. The preliminary phase of the project involved a methodology training session for the Photovoice facilitators. This training session was built into an ‘Introduction to Research’ course for students in Inuvik. Seven students participated in the course, using Photovoice to assess circumstances that promote and challenge health in their community.

The main project, assessing climate change and food security, evaluated: 1) how such services were perceived by the users 2) if services contribute to a reduction of food insecurity for users 3) reasons that lead to use of food services 4) strategies employed in response to food shortages by the users and 5) understanding of food insecurity and food services to examine vulnerability to climate change. The project also identified elements of the cultures in the Northwest Territories that have traditionally improved food insecurity and examine if they are still employed by users of these food distribution services.

“Photovoice gives us the confidence to speak up about our ideas. The program teaches us about critical thinking, analysis and reflection.”
— Student Participant

The participants met over the course of one week to discuss the project, learn some of the basics of their camera operation and photography, and to go out into the community to take photographs. Each participant presented selected photographs to the entire group along with their story. The perspectives were insightful, sometimes humorous, but truthful as the participants explained the context of their photographs.

The success of the training, and specifically the advantages of using participatory research when conducting research in Northern communities was presented at last year’s *Healing our Spirit Worldwide Conference*, as well as the *ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting*.

— Hilary Blackett & Denise Kurszewski

ARVIAT

Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre was invited to the community of Arviat, Nunavut to collaborate with a group of Elders and youth to conduct photovoice research. The research topic explored aspects of life in the community and daily living that can positively or negatively affect mental health and general wellness of young pregnant women. Three Elders, four youth and two service providers participated in the project and took 190 photos. The participants discussed and analyzed the photos to answer the research question, “what affects young women and their babies health - both positively and negatively?”



Participants highlighted the importance of nutrition and the consumption of country food playing a role in wellness. Barriers to accessing produce and store-bought foods at affordable prices and availability were emphasized. Priority placement of non-nutritious foods in stores and misleading food packaging were also discussed as barriers to nutritious food intake

Community supports for women and families including Elders, Well Baby drop-in clinics, and Head Start programs were stressed as important resources for young pregnant women in the community. Participants described a sense of pride, happiness, joy, and connectedness within the community. The role of partner and father was strongly emphasized as a key factor in fostering a healthy pregnancy and well mother. Elders openly shared traditional knowledge, beliefs, and personal experiences about pregnancy with the younger participants throughout the project. Wisdom shared by the older participants stressed the importance of both parents making healthy choices and avoiding the consumption of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

— Jennifer Noah



IPY TIME CAPSULE LAUNCH

— www.ipytimecapsule.com —

For the past three years, a small team of graduate students have worked on an initiative to gather contributions of artwork, photography, writing, and video from youth across northern Canada in the spirit of the International Polar Year. The project has been generously funded through the Government of Canada's International Polar Year program, and bolstered through administrative and additional support from the Canadian Circumpolar Institute.

The project has been motivated by a desire to

involve northern Canadian youth in the International Polar Year in a fun and meaningful way by showcasing "life in the North through their eyes" using various creative media. I am very pleased to report that the Project has finally come to an end and can now be shared with the masses!

The physical exhibit of the Project was launched at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife on April 4th. This exhibit involves selected 2-D pieces from the Time Capsule, as well as an offline version of the online

exhibit. It will remain on display until just after Labour Day weekend in early September. The online version of the exhibit, which comprises a much larger number of pieces, can be accessed at www.ipytimecapsule.com - currently, the online version is available in French and in English, however translated versions in many Northern languages are coming soon!

Please take a moment to visit the Time Capsule online exhibit or, even better, come to see it in person in Yellowknife!

— Julia Christensen, Time Capsule Co-Organizer

WORKSHOPS ON CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

On December 7-8 2010, the Northwest Territories Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) in partnership with Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF), hosted the first of four workshops aimed at developing more effective approaches to chronic disease management in the NWT. The workshops are being held in Yellowknife over a nine-month period.

