The Indigenous Health Research Development Program (IHRDP) is a member of a national network of “Aboriginal Capacity and Developmental Research Environments” (ACADRE) that are funded through the Institute of Aboriginal Peoples’ Health, Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The IHRDP has offices at Six Nations Polytechnic in Ohsweken, at McMaster University in Hamilton and at the University of Toronto.

The aim of the program is to increase capacity in Aboriginal Health Research to address the considerable health challenges that Aboriginal Canadians face. As part of the national network, we have participated and partnered in collaborative projects such as ethics in Aboriginal health research and knowledge transfer/translation. Please visit our website for documents relating to these projects.

News!

Network Environments for Aboriginal Health Research

The Institute of Aboriginal Peoples’ Health, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, has recently introduced a new initiative called “Network Environments for Aboriginal Health Research”. The NEAHR program will replace the existing ACADRE program.

“The goal of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Institute of Aboriginal Peoples’ Health (CIHR-IAPH) is to lead a national advanced research agenda in the area of Aboriginal health. The CIHR-IAPH will play a lead role in increasing the productivity and impact of Aboriginal health research by advancing capacity and infrastructure in First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, enhancing knowledge translation and forging partnerships with diverse communities and organizations at the local, national and international level.

The purpose of this initiative is to sustain, develop and evolve a collaborative CIHR Network Environment for Aboriginal Health Research across Canada between researchers and communities”.

http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/31174.html

The IHRDP has funding under the ACADRE program until September 2008. The Co-investigators of the IHRDP will be submitting an application March 1, 2007 for a NEAHR grant with the aim of building on the foundation that we have built since 2003. We plan to expand our program to better serve the Ontario Aboriginal population.

Interested in a health career?

Consider Aboriginal health research!

We can help you get there.

IHRDP logo designed by Arnold Jacobs, Two Turtle Studio, Ohsweken. “In practically every First Nations culture across Turtle Island, the Bear was revered for its strength. Because of where the bear roamed in its daily life, across meadows and woods, it became the “guardian” symbol of the plants. Various plants were, and are, used today for medicinal purposes. The bear then, is an icon of his natural plant “pharmacy”. The plant then is embraced by human hands, which is selected for its particular medicinal ingredients.”
Jairus Skye is a member of the Mohawk Nation, Turtle clan, from Six Nations of the Grand River. He has an Honours BA in Anthropology and Religious Studies and a Masters of Arts in Cultural Anthropology from McMaster University. For his thesis Jairus examined how access to an Aboriginal community health center that offers a holistic approach affects urban Aboriginal health, specifically in the establishment or re-establishment of Aboriginal identity and how identity impacts overall health and well-being. Jairus' PhD research will investigate issues surrounding the use of a medical pluralistic model by Aboriginal patients to enhance or maintain their health and well-being. The intent of this research is to enhance cross-cultural communication and understanding of Aboriginal health issues. Jairus is receiving his 4th award.

Carmina Ng is a PhD student at University of Toronto's Institute of Medical Science. She has a Bachelor of Physical and Health Education degree from the University of Toronto and a Master of Science degree from the University of Manitoba. She has worked with researchers from the University of Alberta in a project examining various lifestyle correlates of obesity in James Bay Cree children living in northern Quebec. Her thesis will explore dietary patterns in Aboriginal Canadians using data from the Canadian Community Health Survey. This is Carmina's 2nd award.

Renee Linklater is of Anishinaabe and Scottish/English ancestry. She is a member of Manitou Rapids-Rainy River First Nations in northwestern Ontario. She currently resides in Curve Lake First Nation. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Native Studies (Trent) and a Master of Education in Community, International and Transformative Learning (Toronto). Renee is completing her PhD with the Department of Adult Education and Counselling Psychology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto. Her doctoral research is entitled, “Decolonising Aboriginal Trauma Work: Frontline workers share stories and strategies.” While critiquing the use of psychiatry amongst Aboriginal peoples, her work draws on Indigenous knowledge and practise, and is grounded in cultural contexts. This is Renee’s first award.

