



Chiefs of Ontario  
**13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
HEALTH FORUM**



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# HEALTH UPDATE

*“Knowledge Transfer: Sharing our  
Stories, Sharing our Strengths”*

# First Nation Health System Transformation in Ontario

Lily Menominee-Batise, Health Information Policy Analyst



Under the direction of Leadership the Chiefs of Ontario Health Department, HCU and OCCOH, have been working in partnership with First Nations to assist in defining a Health System Transformation process that is responsive to the diverse and unique needs of our member communities

Since this time, COO Health has supported/co-facilitated a series of First Nation engagement sessions with Leadership, health providers and community members throughout the province to identify health transformation requirements and visions – specifically, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Anishinabek Nation, Grand Council Treaty #3, the Independent First Nations, AIAI (Tyendinaga, Oneida, Hiawatha), and Six Nations of the Grand River

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# First Nation Health System Transformation in Ontario (CON'TD)



Preliminary findings from the First Nation Engagement Sessions have been very informative. Recognizing that there are many commonalities for First Nation Health System Transformation recommendations, these forums have also assisted in clearly identifying how and why communities are unique and the importance for establishing systems of governance that responsive to our First Nations.

## **NEXT STEPS:**

Chiefs of Ontario is in the process of completing the Regional Engagement meetings; develop a regional report and in the new fiscal year 2020, will convene a broader validation session on the findings.

# Mental Health/Addictions

Bernadette deGonzague, Senior Policy Analyst



## Regional training:

- Incident Management Systems Certified training (IMS 100 and 200) (2 sessions).
- Implementation of First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework
- Trauma – Informed Approaches to Care (3 sessions).
- Completed baseline Opioid Surveillance Study in partnership with Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences. The Report was released in the Fall of 2018 to the Chiefs in Assembly (on USB)
- Literature Review: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome to identify focus areas for future policy and program needs.



# **Mental Health/Addictions (Cont'd)**



## **Health Human Resources Strategy;**

(mandated by Resolution 18/18)

- First planning meeting held with Mental Health and Addictions Working Group

## **Indigenous Midwifery Summit::**

- Representative at AFN Mental Wellness Committee;
- Provide technical support to Health Coordination Unit, Ontario Chiefs' Committee on Health, Chiefs in Assembly.

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# Mental Health/Addictions (Cont'd)



## Future Directions:

1. Further research on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Opioid Surveillance.
2. Further develop Health Human Resources Strategy.
3. Support further Regional Training opportunities for front-line workers to build capacity.
4. Explore opportunities with Federal and Provincial governments to improve access to Mental Wellness services and implementation of the Mental Wellness Continuum Framework.

# NIHB Navigators

Miryan Castro/Emily King



North and South Navigators receive calls from First Nation citizens, health workers, communities, and health providers for assistance; some of the roles Navigators do are with access, awareness and advocacy:

Assist clients with access to NIHB benefits by understanding the client need and the process to access NIHB benefits, service or item, in order to meet that need.

Assisting clients to increase understanding of the NIHB processes through information booths, information sessions, presentations and communication tools

Advocating for clients by liaising with First Nations, service organizations, providers, agencies, or federal and provincial program to provide a time sensitive response for complex case/issues.

# NIHB Navigators



## Regional Work:

- Coordinates the Ontario NIHB Networking Group comprised Reps from PTOs and Independents. The purpose is to address NIHB issues at a technical level and to bring them to FNIHB Ontario Region. Currently the NIHB Networking Group has been reviewing the NIHB Joint Review Benefit Recommendations.
- Northern Navigator is the Ontario Rep for the NIHB National Joint Review Steering Committee
- Both Southern and Northern Navigator take issues to the National Navigator Network (coordinated by AFN) and meet with the NIHB Headquarters annually.
- The Navigators are currently looking at ways to support families with extended stays away from home and seeking hospital care.

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# **Jordan's Principle**

## **Emily King, Jordan's Principle Liaison**



The purpose of the Jordan's Principle Liaison role is to work with the PTO Jordan's Principle Navigators and the Ontario Region Jordan's Principle Focal Point and Team in addressing cases and process issues. Some of the other objectives being worked on:

Develop a strategy for Jordan's Principle Implementation for Ontario  
A draft Ontario Jordan's Principle Discussion Paper was circulated for feedback.

A Jordan's Principle Forum to be planned in the spring; purpose is to provide opportunity on networking and knowledge sharing on various ways Jordan's Principle is being utilized and accessed.

The Jordan's Principle Liaison also sits on the ISC's Jordan's Principle Oversight Committee (JPOC) and AFN's Jordan Principle Action Table. (JPAT)

# Public Health/Emergency Management

Linda Ogilvie, Public Health Advisor



## Trilateral First Nations Health Senior Officials Committee

### Accomplishments:

- First Nations engagement on the modernization of the Ontario Public Health Standards and Relationship with First Nation Communities Guideline completed.
- Policy Brief on Determinants of First Nations Health Completed.
- Continued support for/information sharing on SLFNHA's Approaches to Community Wellbeing and WAHA's public health model development.