Approximately 20 health-delivery, policy and clinical leaders are honing their skills to identify and adapt evidence and use change-management techniques to develop and implement models for managing chronic diseases that optimize the use of resources and provide care that is based on evidence and best practices. As



Chief Nursing Officer, Scott Robertson stated, "it was very beneficial to have CHSRF here to engage participants in understanding the systemic challenges we need to address as a team to successfully implement a chronic disease management service delivery model in the NWT."



The second workshop is scheduled to take place March 8-9, 2011.

To learn more about this initiative, please visit:

» www.chsrf.ca/Programs/NorthernInitiatives.aspx

SUMMER INSTITUTE IN CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH RESEARCH

The Summer Institute in Circumpolar Health Research met with great success in its first outing as an annual site for international research training. Hosted by the National Institute of Public Health of Denmark and co-organized by the University of Alaska (Anchorage), University of Oulu, the Canadian and Greenland Institutes for Circumpolar Health Research, the course offering was organized at the same time as the Annual Meeting of the International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR) in Copenhagen, May 2010. This took full advantage of the gathering of professionals and scholars for a memorable week of activities and a wonderful time in Copenhagen. Next year's institute will be held in Oulu Finland.



Researchers from across the circumpolar world attended the two graduate courses in dietary assessment methods and health disparities

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 this International Polar Year study was to find out the prevalence of the HPV infections in NWT women. The investigators also wanted to understand whether there are some life habits that increase the chance of acquiring the infection. NWT public health professionals will use this information to develop effective cancer screening and prevention programs for women in the North.

The study was designed and developed by a committee that consisted of local researchers, community members, and Aboriginal organization representatives.

Project Team

Dr. Yang Mao (P.I., Public Health Agency of Canada), Dr. Paul Brassard (co-P.I., McGill University), Candice Lys (Project Coordinator, Institute for Circumpolar Health Research), Government of the Northwest Territories De-

partment of Health and Social Services, HPV Steering Committee.

Data Collection

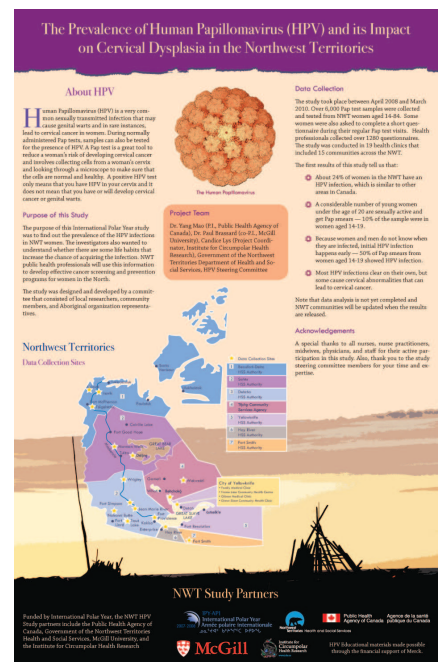
The study took place between April 2008 and March 2010. Over 6,000 Pap test samples were collected and tested from NWT women aged 14-84. Some women were also asked to complete a short questionnaire during their regular Pap test visits. Health professionals collected over 1280 questionnaires. The study was conducted in 19 health clinics that included 15 communities across the NWT.

Preliminary Results

The first results of this study tell us that:

- About 24% of women in the NWT have an HPV infection, which is similar to other areas in Canada.
- A considerable number of young women under the age of 20 are sexually active and get Pap smears — 10% of the sample were in women aged 14-19.
- Because women and men do not know when they are infected, initial HPV infection happens early — 50% of Pap smears from women aged 14-19 showed HPV infection.
- Most HPV infections clear on their own, but some cause cervical abnormalities that can lead to cervical cancer.

Note that data analysis is not yet completed and communities will be updated when the results are released.



