



December 2012 & January 2013

Happy New Year to Everyone!

This newsletter combines events from December 2012 and January 2013 so there is much to report.

Environmental Scan Focus Group Gatherings: We have made amazing progress on the environmental scan focus groups. In total we have held nine focus group gatherings at Rising Sun, NB, Wolastoquewiyk, NB, Nelson House, MB, White Buffalo, SK, Ekweskeet Healing Lodge, SK, Leading Thunderbird, SK, Saulteaux Healing and Wellness Centre, SK, Nenqayni Wellness Centre, BC, and Tsow-Tun Le Lum Society, BC. We are looking forward to the following upcoming final gatherings in February or March this year at Nimkee NupiGawagan Healing Centre Inc , ON, Carrier Sekani, BC (to be confirmed), and Wanaki Treatment Centre, QC.

Systematic Review: Our first Systematic Review Group virtual training session was held on December 20, 2012. Issues were raised by the Group about whether a scoping study would be more appropriate to complement the findings coming out of the Treatment Centre focus groups. Based on an informed discussion with the Group on January 16, 2013 and further discussions at the HOS: CasI full team meeting on January 21, 2013, we have decided to move forward with a scoping study. We believe that a scoping study is an appropriate and responsive change in our direction that will allow us to be more in line with the concept of two-eyed seeing and the joining of Indigenous and scientific knowledge. Furthermore, we can build on the scoping study to perhaps conduct a systematic review in the future. More than half of the 3,884 articles have been screened along with all of grey literature we have found so far. Mike Martin and Randy Duncan will begin the next stage in the process by validating the initial screening of the literature in upcoming months.

Upcoming Presentations: On February 27, 2013, Carol will be making a key note address to the Chiefs of Ontario Health Forum. She will be providing key insights about First Nations cultural practices and data gathering for our project.

National Forum: Our National Forum gathering is set for July 30, 31 and August 1, 2013 in Winnipeg.

Project Staff: Michelle Kushniruk is leaving our project at the end of January and Dr. Barb Fornssler will be coming on board. We greatly appreciate the contribution that Michelle has made and wish her much success in the future. We also welcome Dr. Randy Duncan as a research employee on our team.

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 Rowankeon@rogers.com or 613-841-7520, or our new project coordinator, Barb Fornssler, at Barb.Fornssler@usask.ca or 306-966-7894.