



NEWSLETTER

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

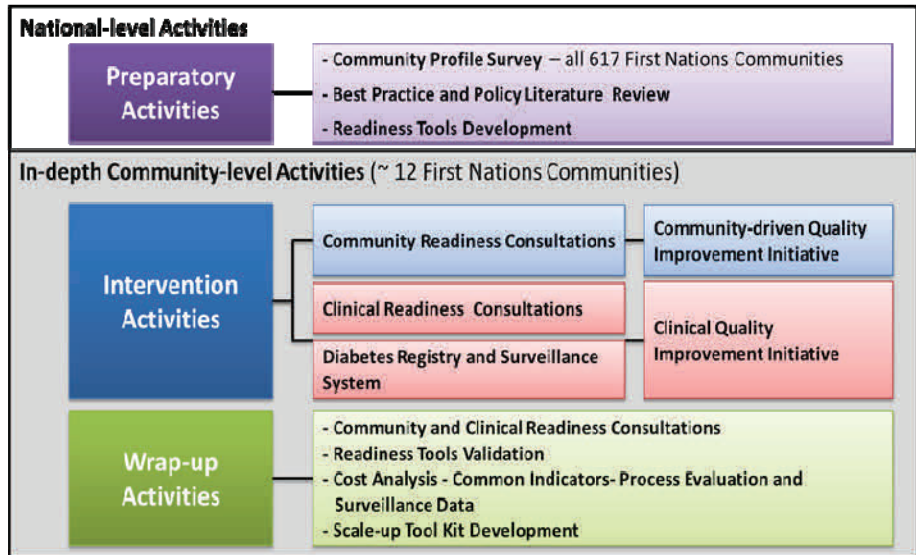
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FORGE AHEAD REDESIGNED

Spring 2014 brought about a reorganization of FORGE AHEAD in order to: 1) maximise eligibility of current community partners, 2) improve feasibility and flexibility for participating communities, and 3) to better align activities and available funding. The main goal and objectives of the program remain the same. The new study design is a mixed-method (qualitative and quantitative), multi-measure, repeated measure (baseline, 6 months, 12 months and 18 months) observational design and cost analysis that will include a chart review, surveys, and interviews.

An overview of the various program activities is outlined in the diagram below and available at: <http://www.tndms.ca/forgeahead/index.html>

The program will include 3 waves of implementation. Two teams will be identified from each community to participate in program activities: a Community Team and a Clinical Team. The teams will participate in the Community and Clinical Readiness Consultations and Quality Improvement Initiatives to help identify community needs, strengths and challenges and find new ways to care for people with diabetes in their individualized settings.



Community Facilitators will be trained by the FORGE AHEAD team to work closely with the Community and Clinical Teams as they develop, implement and evaluate innovations to improve diabetes prevention and enhance the quality of care available for people with type 2 diabetes. Also, Community Data Coordinators will be trained to help develop or update a registry and surveillance system of people in the community with type 2 diabetes. The data in the surveillance system will be used during the program to help guide quality improvement work and to help assess the impact of the program. Throughout the program, teams will be encouraged to heighten the linkages between type 2 diabetes community and clinical care programs to better align efforts and resources.

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FORGE AHEAD PROGRESS UPDATE

The entire FORGE AHEAD Team has been extremely busy and productive over the spring and summer...and now fall! Key progress updates include:

- The Community Readiness Consultation Tool has been adapted and finalized
- The Clinical Readiness Consultation Tool has been developed and finalized
- The Community Profile Survey has been distributed in most regions of Canada including: Pacific Region, parts of Alberta Region, Saskatchewan Region, Manitoba Region, parts of Ontario Region, Quebec Region, and Atlantic Region
- Implementation is now underway in our six Wave 1 communities!

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING— SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

Thank you to all those who attended the September 10th Steering Committee Meeting in London. The meeting provided a great opportunity to meet face-to-face with many of our community partners, a few researchers and collaborators. In total, the meeting was attended by 26 team members from coast to coast. The meeting goals of building partnerships and involving the team in discussions and shared decision-making around the feasibility and cultural appropriateness of planned activities and tools, and future funding opportunities were achieved. The meeting began with a review of progress to date and highlighted the readiness tools that have now been developed and are ready for use in our program. Two break-out sessions were held when participants provided expertise and input into either the community-driven quality improvement initiative or the clinical quality improvement initiative. An introduction to the web-based registry and surveillance system was provided and the day ended with individuals sharing their thoughts on the meeting and the program as a whole. The hope placed on the potential for this research program to change diabetes care was articulated and the passion and commitment of everyone in the room was inspirational.



Photograph taken in London, ON at the Steering Committee Meeting on September 10, 2014

FACILITATOR TRAINING



Photograph taken in London, ON at the Community Facilitators' Training Workshop on September 11, 2014

Community Facilitators from six of our partnering communities attended a two-day training workshop on September 11th and 12th to prepare them for their roles and responsibilities as Wave 1 implementation begins. Community Facilitators are the key people from each partnering community who will guide, support and lead the Community and Clinical Teams through a process to improve diabetes care through community-driven innovations. The training workshop was a success, not only from a learning perspective, but also in terms of building relationships and collaborative energies amongst the growing FORGE AHEAD Team. The training was organized by the Western Team, and included the additional expertise of Linda Stanley (Colorado State University), Mike Hindmarsh (Hindsight Healthcare), and Alex McComber (Educator – Kahnawake Mohawk Territory). Although the Community Facilitators have now returned to their communities, they will continue to learn and receive additional training throughout the program.