A poster to disseminate the early results has been prepared and distributed throughout the Northwest Territories

Acknowledgements

A special thanks to all nurses, nurse practitioners, midwives, physicians, and staff for their active participation in this study! Also, thank you to the study steering committee members for your time and expertise.



Group Photo of Dechinta Pilot Semester

DECHINTA PILOT SEMESTER AND HEALTH COURSE

Dechinta Bush University and Centre for Research and Learning is a northern-led initiative to deliver land-based, university-accredited educational experiences. Led by Erin Freeland-Ballantyne and Kyla Kakfwi Scott, the program seeks to engage northern and southern youth in transformative curricula based on the needs of Canada's north.

The Institute for Circumpolar Health Research (ICHR) has been aiding this novel community-based initiative with teaching, the development of a health curriculum, and by hosting and maintaining its website *dechinta.ca* as in-kind support.

The pilot semester of Dechinta took place in June 2010. The first group of students learned about Creative Writing and Communications, and Northern Governance with Richard Van Camp, Stephanie Fox, and Glen Coulthard and featured guests François Paulette, Stephen Kakfwi, and Fort Good Hope elders Mary Barnaby and Judy Lafferty.

"Dechinta: Bush University. Blachford Lake Lodge, Denendeh. The float plane brought us safely back to Yk-town, the sky is still heavy with smoke. Am so blessed to have had this experience... mahsi" – Melaw Nakehk'o

ICHR in partnership with the Universities of Alberta and Toronto delivered a Health Promotion Planning course coordinated by Denise Kurszewski as part of the pilot semester. The students also participated in traditional cultural events throughout the week.

Featured guests and presenters included Tłı̄cho community member John B. Zoe, Elder Jane Dragon of Fort Smith, Olympian Sharon Firth, health promoters from the Government of the NWT, and University of Toronto Professor Suzanne Jackson. Throughout the course, there were also Elders present from the Yellowknife Dene.

Funding for the health component was provided by the University of Toronto Aboriginal Initiatives.

» www.dechinta.ca

Dechinta 2011 Course Offering

Dechinta is now accepting students and researchers for spring, summer and fall semesters 2011 and 2012 for studies in Denendeh, Northwest Territories Canada. Visit the website or call Kyla for more information at 1-888-388-2874 or 867-445-1867

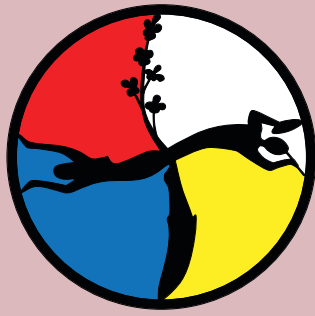


ULLURIAQ GETS HYDRATED!

Given the increasing diabetes problem in Nunavik, Ulluriaq School has now been declared a "Pop Free Zone". As a result, we do not allow pop to be consumed in the school at all, by staff or students. The "Drop The Pop" campaign that is promoted by the Nunavik Board of Health and Social Services, has brought attention to the fact that pop is an unhealthy choice—and we want to support this position.

Instead of pop, we now want to promote water consumption in the school because the health benefits are many. Former student and John Abbott graduate Sapina Snowball prepared wonderful presentations on "Diabetes in Nunavik" and "The Health Benefits of Water". Sapina visited every class in the school to give her presentations. Following the presentations, each class was presented with their own water cooler and a class set of water bottles. The students were bubbling with excitement over their new water cooler! Some of the classes even cheered when their new water cooler was brought into the classroom. All of the water coolers are filled in a school water fill station where the water is double filtered. Everyone is very impressed with the quality of the water and they are consuming record amounts. Most classes are drinking 5 gallons per day!

A special thanks to Sylvie Dénoimé, from the NRBHSS. Without her support, this project would have never been possible.



NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ROLE MODEL PROGRAM

Is there an Aboriginal youth that you look up to because they're a leader, a volunteer, preserves their culture, or excels in school or in sports? Are they between the ages of 13 to 30 years old?

