

Research and Knowledge Translation Newsletter

INDIGENOUS HEALTH RESEARCH ETHICS IN CLINICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

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The Indigenous Health Research Ethics in Clinical Research Symposium hosted by BC NEIHR (BC's Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research), the BC SUPPORT Unit, and Indigenous leaders in BC took place on April 16, at the UBC Vancouver Campus - Alumni Centre. This event brought together those working in the health research space, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to further advance the important

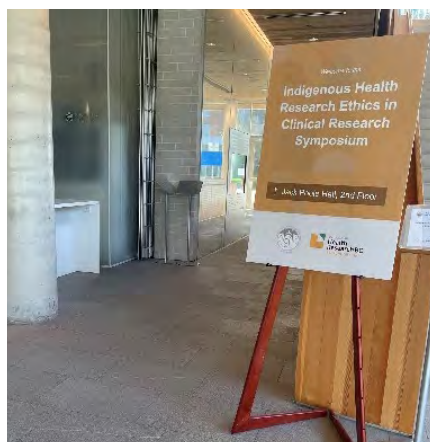
work to support Indigenous health research at system, structural, programmatic (ethics perspective), and personal levels.

To accomplish this, the symposium's broad objectives were:

- Advance the engagement and understanding of Indigenous health research ethics in clinical practice.
- Provide networking, a convening space, and provide mentorship.

- Support research talent development opportunities for Indigenous scholars, students, and early-career clinicians and researchers.

The symposium was a full day of dedicated learning, sharing, and discussing with Indigenous leaders and allies who are at the forefront of advancing Indigenous health research work in BC. Notably, there was a diverse representation of sectors and



“ This gathering represents an important milestone in the journey of engaging in relationship-building between Indigenous health researchers, trainees, and research ethics leaders in BC's health research ecosystem. By bridging the gap between Indigenous knowledge and existing clinical research ethics processes, we have an opportunity to enhance cultural safety in the system. This will help to transform clinical research ethics and improve Indigenous health outcomes. ”

– **Dr. Krista Stelkia**, Co-Director, Centre for Collaborative Action on Indigenous Health Governance, Simon Fraser University





organizations including academia (researchers and graduate students), research ethics board members, health authorities, granting agencies, Indigenous collectives, communities and organizations, and the BC Ministry of Health.

Importantly, symposium organizers put together a pre-symposium preparation package that asked participants to reflect and understand their own journey of cultural safety and reconciliation work. As an example, some of the questions to prepare participants prior to the event included:

- Where do I start in my knowledge of participating in culturally safe ways with Indigenous people?
- How can I approach (culturally safety) with the necessary self-awareness and humility?

- Who am I? What relation do I have with Indigenous health research ethics?
- What do I know about Indigenous health research ethics? Do I feel like I have more to learn or share in discussions of this nature?
- How can I show up as a listener and observer on the symposium?
- What assumptions and what pieces of knowledge do I already hold? Do I need to put any of these aside?

In addition to the pre-event reflection questions, there were some resources shared including:

Podcast from BC NEIHR by Harley Eagle [“Creating Safer Spaces”](#). Harley Eagle is an Indigenous cultural safety and humility consultant.

Companion guide: [Culturally Safe Engagement: What Matters to](#)

[Indigenous \(First Nations, Métis and Inuit\) Patient Partners?](#)
By Health Quality BC.

It is appropriate to note that the symposium preparation package also contained questions for participants to ponder and reflect during and after the event, this through planned debrief meetings that took place during May. These debrief meetings particularly focused in the learnings acquired during the event and by exploring the resources provided, — and importantly, the way to personally and institutionally advance in cultural safety and reconciliation work with Indigenous partners and communities. As an example, there is a clear interest to support Indigenous led research ethics boards that are naturally more connected and responsive to individual community needs. Significantly, this could orient and



prioritize the type of research and knowledge sharing mechanisms proposed by Indigenous communities and groups.

