



PROGRESS REPORT

THE
595
PREVENTION TEAM

2014/15

The 595 Prevention Team (The 595) - is a network of over 100 member organizations interested in addressing the determinants of health and preventing the transmission of sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBIs), primarily HIV and HCV, in Manitoba. The mandate of the 595 is to work with peers, network members, policy makers, academics, and community leaders to make recommendations regarding the development, implementation, and evaluation of STBBI prevention initiatives based on evidence and best practice with priority populations.

Vision - The 595 is a broad and diverse network of peers, service providers, administrators, academics and policy-makers collaborating to provide province-wide access to services, materials and resources rooted in the principles of health promotion for priority populations. We are committed to using and promoting evidence-based practices. We are peer driven with peers having strong representation in all aspects of the network.

2014-2015 Funders:

Health Child Manitoba
Healthy Living and Seniors
Winnipeg Regional
Health Authority
Public Health Agency
of Canada: Hepatitis C
Prevention, Support &
Research Program
Public Health Agency of
Canada: AIDS Community
Action Program
Canadian Institute
of Health Research
Northern Regional
Health Authority

**2014-2015
595 Staff Team**

SHOHAN ILLSLEY
Executive Director
CARRIE POCKETT
Play It Safer Network
Coordinator
VEDA KONCAN
Project Coordinator
TYLER CRAIG /
SHARON CORDELL
Safer Choices Northern
Network Coordinator

**2014-2015
Coordinating Committee**

KLINIC COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC
Rosemarie Gjerek (CHAIR)
NORTHERN HEALTH REGION
Colleen Tower (CHAIR)
PEER WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIR
Alaya McIvor
PEER WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIR
Freda Woodhouse
THE 595 PREVENTION TEAM
Shohan Illsley

SEXUALITY EDUCATION
RESOURCE CENTRE
Roselle Paulsen

MOUNT CARMEL CLINIC
Toni Tilston-Jones

NINE CIRCLES
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE
Mike Payne

NORTHERN HEALTH REGION
Nancy Vystrcil

ADDICTIONS FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA
Sharon Nerbas &
Susan Maxwell

KA NI KANICHIHK INC
Leslie Spillet

RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTRE
Mike Tutthill

HEALTHY LIVING SENIORS
& CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Shelly Smith

HEALTHY CHILD MANITOBA
Michelle Kowalchuk

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA
Sande Petkau

WINNIPEG REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
Kim Bailey



VALUING PEER EXPERTISE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 1: WELCOMING PEER INPUT AND MEANINGFUL PEER INVOLVEMENT!

The 595 Peer Working Group (595PWG) is a group of 20 who continue to direct the work of the 595. The 595PWG is involved in all aspects of the network from management, research, evaluation, policy development, and facilitation. The philosophy of the network is “Nothing About Us, Without Us!” The aim is to ensure that programming and activities are designed and developed with significant input from the populations they serve.

In 2008, the 595 received funds to establish a comprehensive Peer Secretariat Project (PSP) that involved working with Peer Based Organizations (PBOs) to provide administrative

support, build on the capacity of their members and support collaboration among the PBOs.

We currently partner with eight PBOs:

- The 595 Peer Working Group
- The Manitoba Hepatitis C Support Community Inc.
- Manitoba Area Network of Drug Users
- AYO! Aboriginal Youth Opportunities
- Two-Spirited People of Manitoba Inc.
- The Women’s Advisory Council: Mothering Project, Mount Carmel Clinic
- The Anti-Violence Advisory Team: Sage House, Mount Carmel Clinic
- KIA Women’s Group: Sexuality Education Resource Centre

PEER FORUM

On March 18th the peers hosted the Annual Peer Forum at Crossways in Common in Winnipeg. The forum is an annual education and social gathering hosted for Peers by members of the Peer Secretariat Project. To address potential barriers to attend, child minding, bus tickets, and delicious food are provided. Although we were prepared for 60 participants, in total 119 community members attended the forum. This year, presentations and activities included:

- The Role of Community Activists, presented by Peers
- The Laws on HIV Disclosure, presented by the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
- Sexual Health Bingo
- Red Thread of Peace Play Back Theater Improv Group
- Booths were hosted by Peers & Organizations that included sexual health, HIV, & HCV information and safer sex supplies: condoms, lube, internal condoms, & sex dams
- Practical harm reduction items (hoodies, blankets, lip balm, food) were included as giveaways.