The National Aboriginal Role Model Program celebrates the accomplishments of First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth. Each year, 12 Aboriginal role models are chosen for their achievements, leadership and innovation. Throughout the year, role models travel to communities to share their stories with other Aboriginal youth. "Lead Your Way!" inspires them to strive to reach their goals.

Please note only Aboriginal youth (between the ages 13 to 30 years old) can nominate a role model.

NOMINATE YOUR ROLE MODEL NOW!

The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 4, 2011. More details can be found at:

— www.naho.ca/rolemodel —



CALL FOR PAPERS

IJCH Special Issue: Participatory Research Processes and Ethics: Addressing Challenges in the North

A special issue of the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health* encompassing all dimensions of community-based participatory research (CBPR) will be published in early 2012. The issue hopes to explore health disparities in the North, with a particular focus on both the challenges and innovative solutions.

Original research papers, as well as expository and survey papers, are sought, both invited and contributed. Papers submitted to this special issue should inform our shared understanding of at least one of the following aspects of CBPR:

- Defining Partnerships and Communities
- Issue Identification
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Interpretation and Dissemination of Results
- Social Action/Advocacy
- Ethical Challenges and Lessons Learned

The deadline for submission of manuscripts is **April 30, 2011**, and early submission is encouraged. All submissions will undergo a rigorous peer review, coordinated by the Scientific Editor and Editorial Office of the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*.



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
CIRCUMPOLAR
HEALTH

All manuscripts should be submitted to the Editorial Office of the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health* (ijch@oulu.fi). Prospective authors (and/or potential peer reviewers) are encouraged to contact Scientific Editor Dr. Rhonda Johnson (rhonda.johnson@uaa.alaska.edu) to discuss ideas and receive specific guidance regarding manuscript and review expectations. All manuscripts should adhere to the regular guidelines of the IJCH (www.ijch.fi).

- Manuscript submission deadline: April 30, 2011
- Peer Review Complete: August 15, 2011
- Final manuscripts due: October 15, 2011
- Tentative publication date: February 2012

Contact and questions:

» rhonda.johnson@uaa.alaska.edu



IUCH FOOD SECURITY WORKING GROUP

In today's world, the impact of the economy and the environment is greatly influencing our food systems and changing the way we produce, manage and eat our food. Food insecurity is increasing amongst the world's most at risk populations and it is especially prevalent in Northern regions of the world. The increasing cost of food stuffs compounded with high transportation costs as well as environmental contamination is putting this vulnerable population in jeopardy of even greater food insecurity. A call to action to bring food security issues to light has never been greater.



- Identify what food security is so that the group has a clear definition to work from.
- Develop a forum for discussion and collaboration between interested parties within the circumpolar region on issues pertaining to food security.
- Support food security streams at future ICCH.
- Work to bring attention to food security issues in the circumpolar region through research, advocacy and discussions amongst members.
- Support Northern communities to take ownership for their land and food, to understand where their local food supply comes from, to plan for possible scenarios of low food supplies, and to create sustainability.
- Share current initiatives/programs that are impacting food security.

The goal of the Food Security Working Group is to recognize and foster an understanding of the issues surrounding the global impact of economics, health and the environment on food security, focusing on the circumpolar region.

The Food Security Working Group will:

The Food Security Working Group is Co-Chaired by Jill Christensen (jill_christensen@gov.nt.ca) and Sophia Wadowska (sophia_wadowska@gov.nt.ca)

REMEMBRANCE: BERTHA ALLEN

People of the north mourned the loss of Bertha Allen (*née* Moses) who passed away last May in Inuvik, Northwest Territories (NT). Born in 1934, Bertha was a member of the Vuntut Gwich'in Nation of Old Crow, Yukon, she spent much of her childhood on-the-land learning the traditions of her people. The Mackenzie Delta was her home for most of her life. There she married her Inuvialuit husband, Victor Allen and together, they proudly raised their family immersed in both cultures. She always returned to her beloved Yukon homeland to connect with the land and the people. She leaves a large family of six children, 21 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren, along with numerous relatives and friends.