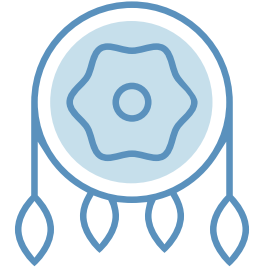
Finally, a selection of recent Indigenous resources that were presented during the symposium that are recommended readings for meaningful and respectful Indigenous work:

1. [Indigenous Cultural Safety in Research Framework: A Supportive Environment for Indigenous-led Health Research](#) by BC NEIHR.
2. [Environmental Scan of Indigenous Engagement Guidelines for Health Research and Program Evaluation](#) prepared by Dr. Rheanna Robinson (UNBC) and Bev Best, JASE Consulting.
3. Journal article: [Genomic Research Through an Indigenous Lens: Understanding the Expectations](#) By Garrison et al. (2029)

A FINAL REFLECTION AND CALL TO ACTION

We recognize that our allyship continue beyond the attendance of such events and that that we must understand the powerful “allied” role we can play, in particular while enabling activities or structures that can be led by Indigenous practitioners. While symposia like this force us to pause, reflect, and ponder, we must as individuals commit to continuing on our journey of unlearning and learning.

This includes actively creating space for Indigenous perspectives and voices, and challenging practices that uphold the status quo and continue to perpetuate harm. Increasingly focus on honoring different forms of knowledge, more time for authentic engagement, more capacity building and opportunity for Indigenous perspectives and practitioners and respectfully but proactively identify ways we can support the Indigenous work and focus of Northern Health and regional partners. As a system, we realize that this may require doing things differently—no matter how unconventional or uncomfortable, as we hold steadfast in our commitment to advance reconciliation and cultural safety.



FIVE DAYS IN MAY – SUMMARY OF EVALUATION AND AVAILABLE RECORDINGS



By: Editorial team

The 12th edition of Five Days in May (FDIM) was successfully organized by Island Health, Northern Health, Interior Health, Fraser Health, and the BC Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research (BC NEIHR). This edition brought together near 1,000 participants throughout the month, showcased 30+ online presenters and included new activities such as a film presentation.

The following table includes the five main online events and the links to each recording.

Date	Event
May 2	Keeping the golden Years Bright: Enhancing Quality of Life for Seniors
May 9	Artificial Intelligence: Navigating the Future in Health and Research
May 16	Advancing Medicine and Care in Mental Health
May 23	Bright Futures: Engaging Youth in Health Research
May 30	Indigenous-Led Health Research: Fostering Wellness, Strengthening Knowledge

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVALUATION

Participants by region:

Island region	39.0%
Northern region	23.0%
Fraser region	23.0%
Interior region	8.0%
Vancouver Coastal region	3.5%
Other	3.5%

Participants by role:

Health Professional	57%
Other*	18.5%
Researcher	16.5%
Patient-partner or Community member	11.5%
Health systems decision maker/ administrator	11.5%
Student	2.5%
Government / health policy administrator	2.5%

* Other participants include: *Quality improvement staff; Environmental sustainability interns; Practice improvement coach; Member of the public at glance; Research and KT support; Vocational rehabilitation consultant; Health research agency staff, and more.*

- **9 in 10** participants were satisfied or very satisfied with: the event overall; the presentations and moderated discussion.
- **9 in 10** participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the registration process and event communications.
- **3 in 4 participants** were satisfied or very satisfied with the use of Slido to submit questions and comments.
- 2024 edition **doubled** the participation of patient-partners and community members as participants over last year.



WHAT ABOUT THIS EVENT WORKED WELL?

- Speakers were engaging, knowledgeable, content of presentations were well researched, presented and relevant to challenges facing healthcare workers today. Very organized with amazing presentations and opening.
- Registration and the tech side of it all!
- Varied speakers and backgrounds. Keeping Q&A outside of chat was great. Shared resources/references retained within chat.
- The speaker variety (areas of expertise) yielded opinions and knowledge that resulted in an expert, balanced approach and experience for all attendees and presenters.



WILL YOU SEE YOU NEXT YEAR?

