



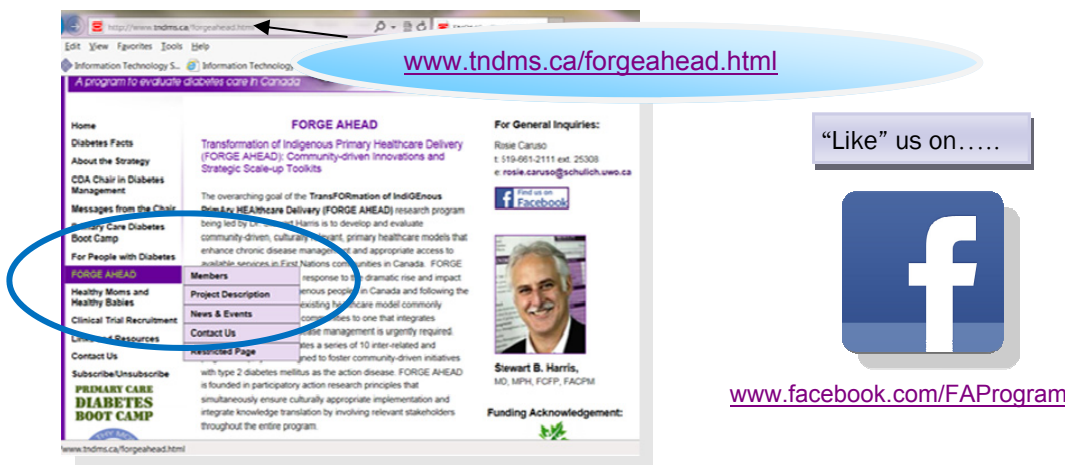
NEWSLETTER

Transformation of Indigenous Primary Healthcare Delivery (FORGE AHEAD):
Community-driven Innovations and Scale-up Toolkits

ISSUE 2, OCTOBER 2013

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Our FORGE AHEAD website is up and running and can be accessed for all key updates on projects and upcoming events, conference announcements, and meeting updates. You can access the FORGE AHEAD page via the National Diabetes Management Strategy (TNDMS) website (www.tndms.ca) All information on the website is public. That being said, project materials subject to privacy and confidentiality requirements will be housed in the password protected "Restricted Page".



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Also, we have a Facebook account "FORGE AHEAD" and we encourage all of our team members and partners to visit and "like". We welcome suggestions as to what additional information you would like for us to include on the Facebook page and feedback as to how you envision using the page, i.e., to chat or to post updates. We will do our best to keep the Facebook page current and incorporate your suggestions.

CAPACITY BUILDING

We are pleased to announce that three students have been hired and will soon begin work on Projects #1: Developing and Conducting a Survey of Indigenous Primary Healthcare and Delivery Models; Project # 2: Determining Existing Best Practices Designed by and for Indigenous Communities and Relevant Healthcare Policies, and Project #3: Community Change Readiness Consultations.

We welcome **Keah Googoo** an undergraduate student who will be working on Project #1 under the supervision of Dr. Ed Barre from Cape Breton University; **Kathleen Rice** a PhD candidate who will be working on Project #2 under the supervision of Dr. Merrick Zwarenstein at Western University and **Rachel Simmons** a graduate student who will be working on Project # 3 under the supervision of Jon Salsberg at McGill University. Thank you to our Mentoring & Training Working Group Leads for coordinating the selection of these promising students.



