



THE AHA CENTRE

NEWSLETTER • FEBRUARY 2020

AHA Centre staff greeted the new year with an in-person meeting in Dartmouth, NS. We wrapped up 2019 and tackled our work plan for the year. A major snow storm buried the city but we armed ourselves with storm chips and refused to let a little snowfall stop us!



Marni and Jenn

Sherri's snow angel



Sharing a work space does not happen often for our small, but mighty team of three and we took advantage of every minute. By the end of the week we felt

grounded in our work and excited for our upcoming projects.

This newsblast is packed full of resources and opportunities (including the next call for papers for the **Journal of Indigenous HIV Research!**) so be sure to give it a thorough read!

AHA Centre Knowledge Keeper!

We are very excited to announce that Rick Kotowich has agreed to join the AHA Centre as

a Knowledge Keeper! For those of you who don't know Rick, he is Métis, born in The Pas, Manitoba and now resides in Regina Saskatchewan where he is semi-retired and lives with his wife Pat. Rick brings a wide array of experience and knowledge to the role of Knowledge Keeper. In the 1990s, he served on ANHAN's first Advisory Circle. From 2004 – 2010, he served on the National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS (NACHA). He has worked with CAAN for many years, most notably as a committee member for the AHA Centre's National Aboriginal Research Advisory Committee (NARAC). He has front line experience through his position with The Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region where he worked for twenty years and has also conducted reviews for CIHR grant competitions. Rick has an interest in bridging Indigenous and Settler cultures, worldviews and communities; he practices Improvisation as a methodology for personal growth and social development. We are so thrilled that Rick has joined us as a Knowledge Keeper and look forward to our work together in the coming years.

JIHR Volume 11 – Call for Papers

Special Issue: Navigating Allyship: What does it mean to work together in service to the community?

This year, the AHA Centre and REACH are joining forces for Volume XI of the *Journal of Indigenous HIV Research* (JIHR)! "Allyship" has been chosen as the theme of Volume XI to celebrate the collaborative relationships that are at the very heart of the CBR work we do.

For more information, please go to:
www.ahacentre.ca/journal.html

Community Engagement Fund

We are so proud to offer support for Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals and/or organizations who would like to develop an HIV and/or AIDS related research project. Up to **\$10,000** is available per project!

The application deadline is **May 1, 2020**.

For more information, please visit:
www.ahacentre.ca/community-engagement-fund.html

Expression of Interest – Reference Group for the Appropriate Review of Indigenous Research Membership

CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC are seeking Expressions of Interest for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples to participate in **the Reference Group for the Appropriate Review of Indigenous Research**. This group will provide guidance to the agencies on culturally appropriate review approaches and practices for research conducted by and with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.

The call seeks 8-10 individuals who collectively have a deep cultural understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Métis research—including Indigenous Knowledges—to facilitate the advancement of peer review processes and research practices most appropriate in the domain of Indigenous research. The agencies are welcoming broad perspectives from Elders, youth, Knowledge Keepers and academics (at various career stages) to be members of the Reference Group.

Let's flood the Tri-Council with applications!

The deadline to apply is March 13, 2020. For more information, please visit:
<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51810.html>

Suggested Reading

The coin model of privilege and critical allyship: implications for health

Stephanie Nixon

Health inequities are widespread and persistent, and the root causes are social, political and economic as opposed to exclusively behavioural or genetic. A barrier to transformative change is the tendency to frame these inequities as unfair consequences of social structures that result in disadvantage, without also considering how these same structures give unearned advantage, or privilege, to others. Eclipsing privilege in discussions of health equity is a crucial shortcoming, because how one frames the problem sets the range of possible solutions that will follow. If inequity is framed exclusively as a problem facing people who are disadvantaged, then responses will only ever target the needs of these groups without redressing the social structures causing disadvantages. Furthermore, responses will ignore the complicity of the corollary groups who receive unearned and unfair advantage from these same structures. In other words, we are missing the bigger picture. In this conceptualization of health inequity, we have limited the potential for disruptive action to end these enduring patterns.

The goal of this article is to advance understanding and action on health inequities and the social determinants of health by introducing a framework for transformative change: the Coin Model of Privilege and Critical Allyship. First, I introduce the model, which explains how social structures produce both unearned advantage and disadvantage. The model embraces an intersectional approach to understand how systems of inequality, such as sexism, racism and ableism, interact with each other to produce complex patterns of privilege and oppression. Second, I describe principles for practicing critical allyship to guide the actions of people in positions of privilege for resisting the unjust structures that produce health inequities. The article is a call to action for all working in health to (1) recognize their positions of privilege, and (2) use this understanding to reorient their approach from saving unfortunate people to

www.ahacentre.ca

working in solidarity and collective action on systems of inequality.

To access the full article go to:

<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-019-7884-9?fbclid=IwAR38CcuKoLe2R3ldz4r6m55WB29TD2-1ZLErXForgb7Vhkg-9R7vNSnrlfQ>

New Resources to Share

Strengthening Indigenous Research Capacity

The strategic plan is published by the federal research granting agencies —the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council — and fulfills a priority of the Canada Research Coordinating Committee to co-develop with Indigenous Peoples an interdisciplinary research and research training model that contributes to reconciliation.

www.ahacentre.ca/partner-resources.html

Adapting the Community Readiness Model

CAAN and the AHA Centre are proud to have supported the “Adapting the Community Readiness Model (CRM) for HIV/AIDS Prevention, Education and Screening with Inuit Communities Developing Strategies for HIV Prevention with Community Input & Collaboration” project from the stages of grant development, data collection and piloting through to completion. Please read on for more details and a link to the adapted Community-Readiness Model resource.

For more information and to access the resource:

<https://www.pauktuutit.ca/project/adapted-community-readiness-model/>

Nanâtawihowin Âcimowina Kika-Môshahkinikêhk Papiksîci-Itascikêwin Astâcikowina [Medicine/Healing Stories Picked, Sorted, Stored]: Adapting the Collective Consensual Data Analytic Procedure (CCDAP) as an Indigenous Research Method

Danette Starblanket, Sebastien Lefebvre, Marlin Legare, Jen Billan, Nicole Akan, Erin Goodpipe, and Carrie Bourassa

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1609406919896140>

To the Beat of Our Own Drum: African, Caribbean and Black Canadian Elders on Aging with HIV

Our friends and colleagues at Realize launched this first of its kind resource to commemorate the 6th African, Caribbean and Black Canadian HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on February 7, 2020.

<https://www.realizecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/To-The-Beat-Of-Our-Own-Drum-EN.pdf>

Resources from the Public Health Agency of Canada

Syphilis infographic 2018 data

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/reports-publications/canada-communicable-disease-report-ccdr/monthly-issue/2019-45/issue-11-november-7-2019/article-5-infectious-syphilis-canada-2009-2018.html>

2018 HIV surveillance report in CDR Dec 2019 issue

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/reports-publications/canada-communicable-disease-report-ccdr.html>

PHAC U=U factsheet for healthcare professionals

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/hiv-factsheet-undetectable-untransmittable-health-professionals.html>

Contact Us

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments:

<http://www.ahacentre.ca/contact-us.html>