WHAT GOES AROUND:

HOW PEERS USE THEIR SOCIAL NETWORKS TO SHARE STBBI EDUCATION & INFORMATION

During the 2014-15 fiscal year, the 595PWG wrapped up their community based research project, which explored how the Peers share STBBI information within their social networks. The implications from this research are:

1. Increase access to harm reduction supplies in Winnipeg!
2. Increase Peer-to-Peer distribution!
3. Increase Peer-to-Peer knowledge sharing opportunities!

Although the project wrapped up, it continued to have a life of it's own. The results and methodology were presented at various conferences:

- Canadian Association of Nursing in AIDS Care Conference (CANAC), April 2014 in Winnipeg
- Canadian Association for HIV Research Conference (CAHR), May 2014 in St. John's Newfoundland
- The International Network in Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development Conference (INIDKD), October 2014 in Winnipeg

SHARING THE LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED

STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 2: INCREASE THE PROMOTION AND EDUCATION OF RESOURCES ROOTED IN PRINCIPLES OF HARM REDUCTION FOR PEERS AND PROFESSIONALS IN MANITOBA.

THE 595 WORKSHOPS!

Our workshop series, Best Practice for Working with Underserved Populations, is offered in conjunction with a consultation process with communities, participants, and service providers. Although all our workshops include consistent core information, training is tailored to ensure that the specific community needs are addressed.

This year we delivered 17 workshops to 381 participants throughout the province, including seven workshops outside of Winnipeg.

WHEN ASKED TO COMPARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORKSHOPS, ALMOST ALL OF THE RESPONDENTS (98%) INDICATED THE PRESENTATION HAD INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE.*

A MAJORITY OF RESPONDENTS SAID THEY WOULD CHANGE THEIR PRACTICES AND/OR WORKING STYLES (83%) AS A RESULT OF THE WORKSHOPS.*

HEPATITIS C 101 WORKSHOP

The 595 partners with the Manitoba Hepatitis C Support Community Inc. to deliver and evaluate peer based HCV information sessions in the province. Presentations are delivered to various organizations and individuals including participants in treatment programs, community members, service providers, and government employees. This year 29 workshops were facilitated in Winnipeg with 343 participants.

REMOTE CONTROL: BUILDING ON CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH (CBR) IN RURAL, NORTHERN, AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN MANITOBA

The 595 will host a 2-day planning meeting with stakeholders from three distinct rural, northern and remote areas of Manitoba. Stakeholders will meet in Winnipeg in June 2015 to network with each other, to engage in capacity building about CBR, to discuss how HIV affects their communities, and to develop the key components of what will become a collaborative CIHR operating grant proposal. Funding for this meeting is provided by the Canadian Institute of Health Research and CAA, Aboriginal HIV and AIDS Community-Based Research Collaborative Centre.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS LEARNED ABOUT BEHAVIOURS THAT COULD TRANSMIT HEPATITIS C, AND 90% OF RESPONDENTS SAID THEY PLANNED ON CHANGING THEIR BEHAVIOUR TO REDUCE RISK.*



2014 MANITOBA HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE

**IMPROVING ACCESS
IN RURAL, REMOTE,
& NORTHERN MANITOBA!**



2014 MANITOBA HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE: IMPROVING ACCESS IN RURAL, REMOTE, & NORTHERN MB!

On September 30th- October 1st, 2014, The 595 partnered with Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. and the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba to host a conference in Thompson at the Thompson Regional Community Centre. There were 144 attendees; participants came from 15 communities including Steinbach, Brandon, Dauphin, The Pas, Flin Flon, Thompson, and Churchill. Additionally, 9 First Nations communities were represented; Sapotaweyak, Opaskwayak, Split Lake, Fox Lake and La Brochette, to name a few. The Safer Choices Northern Network was the official host for this year's conference.