Yes	85.5 %
Maybe	14 %

Are you a researcher, member of a research team or a patient-partner interested to present in 2025 as part of your knowledge translation and engagement activities? We would like to hear from you! Reach out to: marcelo.bravo@northernhealth.ca to discuss opportunities and details.

Note: Evaluation based on post-event survey responses



NEW RESEARCH STUDIES IN THE NORTH



NH continues to expand its research supports that contribute to relevant research and scientific discoveries strengthening Northern and provincial research capacity.

The following list includes the latest authorized research studies from April to June 2024.

#	Principal Investigator	Institution	NH Affiliated Team Member	Study Title	HDSA/ Area	Facility
1	Emilie Joos	UBC	N/A	Mapping General Surgery and Surgical Specialty Services in Rural British Columbia: An Environmental Scan	All	All NH facilities
2	Elly Park	UBC	N/A	Primary Care Mental Health and Substance Use Clinicians: Evaluating Counselling Self-efficacy	All	MHSU Clinicians at all NH facilities
3	Gwen DuBois-Wing	Royal Roads University	Emelye Macfarlane	Exploring Leaders Experiences in the Health Career Access Program	All	All NH facilities
4	Matthias Goerges	UBC		REACHOUT NexGEN: A virtual care platform for peer-led mental health support in adolescents with type 1 diabetes (T1D) – Phase 2 [Pilot Feasibility Study]	All	NH Diabetes Clinics/ Education Centre
5	Mahesh Menon	UBC	N/A	Promoting cognitive health in schizophrenia	PG	Prince George Early psychosis intervention (EPI team), Community Outreach and Assertive Services Team (COAST)/ Community Acute Stabilization Team (CAST) Northern Interior



6	Claire Seaton	UBC	Kirsten Miller	Clinical characteristics and outcomes of hospitalized children with acute respiratory infections in British Columbia: The READAPT-Kids BC study	All	Fort St John Hospital, University Hospital of Northern British Columbia, Mills memorial Hospital
7	Bill Miller	UBC	Idowu Koledoye, Amanda Johnston,	Self-management for amputee rehabilitation using technology (SMART) program: a peer supported mHealth approach for rehabilitation after lower limb amputation	PG	Prince George, NI Health units
8	Kim Nguyen Chi	BC Cancer	N/A	Biobank of Predictive Biomarkers in Genitourinary (GU) Cancers	All	Mills Memorial Hospital, Fort St. John Hospital, University Hospital of Northern British Columbia
9	Harleen Chohan	UBC	N/A	The Perception of Mannequin Based Simulation Learning in Hospital Pharmacy	All	All NH facilities (virtual survey)
10	Caroline Sanders	UNBC	Ibolya Agoston	Nurse Bridging Education: Optimization, innovation, and sustainability across the nursing continuum.	All	None
11	David Moore	BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/ AIDS	Rakel Kling	The STOP HIV/AIDS Program Evaluation (SHAPE) Study 2.0	PG	Prince George AIDS Prevention Program / Needle Exchange



NH'S LIBRARY NEWS

Library Services has launched a new [Literature Search Request form](#) for NH's staff seeking research support. The literature search service is a comprehensive search of peer-reviewed research and resources and provides staff with a collection of existing data relating to their topic for use in their practice and patient care. Data collected through the new request form will streamline the request process and produce quicker turnaround times for results. For a tutorial of the new form and any other inquiries, email library@northernhealth.ca.

EVENTS, GRANTS AND MORE

Putting Patients First 2024 "Building Learning Communities" – Call for Submissions and Save the Date!

This year's conference showcases why learning

communities are important enablers of change in the health and health research ecosystems.

The BC SUPPORT Unit is inviting submissions for posters that address or explore challenges and opportunities for health system research and improvement. Submissions must be for collaboration-based work that shows how learning communities were involved.

Submission deadline: **August 11, 2024, 11:59 pm PST**. [Read about the submission details](#).

Save the Date! Putting Patient First Conference will be on **November 14, 2024** in Vancouver BC. [Learn about the conference](#).

