



October 2013

Hi Everyone!

Lots of progress has been made on our project this month! Find out more below...

Cultural Interventions

Through environmental scan focus groups and discussions at the National Treatment Centres Gathering in July 2013, we identified a draft set of 22 cultural interventions. Treatment Centres have been provided with this draft set. In the spirit of community engagement and support, they will be having conversations with their invited communities to reflect on whether these cultural interventions appropriately reflect what they offer and provide to help their clients achieve wellness from addictions.

The London Group

The “London Group” is the Indigenous knowledge side of our research team led by Elder Dumont and joined by Mary, Carol, Laura, and Virgil. They are working to ensure that the knowledge received from Treatment Centres, during the environmental scan process and at the summer Gathering, is accurately reflected in the draft instrument to measure wellness from cultural interventions. They have met on two occasions, September 27-29 and October 30-31, in London, Ontario (hence the name). From these meetings they have produced an initial set of client statements and observer questions under Heart, Spirit, Mental, and Physical areas of the Wellness Framework. The research team will be meeting in November to determine our next steps to help put together a cohesive instrument for piloting with Treatment Centres.

Upcoming Meetings, Presentations, and Communications:

Here's what is coming up over the next couple of months:

- October 10, Colleen will be speaking at the “Best Brains Exchange” hosted by CIHR.
- October 22, Focussed Discussion on Integrating Cultural Supports into Service Delivery, Carol & Jim.
- October 24, Honouring Our Strengths Renewal Leadership Team, Carol, Colleen & Mike.
- In November, Carol & Colleen will be presenting at the CCSA hosted Issues of Substance conference.
- Video 3 reflecting on Treatment Centre's involvement in the project to date will be released in the next week or so for you to review and comment on before it goes public!

Please be in touch at any time 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.