



Honouring Our Strengths: Indigenous Culture as Intervention in Addictions Treatment
Supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research

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April 2013

Hello Everyone!

In April we have been working hard on the many aspects of our project, and all in preparation for a July National Treatment Centre Gathering.

Integration of Findings from Focus Groups and Scoping Study: Now that the environmental scan focus groups have been successfully completed, we are moving on to the next exciting phases of our research process: Data review, analysis, and integration. This involves working with information we collected through four different processes that each look at the information from a slightly different lens. Integration of these results is an important task and we are currently planning how best to do it. Our core team plans to meet several times before the National Treatment Centre Gathering in July to discuss and organize the synthesis of information from all processes and we will also review this at our full team teleconferences.

Scoping Study: The Scoping Study Committee met in April to review our progress. With the valuable help of our members we have reviewed over 100 scientific articles. To date 25 of these articles have been accepted for further review because they involve Indigenous or First Nations populations in treatment for addictions or substance abuse, have a cultural intervention, and examine holistic wellness outcomes. Over the next month we will be extracting important information from all included articles to help build a summary of findings that we will integrate and share at the National Gathering. We are also in the process of screening approximately 30 reports from the grey literature to see whether they are potentially useful for our work. Information from these reports will be extracted and summarized for the Gathering.

National Treatment Centre Gathering: We have drafted a preliminary agenda for our July 23-25, 2013 Gathering in Alberta. Over the next month or so we will be further developing our plan to help ensure that we meet our objectives while applying our understanding of Two-Eyed Seeing. We will be sure to build in enjoyable activities too to help us come together as a group.

Please be in touch at anytime to share your input and ideas about these or any other aspects of the project going forward by emailing or calling me, Margo Rowan at mar805@mail.usask.ca or 613-841-7520, or our Project Manager, Barb Fornssler, at barb.fornssler@usask.ca or 306-966-7894.