The keynote topics were:

- Colonial and historical trauma & Rights of Passage
Mary Azure-Laubmann
- Harm Reduction AND Abstinence
Dr. Michael Ellery

94% OF EVALUATIONS INDICATE THAT THE CONFERENCE ALLOWED FOR NETWORKING WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS. 98% INDICATED THAT CONFERENCE ATTENDEES HAD INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS ON THE TOPIC OF HARM REDUCTION. 94% INDICATED AN INCREASE IN KNOWLEDGE ON HOW COLONIZATION RELATED TO INCREASE RISK FOR STIS, HIV AND HEPATITIS C.

HEADS UP!

2015 HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE

On May 25-27th, we will be hosting our provincial conference in Opaskwayak Cree Nation, MB. This year's conference is hosted in collaboration with Ka Ni Kanichihk, Opaskwayak Cree Nation Health Authority, the Play It Safer Network and the Safer Choice Northern Network.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR GREAT RESULTS

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 3: INCREASE ACCESS TO SERVICES,
MATERIALS AND RESOURCES TO THOSE IN NEED.**

PARTNERING WITH REGIONAL
HEALTH AUTHORITIES IN
MANITOBA:

Northern Regional Health Authority

(NRHA) - In 2012, the 595 and the NRHA developed a Memorandum of Understanding that identified our partnership in administering funding allocated by Healthy Living and Seniors for the Play It Safer Network (PISN). In 2013, the MOU was expanded to include funding for the Safer Choices Northern Network (SCNN). This MOU is renewed on an annual basis.

Prairie Mountain Regional Health

Authority (PMRHA) - On April 27-30, The 595 will be collaborating with PMRHA to host 2 harm reduction conferences in

Dauphin, MB. The first conference will focus on introducing service providers in the region to harm reduction and practical applications of harm reduction programming. The second conference will focus on moving forward with harm reduction in the region, including the potential development a network that mirrors PISN and SCNN.

**Interlake- Eastern Regional
Health Authority (IERHA)**

- The 595 collaborated with IERHA to submit a 3-year proposal to Healthy Living & Seniors to increase harm reduction services in the region. The proposal includes further training for staff and volunteers, implementing a needle supply site, and developing a harm reduction network in the region.

Additionally, the 595 is hoping to partner with the IERHA and the respective Tribal Councils in the region to host the 2017 MB Harm Reduction Conference, which will be hosted in the region.

Southern Health- Santé Sud Regional Health Authority (SHSS) - In fall 2015, SHSS will be hosted a 2-day conference in Steinbach. On the morning of Day 1, The 595 will be presenting the principals of Harm Reduction.

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) - The 595 participated on the Street Connections Evaluation Advisory Committee. For more information on the evaluation and findings, please visit the WRHA website.

PARTNERING WITH FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES:

First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) - This year, FNIHB partnered with the PISN and SCNN to provide safer sex supplies for On-Reserve work that the networks do. In addition to safer sex information, over 9500 condoms were distributed during On-Reserve community events in Northern Manitoba.

Cree Nation Tribal Health (CNTH) -

The 595 assisted with developing, facilitating, and evaluating a week long training for Cree Nation Tribal Health on May 26- 30th. The week's activities included workshops/ presentations and planning for supply distribution in the respective communities. Workshops and presentations included:

- Planes, Trains and Automobiles: First Nation Routes to HIV/HCV Epicenters
- Harm Reduction 2.0: Beyond the Needle
- HIV 101, Hepatitis C 101, & Co-infection
- Sex Positivity
- Mobilizing your community
- Understanding Sexuality
- Pregnancy, Mothering and Substance Use
- Kisewâtisiwin: A Legacy of Surviving and Thriving with HIV/HCV
- MB STBBI Strategy

World AIDS Day 2015 in Sapotaweyak

Cree Nation - The 595 was invited to Sapotaweyak Cree Nation for World AIDS Day. The day included two meetings; an open meeting for all community members to discuss harm reduction and safer drug use and a harm reduction committee meeting to discuss moving forward in the community.

SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION WORKING GROUP:

In January 2014, the 595 initiated a provincial working group to provide a coordinated and consistent roll-out of harm reduction initiatives in Manitoba, particularly in rural, remote, and Northern Manitoba.

The membership is composed of representatives from:

- 5 Regional Health Authorities
- The 595 Prevention Team, Play It Safer Network, Safer Choices Northern Network
- First Nations Communities
- First Nations Inuit Health Branch
- Manitoba Health: Healthy Living and Seniors
- Individuals that use drugs and / or are affected by HIV and hepatitis C

STBBI PREVENTION TOOLS:

We continue to offer STBBI prevention supplies for the 595PWG as well as other community members. Peers continue to provide education and support for one another regarding HIV and HCV prevention through safer drug use and sex practices.

AT THE 595

OUR
VALUES
ARE:

PERSON
CENTRED CARE

NON-JUDGMENTAL
CARE

RELATIONSHIP
BUILDING

SUPPORTIVE
ENVIRONMENTS



SAFER CHOICES NORTHERN NETWORK

PROGRESS REPORT



2014-15

The Safer Choices Northern Network - The Safer Choices Northern Network (SCNN) was formed to address the high incidence of sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBI) in Thompson and surrounding communities (Northern Health Region). The SCNN is a community based organization and is based on the principles of community capacity building, defined as, "creating the conditions which enable people to respond to the needs of their community regarding HIV/AIDS, STI, Hepatitis C, and harm reduction. This may be achieved for example through increased: understanding, inclusivity, action, information, services, resources, networking, openness, knowledge, support, collaboration, skills, integration, advocacy" (Adapted from National Information and Support Network, November 1998).

Mandate - To implement community based strategies to address STBBIs and harm reduction through prevention, partnerships, and education to ultimately decrease infection rates.

2014-2015

Funders:

Healthy Living and Seniors

2014-2015

SCNN Project Coordinator:

Tyler Craig
(till November 2014)

Sharon Cordell
(March 2015- Present)

2014-2015

Member Organizations:

Keewatin Tribal Council

Manitoba Keewatinowi
Okimakanak:

Ma-Mow-We-Tak
Friendship Centre

Mcdonald Youth Services

Mystery Lake School Division

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN)
Nelson House

Northern Regional Health
Authority

Pride North of 55

University of Manitoba

Wikamik Homeless Shelter

YWCA

Youth At Risk North



SHARING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

ACTIVITY # 1:

COLLABORATE WITH THE NORTHERN HEALTH REGION TO DELIVER OUTREACH, EDUCATION, AND AWARENESS ACTIVITIES.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & AWARENESS DAYS

The Outreach and Awareness Days are used as a way to provide testing information to our target populations where they are already in attendance. We provide food, information, resources, promotional items, door prizes, condoms and when possible, STBBI testing. We feel these events help to normalize testing, and additionally reduce stigma and discrimination.

For various holiday and community events, the SCNN members distribute Animal Instinct resources and themed safer sex kits throughout the community

SCNN PROVIDED
OVER 4500
CONDOMS, OTHER
RESOURCES AND
INFORMATION
AT EVENTS AND
CAMPAIGNS
THROUGHOUT THE
YEAR

of Thompson. Kits may include Animal Instincts condom covers, condoms, lube, candy/chocolate and testing information in Thompson. The kits, along with Animal Instincts posters, t-shirts, and coasters, are distributed to the bars, lounges, hotels, schools, and socials throughout the community. SCNN provided over 4500 condoms, other resources and information at the following events and campaigns throughout the year:

- Easter/ Spring Condom Campaign
- Randall Osborne Memorial Slow-Pitch Tournament
- Nelson House Health Fair
- Nickel Days
- Pride North of 55
- Fox Lake Cultural Festival in Gillam
- Halloween Condom Campaign, Thompson & Nelson House
- World AIDS Day

WORLD AIDS DAY CAMPAIGN:

This year SCNN hosted the World AIDS Day event at the TRCC on December 1st. Over 80 community members, service providers, and youth were in attendance. Youth groups included the female hockey team, the Youth Build students, and two junior high classes from Burntwood School. Participants enjoyed lunch and a

trade show with information on STBBIs, HIV, and mental health. Everyone then participated in the AIDS Awareness Walk in a brisk -30 °C! Additionally, five junior high classrooms participated in Paint Your Classroom RED, and were awarded a pizza lunch!

2014 MANITOBA HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE IN THOMPSON!

On September 30th- October 1st, SCNN was the official host of the MB Harm Reduction Conference. There were 144 attendees; participants came from 15 communities including Steinbach, Brandon, Dauphin, The Pas, Flin Flon, Thompson, and Churchill. Additionally, 9 First Nations communities were represented; Sapotaweyak, Opaskwayak, Split Lake, Fox Lake and La Brochette, to name a few. Conference delegates enjoyed an evening of local entertainment at the Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre, a tour of Spirit Way and the Heritage North museum, and a Sweat Lodge Ceremony.

NORMALIZE TESTING & REDUCE STIGMA

ACTIVITY # 2:

PROMOTE THE ANIMAL INSTINCTS SOCIAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN

The 'Animal Instincts' project and resources were first introduced in 2012 with the creation of the posters and t-shirts - "Wear Your Rubbers," "Protect Your Beaver," "Play Nice," "If you're going to BEAR it, WEAR it," and "Condoms come in ALL sizes." This resource was met with phenomenal uptake and success, regionally, provincially and even nationally.

Our goal was to reach our identified target audience, YOUTH, and normalize testing, reduce stigma, and share our Northern culture.

IN 2014 WE DISTRIBUTED THE FOLLOWING ANIMAL INSTINCT RESOURCES IN AND AROUND THOMPSON;

- 31 T-SHIRTS
- 46 TOQUES
- 20 POSTERS
- 91 HOCKEY PUCKS
- 1825 COASTERS



THE VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITY IS STRONG

ACTIVITY # 3:

TO MAINTAIN AND PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP IN THE SAFER CHOICES
NORTHERN NETWORK

Network membership continues to be a priority for the SCNN. To truly be a community-based, the direction of the work needs to be developed within the community. In November, Tyler Craig, the SCNN Coordinator moved away from Thompson and the position remained open until Sharon Cordell was hired in March. Although the network did not have a coordinator, members stepped up and ensured meetings and activities were executed. The SCNN continues to host monthly meetings and in April 2015 we will host our 2nd Annual Planning Meeting.

STAFF & VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

The SCNN members attended various workshops and trainings including:

- Planes, Trains and Automobiles:
First Nation Routes to HIV/HCV Epicenters
- Harm Reduction 2.0: Beyond the Needle
- HIV 101, Hepatitis C 101, & Co-infection
- Sex Positivity
- Mobilizing your community
- Understanding Sexuality
- Pregnancy, Mothering and Substance Use
- Kisewâtisiwin: A Legacy of Surviving and Thriving with HIV/HCV
- The Manitoba STBBI Strategy
- The Manitoba Harm Reduction Conference

WHAT WE FEEL IS MOST IMPORTANT

THE VALUES OF THE SAFER CHOICES NORTHERN NETWORK GUIDE US ON OUR
JOURNEY TOWARDS A STRONGER COMMUNITY

Collaboration - Sharing information and support, developing and nurturing relationships

Respect - Valuing diverse communities, populations and network members

Knowledge - Staying current, building skills, supporting personal growth

Accessibility - Ensuring availability of resources, supporting opportunities for learning

Confidentiality - Ensuring that information is accessible only to those authorized to have access

Social Justice - Fair and proper administration of laws conforming to the natural law that all persons, irrespective of ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, possessions, race, religion etc., are to be treated equally and without prejudice

Human Justice - ensuring that the basic human rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled to, be considered at all times

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Play It Safer Network

The Play It Safer Network is a community-based organization consisting of community members, health care professionals, youth, school representatives, and service providers. The Network currently has 38 members including partnerships from a number of communities located within northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The Network is open to anyone who has an interest in prevention and education issues related to STBBIs (Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections), harm reduction and healthier lifestyle choices.