Emily Cowall Farrell is currently an Anthropology PhD candidate at McMaster University supervised by D. Ann Herring. She completed her Master's of Science, Anthropology of Health at the University of Edinburgh and holds the designation of Diploma in the History of Medicine Society of Apothecaries, in London (UK). Cowall Farrell lived in Panniqtuuq (Pangnirtung), Nunavut in 1985-87 and has remained connected as a community member. Her area of study examines the Panniqtuumiut (Inuit of Pangnirtung) perspective of sanitary science and biomedical treatment for tuberculosis provided at St. Luke's Anglican mission hospital in 'Pang’ and Hamilton Mountain Sanatorium 1957-1962. Emily is receiving a research allowance from the IHRDP.

Student Publications

The IHRDP is pleased to acknowledge students funded through our program who have had articles accepted for publication. Below are selected publications from students who have been supported by the IHRDP.

Community-Based Research

The IHRDP provides seed funding for community-based Aboriginal health research projects. We are pleased to have awarded funding to a number of projects in the last year.

New! Due to increasing demand for IHRDP seed grants, we now have a deadline for submission of applications.

If you are interested in applying for an IHRDP seed grant, you must submit your application by March 31, 2007.

For complete details on the seed grant application process, please visit our website or contact us directly for more information.

We’re here to help!

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health


This conference may be of interest to those interested in community-based research. An Aboriginal component is included in the conference. Dr. Dawn Martin-Hill will be presenting at this conference.

The IHRDP will be hosting a Community Site Visit in relation to this conference.

Student volunteers are currently being sought for the conference. Visit the website for more information.

http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/conf-overview.html

Onkwa’nisteñhsera - Mothers of Our Nations

The 2nd documentary in a series of 4 was released in November 2006. “Onkwa’nisteñhsera - Mothers of Our Nations” is drawn from the Elders who spoke during the six-day International Indigenous Elders Summit 2004 and incorporates recent interviews focusing on women.

This documentary examines the need for Indigenous women to reclaim, restore and revitalize their traditional knowledge which has become marginalized through centuries of colonialism.

This documentary also highlights the plight of 500 missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada by acknowledging the racialized violence towards Indigenous women as chronicled in the Native Women’s Association of Canada Stolen Sisters Campaign.

This documentary follows the November 2005 release of Jidwá:doh—Let’s Become Again. This documentary has been acquired by Arte France who will translate the film into French and German for screening on their Knowledge Network which airs in six European countries.

Canadian Aboriginal Festival

The Canadian Aboriginal Festival, held at the Rogers Centre on November 24-26, 2006 incorporated a Health Pavilion for the first time. The National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) and the Aboriginal Health Research Networks Secretariat (AHRNetS) partnered to organize the Pavilion. AHRNetS also facilitated the presentation of research conducted by ACADRE supported students from across the country which provided an excellent knowledge transfer opportunity.

IHRDP Co-investigator Dawn Martin-Hill organized a traditional teachings tent at the Canadian Aboriginal Festival for the second year. The events titled “Indigenous Knowledge of Health” included teachings by a number of Aboriginal Elders at the Health Pavilion. The teachings focused on Indigenous Knowledge with respect to women’s health.
The Collaborative Program in Aboriginal Health, School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, celebrated its official launch on December 7, 2006. Dr. Cornelia Wieman welcomed the group who turned out for the celebration.

The IHRDP University of Toronto office will serve as the home base of this multidepartmental program, involving Public Health Sciences, Anthropology, Geography, Nursing, OISE and Aboriginal Studies.

Students enrolled in a Graduate Program at the University of Toronto who are studying in Aboriginal health are eligible to apply for the Collaborative Program. For full details on the program please visit: http://www.cpah.ca/about.asp

National Gathering of Graduate Students in Aboriginal Health

The 2007 National Gathering of Graduate Students in Aboriginal Health will take place in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Please visit the IHRDP website for information on the gathering. It will be posted once the details of the gathering are available.

The 2007 Scientific Director’s Award of Excellence will be presented at the gathering. Please visit the CIHR weblink below for details on applying for this $1000 award.

The deadline to apply is April 1, 2007

http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/33325.html

Advisory Board News

The IHRDP held its December 7, 2006 board meeting at the IHRDP’s University of Toronto office.

Dr. Emily Faries has joined our Advisory Board! Dr. Faries is a Professor in the Department of Native Studies at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario. She is from the Moose Cree Nation. Welcome, Dr. Faries!

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