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# Public Health/Emergency Management (Cont'd)



## Trilateral First Nations Health Senior Officials Committee:

- Development of Cultural Competency Training Modules to be used for relationship building between Public Health Units and their nearest First Nation Communities-evaluation to be completed fiscal year: 2019-2020.
- Oral Health Pilots completed and transitioned into programs.
- Working with ISC/FNIHB and the potential expansion of COHI (Children's Oral Health Initiative) into other First Nation Communities.
- Representation on the AFN-National Public Health Committee.

# Public Health/Emergency Management (Cont'd)



## Future Direction:

1. Connecting with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for updates on drinking water.
2. Explore options to strengthen the role of Public Health for children and youth  
Strengthen the work in the development of guideline's/best practices in the area of Tuberculosis and Sexually Transmitted Blood Borne Infections for communities.

## Emergency Management:

Emergency Management Summit held January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 2019. Representatives from First Nation communities developed a set of guiding principles to inform a future Emergency Management Plan for First Nations in Ontario.



# Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council

Megan Logan – Youth Coordinator

Tristen Schneider, Integrated Mental Health Coordinator



*Mandated to discuss, address, and provide a unified voice on regional and national priorities affecting First Nations youth in the communities. Through youth engagement and capacity building, the OFNYPC strives to empower young people to lead change and contribute to decision-making processes in their communities*

## **2018-2019 Activities:**

- “Stories from our Roots” – Life Promotion project that facilitates storytelling through the use of digital media technology
  - Series of 3 youth gatherings to date; potentially 1 more
- Active participation in Chiefs Assemblies, ‘Ontario Special Study’ on Child Welfare, OSAP Transformation, various political/technical tables

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# Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council



## Upcoming:

- Youth Gathering: Uses of Traditional Tobacco and creation of Cannabis Toolkit (March 22-24, 2019)
- Indigenous Services Canada – Youth engagement event, creation of implementation strategy and reporting as Ontario-Canada Joint Gathering
- OFNYPC Retreat – Team building, strategizing, updating Terms of Reference

# Health Research and Data Management Sector

*Dr. Pam Johnson, A/ Research Manager*



## **Mission**

To build a First nations health research and data management system that will respect the principles of OCAP, UNDRIP and recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Report. To conduct research that is First Nation driven, ensuring data sovereignty and First Nations ways of knowing and to create an environment of cooperation and partnership in First Nations research, data management and governance. (Chiefs of Ontario, Research and Data Management Sector strategic Directions, 2017)

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# Health Research and Data Management Sector (cont'd)



## Major Research and Surveillance Projects

**1. *Reducing the burden of Diabetes on First Nations people in Ontario:***

HCU presentation, writing report publications (Atlas, CMAJ, People's Report)

**2. *Prescription Opioid Use:***

Report completed.

**3. *Chronic Conditions:***

Report completed.

**4. *Frailty and Aging:***

HCU project presentation, Report completed-Drafting of Report

**5. *Regional Health Survey Phase III:***

People's Report to be released soon.

**6. *Regional Health Survey Phase IV***

. Planning phase initiated

**7. *First Nations Cancer***

***Surveillance*** – Report completed and released.



# Health Research and Data Management Sector (cont'd)



1. **First Nations Data Governance Committee** has completed the FNDG application and are accepting applications for 2019. Dead line: April 15th.
2. **Internationally:** working with Dr. Ray Lovett - Indigenous data sovereignty – Creating Partnerships for use of Indigenous Data
3. **Models to Implement OCAP®** -Continue to work on models to govern the use and protection of First Nation data

# Home and Community Care

Donna E. Loft, Home Care Advisor



The final meeting of the First Nations Advisory Committee (consisting of members from each PTO/Independents, Six Nations plus MOHLTC members) is pending for the end of March/2019.

2018-2019 - Direct funding has been issued from MOHLTC to each First Nation community with each First Nation maintaining direct control of these home care resources. The base funding of \$55,300.00 will remain for following year(s).

# PALLIATIVE CARE

Donna E. Loft, Home Care Advisor



## PALLIATIVE CARE: MOHLTC:

Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative Care (LEAP) is being delivered by Centre for Education & Research on Aging & Health (CERAH) to health professionals. Upon the finalizing of the LEAP training, all three streams of the culturally appropriate training will be concluded with the final report on these three streams delivered at the Home & Community Care Advisory Committee meeting.

# PALLIATIVE CARE

Donna E. Loft, Home Care Advisor



## PALLIATIVE CARE: FNIHCC

RFPs were sent to First Nations Home Care programs for planning purposes on "Care Planning Workshops", with the focus on developing and advancing solutions to identify resources and challenges that create barriers to accessing palliative care services.

Four (4) proposals submitted and accepted. These planning workshops have until the end of March/2019 for completion.





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# Miigwetch

**Carmen R. Jones  
COO Health Director**