

Valuing Indigenous Peoples in Health Research

Welcome Indigenous and allied readers, researchers, and communities. We are very grateful for your interest in and support of the *International Journal of Indigenous Health* (IJIH). This edition of the IJIH presents a breadth of research-based articles that examine health inequities, promising practices generated by population health perspectives, and community-based research partnerships that focus on specific health issues in culturally and geographically defined communities. With innovative submissions from researchers, community-based practitioners, and students, IJIH hopes to continue to publish excellent research that informs positive changes to the public health system for Indigenous patients, and research grounded in Indigenous knowledge, ways of being, and knowing.

IJIH in particular encourages submissions that discuss the results of research rooted in Indigeneity and therefore ancient knowledge that is new to some readers and researchers. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives help expand Western academic discourse about how we conceptualize illness, healing, and wellness through Indigenous languages, cultures, and diverse Indigenous perspectives. The final edition of the National Aboriginal Health Organization's *Journal of Aboriginal Health* (NAHO JAH) was a very Special Issue on Inuit Health and Well-Being, which was released during the summer of 2015. This excellent Journal edition, co-edited by Chris Furgal and Dianne Kinnon, included community-based stories and artistic expression and is an amazing contribution to published Indigenous knowledge in English, was fully translated into Inuktitut syllabics. If you missed this Special Issue we encourage you to take the time to download the full edition, read, refer to, and enjoy it.

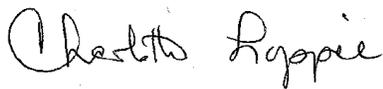
In this most recent edition, contributing authors share a wealth of Indigenous community-based health knowledge, experience, and innovation in the areas of mental health, dental health, and chronic illness, along with issues of racism and cultural safety in health care as well as technological and jurisdictional barriers to care. Carrie Bourassa and colleagues examine the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual impacts of neurological conditions on Aboriginal women and their caregivers. Henry Harder and colleagues investigate the effectiveness of community-based interventions in preventing youth suicide in Carrier and Sekani nations. Michelle Johnson-Jennings and colleagues examine the influence of Indigenous racial concordance and patient ethnic salience on health providers' assessment of chronic pain in the United States. Asef Karim and colleagues conduct a prevalence study of malocclusion and orthodontic treatment need among schoolchildren on the island community of Haida Gwaii, British Columbia, Canada. Elizabeth Lincoln and colleagues review the interculturality of Indigenous Mapuche healthcare in Chile's Makewe Hospital. Renee F. Robinson and colleagues explore whether Alaska Native and American Indian people have access to health communication technologies available through a patient-centred medical home. Carlos Rojas and colleagues conduct the first prevalence study on HIV in an Indigenous community in Colombia. Chandrakant Shah and colleague report on the innovative Aboriginal Cultural Safety Initiative (ACSI) curriculum, delivered to students in health sciences programs in colleges and universities in Ontario, Canada. Miriam Stewart and colleagues conduct a multi-method, multi-site participatory research project to examine support interventions that focus on the unique support needs of parents of Aboriginal children affected by asthma. Emily Wale and colleague explore the ambiguities embedded in the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) and provincial pharmaceutical benefit policies to better understand the prescription dispensing processes for

Editorial

First Nations people in British Columbia, Canada. We hope you enjoy these excellent and informative articles from diverse cultures, regions, countries, health priorities, and research areas.

The IJIH is online, open-access, and free. You can support the IJIH by making a donation, signing up to receive updates on the IJIH website, citing IJIH articles in your research, making a submission, and becoming a peer reviewer. IJIH is supported through small contributions from various research grants, so your support is very much valued to continue this important service to the Indigenous health and research community. On behalf of all contributors to this Edition, we thank you again for your interest and support, and hope that you will find the knowledge and learnings shared by the authors useful in your work to improve the health of Indigenous peoples.

In health and healing,



Charlotte Reading – Editor



Namaste Marsden – Managing Editor