Mandate - To implement a community based (Northern Manitoba/ Saskatchewan) strategy to address STBBIs (sexually transmitted/blood borne infections), harm reduction and healthier lifestyle choices through education, prevention, treatment, and medical and social supports

Goals of the Network

1. To maintain the communication strategy and continue to promote and maintain partnerships in The Play It Safer Network
2. Implement and maintain the education program on HIV/ AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STIs targeting youth
3. To improve services for individuals living with or affected by HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis

2014-2015 Funders
Healthy Living and Seniors

2014-2015 Coordinating Committee

Co-Chair: Christa McIntyre
Northern Health Region
Co-Chair: Linda Lathlin
Beatrice Wilson
Health Centre
Project Coordinator:
Carrie Pockett
595 Prevention Team

Co-Secretary:
Colleen Tower
Insight Mentor Program

Co-Secretary: Dee Harvey
Insight Mentor Program

Treasurer:
Tavia Alexander
Addictions Foundation MB

NRHA Liaison:
Connie Beaton
Northern Health Region

Organizations represented on the Play It Safer Network

Northern Health Region
Cree Nation Tribal Health
Beatrice Wilson
Health Centre
Mamawetan Churchill River

Regional Health Authority
Flin Flon Aboriginal
Friendship Centre
Community Youth
Resource Centre
Employment Links
Development Centre
Women's Resource Centre
Creighton School
Hapnot Collegiate
Addictions Foundation
of Manitoba
Insight Mentor Program
McDonald Youth Services
CADAC
Margaret Barbour
Collegiate Institute
The Pas Family
Resource Centre
I Am Love in Action



Play It Safer Network

SUPPORTING OUR NORTHERN FAMILY

GOAL # 1:

TO MAINTAIN THE COMMUNICATION STRATEGY AND CONTINUE TO PROMOTE AND MAINTAIN PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK

The PISN represents a very diverse and geographically challenging area. Through the strengths of our partnerships we are able to meet the needs of the communities within our northern region by offering partnership for community events and awareness campaigns, representation on the Network, and distribution of STBBI information and resources.

PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

The Network membership continues to grow with a current membership count of 38. The PISN continues to host our meetings at the Primary Health Care Centres in Flin Flon and The Pas. The Network and subcommittees have had a total of 16 meetings this year to plan events and activities. The dedication and commitment of our members and volunteers is clearly validated with a total of over 200 hours contributed.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In addition to our website, the PISN is connected through Twitter, Linked In, Facebook, and Pinterest. We have personalized our campaigns to include a social media component to reach our target populations

EXPANSION OF THE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAC)

The PISN YAC was established in 2012 on the Flin Flon end of the region. The YAC offers expertise and guidance to youth programming provided by the PISN. The YAC also attends the community events and outreach campaigns and have been successful with encouraging their peers to participate in the planned events. The youth are from various communities in the north and maintain their level of commitment!

We have expended the YAC and hosted a recruitment party in The Pas which resulted in the establishment of a YAC on that end of the region. We are happy to have committees on each end of the region and hope to gain a true understanding of issues and barriers youth face in northern communities.

WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE COMMITTEES ON EACH END OF THE REGION AND HOPE TO GAIN A TRUE UNDERSTANDING OF ISSUES AND BARRIERS YOUTH FACE IN NORTHERN COMMUNITIES.

YAC RETREAT

We hosted an annual youth retreat for the YAC in Flin Flon & The Pas at the end of March 2015 with 13 youth in attendance. This day allowed for both groups to meet in person for the first time. The day consisted of icebreakers, a yearly strategic planning session, and a brainstorm in which the youth identified the issues youth are facing in our communities.