WORKING WITH REGIONAL COORDINATORS AND HEALTH CANADA

The Western team, along with the Knowledge Translation & Policy Relevance and the Method and Analysis Working Group (Onil Bhattacharyya, Marlene Nose, Mike Green, Tony Hanley and Merrick Zwarenstein) have completed the development of an ***Indigenous Primary Healthcare Capacity and Delivery Models Community Profile Survey*** for **Project #1** that has been approved by our Research Ethics Board. Collaborative discussions with Regional Coordinators and Health Canada are underway to move forward with the distribution of the survey to all 617 First Nations communities across the country. Implementation plans will be tailored for each region with great support from First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) regional offices who will initiate communication with community leaders about the FORGE AHEAD Program, the purpose of the survey, and how to link to the FORGE AHEAD website. Individual community surveys will be accessed and downloaded from the website. Completed surveys will be faxed or returned as PDFs to the research team. In keeping with OCAP principles, all data will be de-identified and no community or community member names and/or results will be shared with other communities or appear in any reports or publications. The information gathered will ultimately inform and direct initiatives in subsequent program projects for participating communities. We look forward to this exciting opportunity to develop a rich and informative database of current primary healthcare delivery and access in First Nations.

COMMUNITY RECRUITMENT

Our Participatory Research Working Group Leads (Jo-Ann Episkenew, Ann Macaulay and Jon Salsberg) provided invaluable guidance and feedback in helping us develop our ***FORGE AHEAD Community Research Agreement*** template that has now been approved by our Research Ethics Board. Community recruitment plans are underway and we are looking forward to engaging communities in participating in the program and partnering with us in making this initiative a success. Our fourteen communities who provided great support and feedback during the application phase will be contacted in the first phase of recruitment. Community representatives and leaders will identify projects they are eligible for and interested in. Site visits or video conferencing information sessions will be made available to provide community leaders with detail about the program prior to signing the research agreement. For more information please follow the link <http://www.tndms.ca/faNews-Program-Description.html> to view our 'Template Community Research Agreement', 'Community Recruitment Plan' and 'Program Background (Q & A)'

READINESS CONSULTATIONS WORKING GROUP

The Readiness Consultations working group (Linda Stanley, Roland Dyck, David Dannenbaum and Sheldon Tobe) in collaboration with the Western team are currently busy developing the Community and Clinical Change Readiness Tools in preparation for the implementation of Projects #3 and #4. Project #3 is focused on community readiness and will produce a tool to be applied by community facilitators that will be trained by the FORGE AHEAD team. Project #4 involves the development of the Clinical Change Readiness Tool. A literature review will be conducted with the aim of identifying current modifiable tools associated with the construct of clinical change readiness as well as the methodology and process required for scoring items and validation of the tool will be developed.

LEVERAGING FORGE AHEAD

We have submitted an application for a planning grant to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in order to hold another face-to-face meeting. The aim of this meeting will be to bring together First Nations representatives from the 9 regions across the country for a day of discussion, guidance and development of strategies to leverage FORGE AHEAD in soliciting additional funds to support our community partners and expand recruitment. Let's all keep our fingers crossed and hope we are successful! In the event that we are successful, we plan to hold this meeting in Toronto, ON in the Fall 2014.

New funding opportunities through CIHR's Pathways to Health Equity for Aboriginal Peoples are expected to surface in November 2013. Keep a close eye on these new exciting opportunities!

CBPHC ANNUAL MEETING

The first Community-based Primary Health Care (CBPHC) Annual Meeting took place on October 28-29, 2013 bringing together the 12 teams funded by this Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) initiative. Teams worked together, with CIHR and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) representatives, to identify a common set of indicators. This proved to be a difficult task given the heterogeneity of the team. Great strides were made to identify opportunities for establishing a national capacity building approach and mechanisms of citizen engagement. For now the work continues to better understand individual team goals and approaches, and to find ways to collaborate across teams.

WESTERN NEWS



It's a GIRL! 

Mariam Naqshbandi Hayward (Western Program Coordinator) and her husband welcomed their precious baby girl, Samantha, into the world on August 18 2013! Mariam is now enjoying maternity leave until September 2014 and we wish her the best as we anxiously await her return.

WE HAVE MADE THE MOVE!

Our team has made the move to a new building and we are adjusting into our new space in the Western Centre for Public Health and Family Medicine. This new modern facility provides tools to enhance our ability to collaborate with external partners. We appreciate your support as we settle in and find our bearings.

Our **new mailing address** is:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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