Bertha was an advocate for social change, committed to the advancement of northern and Aboriginal women. Her many career achievements included leadership roles with organizations in the north and beyond. She was a former President of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women in the Northwest Territories and founding President of the Native Women's Association of the Northwest Territories. Later she became President of the Native Women's Association of Canada.

Bertha was instrumental in improving health and social services in the north through her

participation in the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Board, the Inuvik Medical Transient Centre and her 2001 appointment to the Council of Grandmothers. She also served the Northwest Territories as the lone female member of the Commission for Constitutional Development, the Northwest Territories Judicial Appointments Committee, and the Northwest Territories Constitutional Committee. In the national sphere, she served on the National Aboriginal Advisory Committee to the RCMP Commissioner and on the Multicultural Advisory Committee to the RCMP.

Spending her last years at home in Inuvik, Bertha enjoyed sewing beautiful beaded moccasins, parkas and northern clothing. She loved spending time on the land picking berries, walking and cooking her favorite traditional foods. She always took the time to encourage and support younger women in pursuit of academic education and traditional skills.

Her tireless work on behalf of Northerners was recognized not only by the deep respect for her among people across Canada, and by the many awards and achievements she received. These included the Governor General's Award for Commemoration of the Persons Case, NWT Commissioner's Volunteer Award, and the National Health and Welfare Canadian Volun-



Photo by Robert Arthur Alexie

teer Award. In 2005, The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation recognized her with a Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2007 she was named to the Order of Canada and in 2009 Governor General Michaëlle Jean awarded her the Northern Medal for her leadership on issues affecting Aboriginal and northern women. Bertha was known for her common sense approach and passion for northern women and families and will be dearly missed by her family, friends and all who knew her.

JOIN THE NWT AND NUNAVUT PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Vision — to advocate for the improvement of personal and community health in accordance with the public health principles of disease prevention, health protection and promotion and public policy.

Board Members:

- President: Faye Stark (NT)
- Past President: Dr. Isaac Sobol (NU)
- Secretary: Maria Santos (NT)
- Treasurer: Marie Bell (NT)
- Jill Christensen (Project Director NT)
- Frederic Montpetit (NU, Editor of NTNU-PHA Sentinel Newsletter)
- Cheryl Case (NT)
- Dr. Pertice Moffitt (NT)

Current Partnered Projects:

- Childhood and Adult Obesity Prevention and Health Weight Management Programs
- Food Guidelines for GNWT Facilities and Nutrition and Food Services Standards
- Programs and Training Needs for Nutrition Professionals



- Sodium Reduction Strategy
- Examining Training Priorities and Approaches for Community Workers involved in Nutrition Activities in the NWT
- Identifying Next Steps/Approaches in Developing School Food Policies in the NWT
- Motivational Interviewing in Chronic Disease Prevention

Upcoming Activities:

- Next steps in supporting the NTNUPHA Resolution on "Core Competencies for Public Health in Canada"



- Supporting the GNWT and GN on developing their Anti-poverty Strategies.

How to Join

Visit the Canadian Public Health Association website:

» www.cpha.ca

Become a member and make sure to select the "Conjoint Membership NWT and Nunavut Public Health Association" option.

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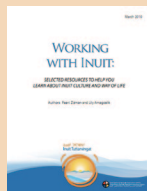
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NEW RESOURCES AND TRAINING FOR INUIT HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROFESSIONALS

From Inuit Tuttarvingat of the National Aboriginal Health Organization

Cultural competency and culturally safe healthcare

Inuit Tuttarvingat, the Inuit-specific department of the National Aboriginal Health Organization, has prepared a document to help non-Inuit medical professionals, health and wellness workers, teachers, students and others to find resources to better understand Inuit culture, health perspectives and the way we live. The document, titled *Working with Inuit: Selected Resources to Help You Learn About Inuit Culture and Way of Life*, provides links to various websites, books, in-depth reports, periodicals, and videos about Inuit history, culture, values, traditional healing, and current health and wellness status. This document was published as part of Inuit Tuttarvingat's work in the area of cultural safety and cultural competency and is available online at www.naho.ca/inuit