TEACHING AND CREATING AWARENESS

GOAL # 2:

IMPLEMENT AND MAINTAIN THE EDUCATION PROGRAM ON HIV/AIDS,
HEPATITIS C, AND STIS TARGETING YOUTH

STBBI FACILITATORS TRAINING

This year we partnered with SERC & CATIE to provide 2 trainings for over 50 service providers at Keewatin Tribal Council and Interlake Reserves Tribal Council. The training included an introduction to Harm Reduction, HIV/HCV 101, Sex Positivity, Facilitation Tips & Tricks, and development of budgets, campaigns, posters, and reporting.

THE PISN WORKSHOPS!

This year we delivered 30 workshops to 540 youth, service providers, and community members. The workshops were evaluated and a report was completed by Health In Common. The evaluation report is available by request.

The PISN offers workshops on the following topics; Puberty, Birth Control, STIs, HIV / HCV, Healthy Relationships, Teen Dating Violence, Appreciating Diversity, Safer Tattooing and Piercing, Substance Use Awareness, and Body Image.

MEETING THE MINISTERS

In February, Minister Crothers (Healthy Living and Seniors), Minister Dewar (Finance), Minister Wight (Children and Youth Opportunities), and MLA Clarence Peterson had a site visit in Flin Flon to learn more about the work of PISN and tour the Friendship Centre. We provided them with a copy of our PISN pamphlet, our 2013-2014 Annual report, condom USB drive, and a deck of playing cards

AWARENESS EVENTS:

Hepatitis Awareness Month

May 2014 - During the month of May we assemble personal item kits which include nail clippers, razors, toothbrushes, emery boards, condoms, and testing information. A total of 400 kits were created and distributed within Flin Flon & The Pas to target audiences. In addition to the kits, we also did a condom campaign and distributed a total of 1800 condoms. We distributed 200 tent cards to local bars and restaurants, and posters were distributed throughout the region. Displays were created

for schools and Primary Health Care Centres and the Youth Advisory Committee created a short video on HCV prevention.

National Aboriginal Day June

2014 - Six members of the PISN YAC attended the event. They played bean bag toss with the children and youth and distributed condoms, sunscreen, bug spray, lip balm, and pens to everyone in attendance.

Flin Flon Trout Festival June 2014 - A number of resources and information was distributed by the volunteers at the Main Street Days. In addition we provided the condoms and posters for the Fish Fry.

World Hepatitis Day July

2014 - The PISN attended World Hepatitis Day events in La Ronge SK where approximately 100 people were in attendance. The day consisted of a community awareness walk, variety of games and activities, photo booth, BBQ, clothing/book giveaway, resource/condom distribution.

**MB Harm Reduction
Conference September 2014 -**

The conference was very well attended with close to 150 people in attendance. The PISN provided an information booth at the conference and distributed a number of resources.

**HIV/AIDS Awareness Week &
World AIDS Day November/
December 2014 -**

This year in partnership with the YAC we hosted Love Shacks in Frontier Collegiate Institute in Cranberry Portage and Oscar Lathlin Collegiate in Opaskwayak Cree Nation. YAC members that attend UCN also created an awareness booth for World AIDS Day and distributed condoms and information.

**Sexual & Reproductive Health
Awareness Week February
2015 -**

600 flowers with condom packages, including chocolates and testing information in Flin Flon, Creighton, Cranberry Portage, and The Pas were distributed! The YAC members distributed the flowers to their peers in the high schools and post-secondary institutions they attend. The Network members

also distributed to the bars during the condom campaign

Trappers Festival February 2015 - This year, we participated with a community distribution day, bar condom campaign, and Beer Fest. We delivered condoms to the local bars and casino.

THIS YEAR THE PISN
DISTRIBUTED NEARLY
22,000 CONDOMS IN
THE REGION.