DATA COORDINATOR TRAINING

The Western Team began individualized training sessions for our Wave 1 Community Data Coordinators on October 2nd via GoToMeeting that allows for simultaneous screen sharing and audio visual conferencing. The training focuses on specific tasks and project timelines that the Data Coordinators will be engaged in, including: a review of their roles and responsibilities, how to use the computer equipment, how to conduct chart audits, and how to enter data into the registry and surveillance system, First Nation Diabetes Surveillance System (FNDSS). The content of the training is tailored specifically to their individual needs and can take 3-4 hours over two sessions. During the training, Community Data Coordinators get an opportunity for hands-on practice in navigating and entering data into the system.

NEW RESOURCES ADDED TO WEBSITE

VISIT US AT: <http://www.tndms.ca/forgeahead/index.html>

As the central access point for FORGE AHEAD communication, updates, and materials, the content of the website was expanded to include a number of resources and tools for partnering communities. A new Community Resources Page has been added (see below) that houses presentations, program materials including consent forms and training materials for both our Community Facilitators and Data Coordinators. The site includes both public information and a restricted page to house materials that are subject to privacy and confidentiality requirements. To learn more about what is available on the FORGE AHEAD website please visit our home page to find our Website Navigation Instructions on the right-hand side of the page.

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the website www.tndms.ca/forgeahead.html. The main header features the text 'The NATIONAL DIABETES MANAGEMENT STRATEGY' and 'A program to evaluate diabetes care in Canada' alongside images of a laptop, a person's face, and a clipboard. The main content area is titled 'FORGE AHEAD' and includes a section for '«Résumé français»' with a sub-heading 'Transformation of Indigenous Primary Healthcare Delivery (FORGE AHEAD): Community-driven Innovations and Strategic Scale-up Toolkits'. Below this is a paragraph describing the program's goal. A sidebar on the right contains a 'Members' menu with links to 'Community Surveys', 'Community Resources Page', 'Program Description', 'News & Events', 'Contact US', and 'Restricted Log-in Only'. A 'Website Navigation Instructions' button is also visible. A blue arrow points to the URL in the browser's address bar, and another blue arrow points to the 'FORGE AHEAD' section header.

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

VISIT US AT: www.facebook.com/FAProgram



Come like us on Facebook! We encourage everyone interested to visit our Facebook page and make suggestions of information you would like for us to include. Stay tuned for photos of FORGE AHEAD activities taking place in our partnering communities as implementation for those in Wave 1 is underway!

STUDENTS

Kathleen Rice is an anthropology student at the University of Toronto, working towards the completion of her PhD. Through her work on the literature review of Indigenous diabetes policy and research, Kate has taken up an instrumental role in the project through data collection, data analysis, and the writing of manuscripts.

Rachel Simmons is a Masters student at McGill University, and has been working on the readiness tool and will continue her role through implementation and scoring of the readiness questionnaires. Rachel has also been involved in training of the Community Facilitators for the readiness consultations. Through her work with FORGE AHEAD, she will be presenting some of her research at the upcoming North American Primary Care Research Group Conference.

Braden Te Hiwi is a kinesiology student at Western University working towards the completion of a PhD. Braden joined the FORGE AHEAD Team in the spring of 2014 and has had a number of roles within FORGE AHEAD, including work on the readiness consultations and the training of the Community Facilitators. Braden brings a background in Indigenous research to complement the existing skills within the FORGE AHEAD Team.

Emily Nguyen is an undergraduate student at Western University who has joined the FORGE AHEAD Team as part of her academic career through a program called Scholars Elective which teams up students with Faculty to participate in, and gain experience with health research projects. Emily is a valued team member who has primarily worked on the Community Profile Survey, including work on data collection and communication with participating communities.

UPCOMING KEY DATES AND EVENTS

CDA Annual Conference

October 22-25, 2014 in Winnipeg, Manitoba

NAPCGR Annual Meeting

November 21-25, 2014 in New York, New York

CBPHC Networking Event at NAPCRG

November 23, 2014 from 2:30-3:30pm in the Columbia Room at the New York Marriott Marquis. The event will be co-hosted by the 12 Teams Capacity Building Committee and the Canadian Primary Health Care Research & Innovation Network. RSVP to Louisa.bestard-denomme@schulich.uwo.ca

FORGE AHEAD Poster Presentation at NAPCRG

November 22, 2014 from 9:30-10:40am in the Astor Ballroom

FORGE AHEAD Workshop#1

Save the date! January 27 - 30th, 2015. Invitations to come soon.

WESTERN NEWS

Mariam Naqshbandi Hayward has returned from her maternity leave to her role as the Program Coordinator of the FORGE AHEAD Program. Jann Paquette-Warren will continue to be part of FORGE AHEAD to help with transitions and to support various aspects of the program as a Project Coordinator.

The FORGE AHEAD email account (forgeahead@schulich.uwo.ca) is intended to facilitate and streamline communication and to avoid vacation/away messages from individual staff. Please rest assured that the FORGE AHEAD account is checked daily during normal business hours and emails sent to the account are re-directed to the correct person on the Western Team for follow-up.

CONTACT US

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