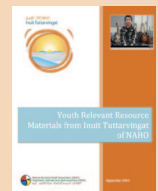
User-friendly resource for quit-smoking counsellors in Inuit communities

The Inuit Tobacco-free Network website (www.InuitTobaccofree.ca) and listserv provides Inuit health workers and those interested in smoking cessation with up-to-date resources and the latest research on tobacco use reduction. One of its keystone activities, a literature search of promising programs, services and activities in tobacco reduction in Canada and internationally, resulted in *What Works in Reducing Tobacco Use In Indigenous Communities?* A summary of promising practices for Inuit. This document was used as part of a distance education training course on smoking cessation, completed by 28 community health workers in the four Inuit regions of Canada in July 2010. The summary is available at www.InuitTobaccofree.ca in English, French and three dialects of the Inuit language.



Materials for Inuit youth, students and youth workers

Inuit Tuttarvingat engages with and develops resources for Inuit youth. With posters, fact sheets, contests and TV shows, Inuit Tuttarvingat aims to provide health and wellness information to youth, which make up a large part of the Inuit population. Inuit Tuttarvingat has prepared a listing of all its youth related materials to showcase what is available for Inuit students, youth, teachers and youth counsellors. This document contains links to Inuit Tuttarvingat's video and audio clips, presentations, booklets, posters, websites and other materials. It also includes products that were created by Inuit youth for Inuit youth, such as creative video clips. Youth Relevant Resource Materials from Inuit Tuttarvingat are available online at www.naho.ca/inuit.



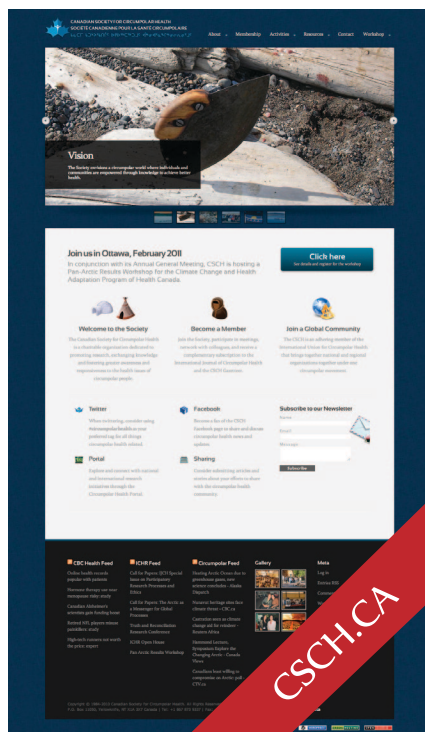
SOCIETY NEWS

New Website

The renovation and modernization of the Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health website has been completed and you are invited to peruse its contents and join the society as a member if you have not already done so.

The new site includes a more complete historical snapshot of the society and its evolution over the past quarter century, as well as details on seminal circumpolar research being currently conducted by Canadian scientists and scholars in the health and wellness field. The site also provides a means to further network and communicate either through submitting stories or articles for the yearly Gazetteer or for publication on the upcoming society blog.

The CSCH strives to be the central networking hub for the growing circumpolar health community in Canada, yet still depends on the initiative of its members to share their ideas and endeavours in a spirit of collegiality and friendship. Please consider providing materials for the site on a regular basis either by emailing the Secretariat or using the online submission form to send articles or photos.



New Social Media Tools

In addition to renewing the website, a social media strategy for the Society has been proposed. However, instead of assigning a new Facebook page or twitter account for CSCH, we have decided rather to create a generic Circumpolar Health fan page to serve the international community (link can be found on the CSCH home page), as well as recommend the use of the #circumpolarhealth tag for Twitter convos.

