



SASKATCHEWAN POPULATION HEALTH AND EVALUATION RESEARCH UNIT

University  
of Regina



During the month of May, members of our SPHERU faculty have received funding from the University of Regina, CIHR and SHRF; launched a data collection; and welcomed back a familiar face in a new position.

### U of R funds healthy aging research workshop

The University of Regina has granted funding to SPHERU to present our unit's work during a one-day public workshop next year.

The workshop is called, "Successful Aging for All" and will highlight our work, aging in place, combating social isolation, healthy aging for northern and indigenous residents, and the challenges of immigrants and refugees aging 'out of place.'

The workshop will take place during the Congress of the Social Sciences



Above: SPHERU's Kylee Wilyman and Sharienne Caffet were hard at work helping clean up the University of Regina campus. On May 4, the University of Regina held it's 2nd Annual Campus Beautification Day. The day called for staff and students to volunteer a couple hours of their time and assist with cleaning up campus, including picking up litter, raking, and sweeping.

and Humanities taking place on campus from May 26 to June 2, 2018.

### CIHR, SHRF provides funding for researchers

Two of SPHERU's researchers learned they received funding from the Canadian Institute of Health Research.

Dr. Sylvia Abonyi applied and received nearly \$20,000 from CIHR to support her

project, "Disparities in Respiratory Health Among First Nations People: Assess, Redress, Re-assess. Sharing Knowledge & Experience, Revealing Priorities & Directions."

Dr. Abonyi submitted the application to the Planning and Dissemination Grant -- Institute Community Support competition. The Saskatchewan

Health Research Foundation also provided \$6,000 for the project.

Dr. Michelle Stewart was also successful in receiving a CIHR Planning and Dissemination Grant.

Her project, "Toward a Participatory Framework on the Social Determinants of Health of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder," was approved for nearly \$20,000 in funding for the next year.

### INTERACT launches Victoria data collection

Data collection began on May 19 in Victoria for a national study measuring what effect investing in bike lanes and public transit has on people's health and well-being.

In Victoria, the INTERACT team is measuring how the All Ages and Abilities Bicycle Infrastructure

will have an effect on citizens for the next five years. The City of Victoria has made a \$7.75 commitment to build a 5.4-kilometre bicycle lanes downtown by 2018, and a total of 24 kilometres across the city.

INTERACT (INTERventions, Research and Action in Cities Team) measures how major investments in city infrastructure can affect the health and well-being of participants across the country.

The INTERACT team is starting by measuring outcomes of major infrastructure investments in four cities, Victoria, Vancouver, Saskatoon and Montreal.

SPHERU's Dr. Daniel Fuller, one of the project's principal investigators, is overseeing the intervention that will take place in Saskatoon.

The team plans to measure outcomes of the new Bus Rapid

Transit Saskatoon, an enhanced bus system, established on three major roadways by 2020. The new system is a \$66 million investment for the city.

**CIHR provides \$17.7 million in funding**

In May, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) announced they will invest a total of \$17.7 million dollars in nine intersectoral prevention research projects.

Dr. Lise Gauvin's research team at Université de Montreal and CRCHUM (University of Montreal Hospital Research Centre) were one of the nine teams recognized to receive funding.

Dr. Gauvin and her team will receive \$2 million of this investment to determine ways to make built environments in four



CIHR IRSC

Canadian Institutes of Health Research / Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada



Margot Gough joined SPHERU in May as a research officer for the INTERACT and MUSE projects.

cities across the country more favourable to healthy eating and physical activity.

SPHERU's Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine and Dr. Cory Neudorf will be working with Dr. Gauvin and her team as they prepare to launch MUSE (Multisectoral Urban systems for Health and Equity in Canadian cities).

**A new and familiar face**

Margot Gough was hired as a research officer in Saskatoon to provide support and

insight for two new projects, MUSE and INTERACT. No stranger to SPHERU, Margot is already hard at work with these projects. Welcome back to SPHERU, Margot!

*If you have any information about upcoming events, current and/or new projects related to SPHERU please send them to kristen.mcewen@usask.ca. Photos are always welcome and appreciated!*