WE PROVIDED TRAINING
FOR OVER 50 SERVICE
PROVIDERS

AND DELIVERED
30 WORKSHOPS TO
540 YOUTH, SERVICE
PROVIDERS, AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

MAKING SMOOTH THE ROAD AHEAD

GOAL # 3:

TO IMPROVE SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH OR
AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS AND HEPATITIS C

MUNCH & LEARN SESSIONS:

Munch & Learn sessions allow informal discussion and a presentation on reducing risks. We provide food or snacks, resources, information, promotional items, door prizes, and safer sex supplies. Sessions cover information on safer sex, safer partying, safer tattooing/body piercing, and access to information and resources.

In partnership with our members we delivered a total of 4 Munch & Learn sessions this year. We reached a total

of 41 participants at the following locations: Employment Links Development Centre, Northlands College, and The Pas Family Resource Centre.

OUTREACH TESTING DAYS

The OTD campaigns are to provide testing to our target populations by going into community organizations such as post-secondary, and community-based services and programs. The event includes a luncheon, information, resources, promotional items,

door prizes, safer sex supplies and testing. Over the last year we reached 248 students throughout the campaigns. A total of 16 people were tested.

- Flin Flon – Back to School Bash at Hapnot Collegiate
- Cranberry Portage - Frontier Collegiate Institute HIV/AIDS Awareness Love Shack
- OCN – Oscar Lathlin Collegiate HIV/AIDS Awareness Love Shack

PISN AWARENESS AND CONDOM CAMPAIGNS:

The Network membership, Youth Advisory Committee and staff participated in the following distribution campaigns and awareness events. A large portion the condoms distributed was generously donated by Sexuality Education Resource Centre and First Nations Inuit Health Branch. A total of 27,809 condoms were distributed this year!

- Hepatitis Awareness Month
- National Aboriginal Day
- Flin Flon Run to the Border Social
- Safe Grad

- Flin Flon Trout Festival
- Canada Day
- Stoney Creek Smoker
- World Hepatitis Day
- OCN Indian Days
- Halloween
- HIV/AIDS Awareness Week
- World AIDS Day
- Christmas & Boxing Day
- Sexual & Reproductive Health Awareness Week
- The Pas Trapper's Festival
- St. Patrick's Day

COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT:

Northern Health Region Harm Reduction Steering Committee - Through the established harm reduction policy working directly with the NRHA and community partners to address Harm Reduction including the development of a supply distribution program.

FAASE (Flin Flon Area Against Sexual Exploitation) - Through the direction of Tracia's Trust this committee meets on a monthly basis to address the issue of sexual exploitation of youth. The committee participates in the

Grandmother's Walk, a youth initiative and an awareness week event each year to address this issue in our community.

Supply Distribution Working Group (Outside of Winnipeg) -

To provide a coordinated and consistent role out of harm reduction and supply distribution initiatives to underserved populations in Manitoba.

Flin Flon Aboriginal Friendship Centre Homeless Needs Committee -

To address homelessness in the Flin Flon area and identify ways the organization and partners can help those in need. Fundraising efforts to help support emergency food and clothing needs and provide support to the hostel.

CIHR Remote Control - Building on capacity to implement community-based research in rural, northern, and remote communities in Manitoba.

Canadian Drug Policy Coalition Overdose Working Group -

To discuss what is happening nationally in regards to overdose prevention with

a particular focus on opiates. The working group reviews policy, develops briefs, and creates awareness around overdose prevention in Canada.

STAFF & VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

This year, staff and YAC took advantage of many learning opportunities including:

- Webinar-AFM Starfish Program
- PHAC Social Media Webinars x6
- All Children Matter Conference & Regional Team Meeting Day
- Manitoba Harm Reduction Conference
- Clinic Sexual Assault Crisis Focus Group
- Sexual Exploitation Awareness Regional Tour
- Mental Health First Aid



THE 595 PREVENTION TEAM

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**YOUR SUPPORT HAS
HELPED US MAKE THIS
YEAR SPECTACULAR!**