UNBC Health Research Institute Upcoming Seminars Series

The Health Research Seminar Series provide space for students and faculty to engage in discussions about current

health research from across programs and campuses within and outside of UNBC.

Sep 19, 2024 from 12.30 – 2.00 pm in person and via Zoom.

Presenter: First Nations Health Authority. Title to be defined. Future details [here](#).

The Library of Lived Experience: Project opportunity

The Library of Lived Experience: A Virtual space shaped by people who have lived experience with neurodevelopmental conditions in childhood and adolescence.

The Library of Lived Experience project seeks to create a unique virtual space shaped by people (patients, family members and caregivers) with lived experience of neurodevelopmental conditions and their experiences with the healthcare system. Using an open-source, online learning tool developed at the UBC called [Tapestry](#), the Library will allow contributors to share valuable knowledge, identify problems for discussion and explore solutions. The library project aims to make the health care system more responsive to the needs of kids with neurodevelopmental conditions and their families to improve their lives

This project is still open to be fully co-designed with collaboration of patients, family and caregivers. If interested to participate in the design and future content submission, email: Teresa Hansen at thansen@cmmt.ubc.ca



Putting Patients First 2024

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

AUG 11 SUN





THE LIBRARY OF LIVED EXPERIENCE

A virtual space shaped by people who have lived experience with neurodevelopmental conditions in childhood and adolescence

The Library of Lived Experience is a project supported by: [BC Children's Hospital Research Institute](#), [UBC Tapestry Tool](#), [BC SUPPORT Unit](#) and [CHILD-BRIGHT](#) Network.

Interested in Health Data? Health Data Research Network (HDRN) Canada's Public Advisory Council is seeking new members!

Are you interested in helping to shape the future of Canada's health data system? HDRN Canada is seeking new members for its [Public Advisory Council](#) (PAC), a 15-person volunteer body that advises the network on matters of public interest related to health data. New members of all ages, gender identities, occupations, cultures and lived experiences are invited to apply for a three-year term.

How to apply

To apply to become a member of HDRN Canada's Public Advisory Council, please complete this [form](#) by **July 26, 2024**. If you have questions or would like to

submit your application in a different format (e.g., video or MS word form), please email Jannath Naveed at jannath.naveed@hdrn.ca. Complete information is available [here](#).

Recording available. Genome BC Data Literacy Series presents: The power of metadata: maximizing research impact with protocols.io and metadata commons.

Genome BC's data literacy series brings national and international experts together to help deepen our understanding of different data related initiatives, standards and resources.

This webinar explored two innovative platforms reshaping health research. Genome BC's Health Metadata Commons is a central hub for storing and sharing metadata related to human biological samples and omics research data. This facilitates data reuse, accelerates scientific breakthroughs and advances personalized medicine.

Meanwhile, protocols.io provides a secure space for developing and disseminating reproducible research methods, addressing the lack of detailed instructions in research papers. The platform enhances reproducibility and gives credit to method developers.

Watch the recording [here](#).

UPCOMING GRANT COMPETITIONS

Health Research BC Fall 2024 Competitions

Health Research BC: Improving health through research and innovation. Three competitions coming this fall.

Health Professional Investigator – October 2024

The [HP-I Program](#) supports health professionals actively involved in patient care to build health research programs.

Scholar – October 2024

The [Scholar Program](#) supports early career health researchers by helping them form their own research teams, train the next generation of scientists, and develop world-leading research programs.

Research Trainee – November 2024

The [Research Trainee Program](#) supports the best and brightest health researchers in training to enable career development and support world-class health research in BC.

Information about these opportunities, visit [Health Research BC](#) announcements page.

For additional current co-funding opportunities, click [here](#).



WOULD YOU LIKE TO WRITE AND PUBLISH A SHORT HEALTH RESEARCH ARTICLE?

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The Research & Knowledge Translation Newsletter is accepting articles for future editions. We are open to all areas of health research and knowledge translation as well as evaluation, data analytics, quality improvement or innovation projects.

If interested to include an article or to share information about an upcoming event, email: research@northernhealth.ca