



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
Waakebiness-Bryce Institute for Indigenous Health



### ON-NEIHR Monthly Meeting Minutes

**Date:** July 27, 2021

**Time:** 3:00pm to 5:00pm

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

**In Attendance:** Dr. Suzanne Stewart, Roy Strebel, Luana Shirt, Jenna Wilson, Sarah Ponton, Adriana Gonzales, Elizabeth Virkutis, Darshana, Pauline Shirt, Dr. Maile Taulii, Jeffrey Ansloos, Mikaela Gabriel, Ashley, Ashley Cornect-Benoit, Jay Lu,

**Regrets:**

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION /ACTION
1. Spiritual Opening – Luana Shirt		
2. Welcome and Members' Introduction		
3. Member Check-In		
4. Member Updates	<b>Suzanne</b> – We have been working on several big documents for CIHR – the Annual ON-NEIHR Report and the Evaluation Report. Need updates from everybody – please send to me or Roy. There is no format for the report.	

	<p>Research has been Covid, mental health and homelessness intensive. Have been doing a lot of work with our community partners. The students have been out in the community doing Covid 3 or 4 days a week, since March.</p> <p><b>Jeffrey</b> – Camh FPWC and my lab at U of T are planning a knowledge sharing event for this fall. Will engage front line mental health workers, research leaders across Canada to discuss practices related to suicide risk assessment.</p> <p>There is not a national framework yet guiding suicide risk assessment within Indigenous communities.</p> <p>There will be a component about Indigenous mental health workers – all engaging Indigenous people, including knowledge keepers and young people. See whats happening on the ground.</p> <p>Processing of a theme based ethics review to do a formal climate type survey/evaluation for resources and clinical tools and inventories of what people are using to do crises and suicide and risk assessment in Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Have almost concluded data collection on a review of NIHB mental health providers. Almost 300 responses to our survey. Three main issues, provider preparedness to respond to suicidal risk within Indigenous clients, Cultural Safety and give a quiz on Indigenous peoples issues and history.</p> <p>This will be the first independent evaluation of NIHB’s mental health providers in history.</p> <p>Doing a study in the experiences of Canada’s crises line providers in remote/rural and northern FN and Inuit in Nunavut.</p>	
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	<p>Working on dissertation for a PhD student looking at case studies of 5 different communities that have experienced suicide contagents I the last decade and have recovered.</p> <p>Theme group meeting every two months.</p> <p>Submitted a first draft of the commissioned report for the Lancet on Indigenous Suicide Prevention with six collaborators. Interested in being part of our knowledge sharing in the fall. Talked about the preliminaries, calls for a national strategy on suicide prevention. 2 projects in Canada – Ways in which the First Nations Wellness. Continuum framework has been scaled up. Also, the wise practices for life promotion project through Health Canada – highlight community led initiatives. FNWC will be leading a national youth suicide prevention strategy.</p> <p><b>Luana</b> – Mental Health and Addictions – Holly, Brenda, Alanaise and student Jay. Have a Google Doc that keeps us updated. Collaborating on a paper, to do with Indigenous women in academics spaces, and the impacts it has on Indigenous academics.</p> <p>Have all been working on the ground working with the community and the mental state of our youth – work in Rama, addictions, attempted suicides and suicides.</p> <p>Our group will continue to meet.</p> <p><b>Ashley</b> – Have been working with the tri-agency collaborative. Renee is running late.</p> <p><b>Pauline</b> – Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and ceremonial people. Many are lonely because of the epidemic- missing family connections. My project is evaluation, people I know are talking about our teachings from way back. Have to take care of our Elders.</p>	
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	<p>Grandfather Peter Shirt had a vision in the 80's about the Whitehorse – saved many people. The projects we are doing are crucial.</p> <p><b>Suzanne</b> – People know how long you have been fighting for policy changes along with Verne and others. Changed the Indian Act.</p> <p><b>Pauline</b> – Trudeau chose Mary Simon, she is a beautiful Elder.</p> <p><b>Suzanne</b> – No NEIHR webinar for August. Have put together a list of people from our NEIHR for second year of webinars. If anyone has suggestions. Our theme group are putting up a policy forum in the fall – working out details.</p> <p>Are also working on 2 papers. Still working on evaluation framework. We will send out draft reports and evaluation framework we will have in Sept, not Aug. Look forward to the day when we can meet in person.</p>	
<p>Closing – Elder Pauline Shirt</p>		