



Draft Meeting Minutes

CBR in BC Quarterly
May 14th, 2013, 1pm-3:30pm

Location: Training Room, AIDS Vancouver, 1107 Seymour St, Vancouver

In attendance: Sandy Lambert, Sherri Pooyak, Val Nicholson, Janice Duddy, Evin Jones, Andrea Langlois, Wayne Robert, Brian Chittock, Marcie Summers, Katrina Jensen, Cathy Worthington, Allison Carter, Carlene Dingwall, Terry Howard, Stacy Leblanc, Jamie Forrest, Patrick McDougall, Jasmine Gurm, Chuck Osborne, Kate Salters, Ross Harvey, Darren Lauscher

Via telephone: Sarah Chown, Surita Parashar

Regrets: Kim Stacey, Aranka Anema, Shelley Hourston, Liza McGuinness, Ciro Panessa

Agenda:

1. **Welcome and Call To Order**
2. **Confirmed Attendees: Regrets:** Ciro Panessa
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** They were circulated prior to the meeting. Errors or changes to be sent to Andrea.
4. **Current Project Updates:**
 - a) **Positive Living Positive Homes** - Andrea Langlois & Cathy Worthington
This project, which will look at HIV and housing in BC, has been funded through a CIHR Operating Grant. PAN is currently going through the process to get institutional eligibility to hold funds with CIHR. Once that is in place, we will hire a project coordinator.
 - b) **Food Security Study** - Brian Chittock & Evin Jones
Surveys have completed in BC and preliminary data analysis has been done. Ontario is also completed, and Quebec is finishing up their surveys. Pulling all together for the national picture. The BC Team met on March 1 to plan a knowledge translation strategy to bring findings back to the community. Will be applying in June to CHR for a dissemination grant to allow them to continue this work.
 - c) **CHIWOS** - Allison Carter
Recently CHIWOS completed PRA hiring; they received 26 applications from woman living with HIV and it was hard to select 8. They hired some with a lot of experience and some with not so much so that the project can foster leadership. In March they completed a 2-day training session. They're

also working on an internal website where PRAs will be able to access further training and information, such as through a blog. They've also been working on the translation of the survey etc. for the Quebec arm of the study. The survey is online and the Ontario/Quebec are going to pilot it next week. Hopefully in the next 3-4 weeks they'll have an updated version and pass it along to the Ethics Review Board.

d) **Spirituality and Land-Based Practices: Urban Aboriginal Narratologies of Resilience and Mental Health Wellbeing** - Carlene Dingwall

Carlene is currently working on an interdisciplinary PhD and she will be researching "therapeutic spaces," examining trauma informed practice and what constitutes a positive therapeutic and spiritual connection for Aboriginal people. It will be a community-based research project in Prince George and Carlene will be working with four urban organizations and developing an advisory committee. The project is about gathering stories, the data analysis will be taking the stories as a whole and keeping the integrity of the stories in data analysis.

e) **Peer Worker Industry Support Standards & General Updates from Positive Living BC** - Terry Howard

CAHR was a hugely successful conference with just under 1000 people with the largest attendance from the community ever (Terry is on the Council). We've come far in regards to the community involvement. Big thank to Chuck for helping put together a panel. Positive Living BC got a bit of funding to add 8 pages to the BCHIVCBR.org website, specifically around public health and CBR. Latest project: Developing industry support guidelines for peer workers. Applying for CIHR Café Scientifique funds to hold public forums for peer workers and others and then take this information and create an industry standards toolkit. Feedback is greatly appreciated. **Discussion:** Group suggested ViiV as a possible funder.

f) **Gay Poz Sex** - Sarah Chown

The project (housed at Positive Living BC) has just begun recruiting participants – gay positive men who have had condom-less sex. The project originated at the Ontario Prevention Group under Trevor Hart and has been going on for 5 years out of Ryerson. Peer facilitators have been hired for BC and recruitment posters will be going out to community orgs over the next few weeks. **Discussion:** Are two spirit men involved in the project? Sarah did not know the answer and offered to follow up after the meeting. It was also noted that the picture on the poster has been causing some ruffles in the community.

g) **"The Way I See It" Photovoice project** – Val & Surita

The project put the photos up for display at CAHR and had two poster presentations. A video was sent to Arlington, Virginia to the housing conference there to show what housing is like in Vancouver, BC. There is still a sense of urgency and it was noted that homelessness action week isn't long enough to bring attention to an issue that is there all year long.

h) **McLaren Housing research project** – Surita

McLaren is opening a new housing facility and funds were secured from CIHR to conduct a mixed method evaluation of the intervention (led by Bob Hogg at the BC Centre for Excellence). The project survey will be based on the findings from The Way I See It.