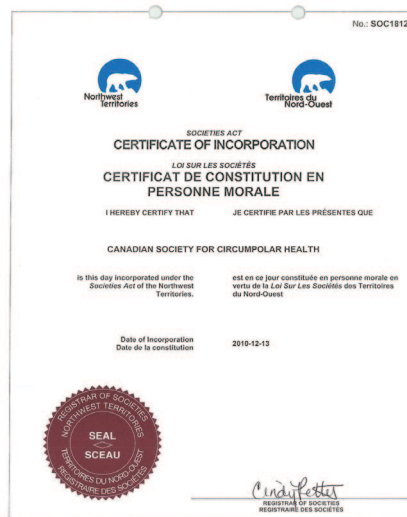
This way, the already scattered communication resources of the circumpolar health movement will not be further fragmented into separate national streams. We hope these prove to be useful communication tools as more and more individuals (for better or worse!) move onto these platforms for regular communications.



continued from page 3

circumpolar neighbours." The commentary highlighted areas where circumpolar perspectives matter — health disparities, models of health care, health research capacity needs and the need for circumpolar partnerships. These elements of circumpolar health are worthy of some reflection as we set our goals and mandate for the CSCH in the coming years. The paper was designed to inform the broader health community on issues of common interest in circumpolar regions and to also provide a touchstone for those of us working in the field as we reflect on directions and priorities.

The CSCH continues to network and form partnerships with the International circumpolar health community. This includes participation in the International Union for Circumpolar Health council and working groups and attending and presenting at meetings of the Arctic Council working groups (SDWG), the Arctic Human Health Expert Group and IASC. We are pleased to see the Canadian Polar Commis-



sion board appointments and look forward to the opportunity for dialogue and support the commission's ongoing work. We also enjoy participation on scientific committees for confer-

ences such as the upcoming 15th International Congress on Circumpolar Health to be held in Fairbanks Alaska August 2012 (www.asch.cc) and the IPY 2012 from Knowledge to Action Conference to be held April 22-27 in Montreal (www.ipy2012montreal.ca).

The CSCH provides an important foundation for Canadian circumpolar health perspectives in these various forums. Contributions touch on policy, research, and service delivery in circumpolar regions. It is through the members participation and contributions to CSCH that a foundation is built from which we can provide perspectives in these forums. We are also excited to be working with the broader scientific community and continue to build on the scientific collaborations initiated during IPY.

All the best,
Susan Chatwood
February 1, 2011

ICCH14 PROCEEDINGS

The Proceedings of the 14th International Congress on Circumpolar Health have been published and are in the process of being mailed out! Those who attended ICCH 14 and paid for congress registration will be receiving a hard copy via post. An electronic copy can also be downloaded from the IJCH website (www.ijch.fi).

Appearing as a *Circumpolar Health Supplement* of the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*, the proceedings were edited by the ICCH14 Secretariat (Institute for Circumpolar Health Research) and IJCH team. The proceedings are unique in containing commissioned chapter introductions from faculty and graduate students of various circumpolar regions in addition to both abstracts, posters, and full articles submitted at the congress.

We would like to thank all CSCH members who contributed to the congress organizing and scientific committees and to those who wrote the chapter leads for this proceedings supplement.



See you in Fairbanks 2012!

ICHR ANNIVERSARY



In November 2010, the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research, an independent research organization located in the Canadian North, celebrated its fifth year anniversary with the publication of our Five Year Report and special lectures by invited fellows from Greenland.

As we prepare to move to a new health research facility this year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our many partners, funders, affiliates, colleagues, and friends who have supported us in our endeavours.

We also look forward to many more years of developing health research capacity here at home and building the international circumpolar health movement abroad. Whether through organizations like CSCH or through initiatives like the Circumpolar Health Observatory, our work has been made immensely gratifying by the friendship and camaraderie of our many colleagues from around the circumpolar world.



Onwards and Upwards!

