



SASKATCHEWAN POPULATION HEALTH AND EVALUATION RESEARCH UNIT

University
of Regina



In June, our faculty wrapped up a five-year long project with a closing symposium, produced an environmental scan of available social isolation reduction/prevention programs across the country, and contributed to a roundtable on Indigenous health research.

Closing symposium

Researchers, project staff, community leaders, and stakeholders from across the country, gathered at Wanuskewin Park on June 13 to recap and summarize the results of the five-year long First Nations Lung Health Project.

“We’ve produced a lot of data in the project,” Dr. Sylvia Abonyi said. “There are a lot more questions that we can answer that we haven’t already answered. We’d like to know what those (questions) are.”

The First Nations Lung Health Project explored health and living conditions of people in two First



SPHERU’s Dr. Sylvia Abonyi and Dr. Kathleen McMullin were emcees for the First Nations Lung Health project closing symposium on June 13 at Wanuskewin Park.

Nations communities.

Two data collections were conducted over the years, looking at factors such as lung function, allergy tests, basic social determinants and housing conditions.

The project, also known as “Assess, Redress, Re-assess: Addressing disparities in respiratory health among First Nations People,” was led by Dr. Abonyi, Dr. James Dosman, the late Dr. Jo-Anne Episkenew, and Dr. Punam Pahwa.

Environmental scan

SPHERU’s Dr. Shanthi Johnson, Dr. Bonnie Jeffery, Dr. Tom McIntosh and Dr. Juanita Bacsu released their environmental scan

report this month.

The report, “Addressing social isolation among immigrant and refugee seniors: Environmental scan of programs and services in Canada,” provides an overview of what programs and services are being delivered to seniors to prevent or reduce social isolation at a national, provincial/territorial or community-based levels.

Forty programs were identified in the environmental scan, which included 14 in Ontario, 12 in British Columbia, eight in Alberta, two in Quebec and one each in Manitoba, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan.

The full environmental scan can be found here: http://www.spheru.ca/publications/files/SI_NIRS%20Programs%20Scan_18June2017final.pdf

Roundtable panelist

Dr. Paul Hackett was part of a roundtable at the annual Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) meetings in Vancouver this year (June 22-24, 2017).

Dr. Hackett was part of the session “Indigenous Health Research: Historical and Critical Analyses,” alongside a number of panelists including, Dr. Malcom King, former scientific director of the Institute of Aboriginal Peoples’ Health (IAPH), CIHR.

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!