- i) **Momentum** – Jamie Forrest
This is a multi-year research study among sex who have sex men and they just enrolled the 400th participant (not CBR). The project is on track to reach 600 men by September and 800 by December. Had a good presence at CAHR. The project has plans to organize a public dialogue event in the late summer to engage a discussion about the effectiveness of treatment as prevention for gay men.
- j) **ENGAGE** – Kate Salters
This new study is being led by Bob Hogg at the BCCfE. The cohort will be comprised of HIV+ individuals who are newly engaged in treatment and following up with them. While this is not a CBR study, ENGAGE will hire peer researchers and in the process of finalizing the job description. The PRAs will not only work on data collection but will also work on a whole bunch of other tasks in the project, such as attending all meetings, writing up the research, etc. They're still trying to determine how compensation for PRAs will work.
- k) **The Dr. Peter Centre Study**: Patrick McDougall and Jasmine Gurm
The project is currently in the process of survey development, hiring PRAs, and developing a recruitment plan. Started with some documentation from CHIOWS, and incorporating information from CAHR and PAN conferences, which have been helpful for the recruitment plan for PRAs. We sense that there is a bit of urgency to develop industry standards in this area.
Discussion: The group discussed further some of the issues with regards to ethical hiring of PRAs. CHIOWS has developed a policy around physical and emotional safety for PRAs, which includes a 24 hour phone number, a CHIOWS buddy system, phone tree and guidance around difficult scenarios.
- l) **CHAPS & Resonance Projects** – Wayne Robert
CHAPS is a project about sex trade workers and how to they access healthcare, through the BCCfE, and it has started initial interviews.
Resonance Project is being led by Ed Jackson and Barry Adam out of Ontario. It is a 3-year study on how gay men incorporate and respond to new biomedical information – how they incorporate it and bring this new information into their lives. It will take place in Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal and will potentially looking at 4 groups: 1. Partners in serovariant couples; 2. vulnerable guys (ie have you had condom-less sex in the x number of days); 3. Guys working in health care; and 4. Guys involved in organizations attending or volunteering.
- m) **General discussion**: Allison Carter asked the group for input on when research participants should be offered the honorarium for participation (i.e. before the interview, after?). Examples were given from VIDAS, and it was suggested that the Ethics Review Board will have guidelines around requirements for consent and how to avoid coercion.

5. Update from CBR Centers:

a) **REACH CBR Collaborative Centre - Evin Jones and Cathy Worthington**

The Collaborative Centre has 5 year funding to do capacity building and to foster community-based research nationally. In December, the BC Core Team got together to discuss research and capacity-building priorities, which were then taken back to the community at the February “Knowledge to Action” event that PAN organized. The BC core team met this morning to discuss the top priorities and how to take these priorities operationalize them over the next few years. They are hiring a staff person to work alongside Andrea in PAN’s CBR program, with the title “CBR Grants and Partnerships Coordinator.”

b) **AHA Centre - Sherri Pooyak**

The AHA Centre is the Aboriginal CBR Collaborative centre. They are starting by getting things organized and will be having their first governing meeting next week. It will be a good jumping off point to determine goals. Going through the process of hiring PRAs – initially hiring 5 (one being a student), will have one each in Saskatchewan, Atlantic Provinces, Ontario, Alberta, and BC. Figuring out what the training will look like, and will focus more on capacity-building rather than the research part of it. The CAAN AGM is at the end of June, and will include skill building. Also CAAN has a CBR journal and is having a difficult time getting submissions, so people are encouraged to [submit](#). The [Wise Practices conference](#) will be in September Saskatoon; please help get the word out to the community.

6. Updates:

a) **Honoraria and compensation working group -Darren and Andrea**

This project is a work in progress. Talked to counterparts across the country and many are in the same boat with regards to working through these issues. Two concrete pieces have been completed: a short survey of several projects to get a sense of what compensation practices are, and two, they have brainstormed a list of all the possible questions that need to be answered with the goal of developing a FAQ document.

Discussion: This is an area of need, at least for a document to highlight the things that people need to be thinking about either when hiring PRAs or taking on a position as a PRA. Another issue that was raised to be included that people need to be mindful when inviting peers to attend events that require flight/hotel, where often credit cards are needed. There is a need to get in touch with someone within the Ministry to find out the answers to some of these questions.

ACTION: PAN to look into finding a summer student or the like to help with the work.

b) **Social media and research - Andrea Langlois**

The Quarterly meetings group had identified a need for capacity building around how to use social media within research. Andrea brought this to the Capacity Building Committee at the Centre for REACH and they worked on a needs assessment survey that got 28 responses, half from BC. There are many

handbooks and toolkits on this topic and Andrea has created a resource page within the CBR Toolkit on the PAN website [here](#). The Committee will be reviewing the survey responses and developing a webinar for the fall.

7. CBR Quarterly Meetings: Check-in on purpose, format, and timing

The group responded that they are liking the format and timing of the meetings. It was noted that a room with a bit more light would be preferable and Kate offered to assist in getting a room at SFU for the next meeting. Jamie noted that he would like to see more working groups, for example there could be one on health research with gay men, and these WG could report back at the quarterly meetings. There was also a discussion regarding bringing in guest speakers and adding more social time.

ACTION: Jamie to initiate a gay men's health research working group.

8. Next meeting: The next meeting will be held in the fall, time and location TBA.