

Minutes
CBR in BC Quarterly
March 18, 2020
Time: 1 – 3:15 PM

Location: Zoom

Attendees:

Darren Lauscher (PAN); Antonio Marante (BCCfE); Clara Tam (BCCfE); Ashley Stoppler (Northern Health); Ben Klassen (CBRC); Tim Wasseling (BCCfE – SHAPE); Anna Vorobyova (BCCfE-Thrive); Paul Kerber (PAN); Madeline Gallard (PAN); Joanna Mendell (PAN); Surita Parashar (BCCfE); Carly Welham (DPC); Kate Salters (BCCfE); Claudette Cardinal (BCCfE); Sharyle Lyndon (BCCfE – Thrive); Tatiana Pakhomova (BCCfE); Michelle Stewart (PLN and PAN).

1. Welcome & Check-in

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Presentations

Snack Chat (see attached slides)

- Started in late 2018 as a collaboration between BCCfE and Dr. Peter Centre (DPC)
- Monthly lecture series for KTE to make research accessible
- Goal to meaningfully engage PLWH
- Just received CIHR Planning and Dissemination Grant for 1 year
- Started with community interest in research dissemination
- Involvement of Community Advisory Committee - 10 people that meet monthly and helped make Snack Chat fit within the DPC and solidified Snack Chat's purpose and format
 - E.g. idea to sit in a circle, and not have the lecturer stand and lecture
- Observations
 - have researchers to stay after for at least half an hour to engage with people who might not be comfortable in the bigger group
 - people are welcome to come and go
 - deepened understanding of research
 - it was helpful for researchers to have questions within their presentations
- *Asking for people to get in touch if you would like to host a snack chat, or present research*
- They are interested in presenters, not just from researchers, but related to research e.g. Peer Research Associates presenting on "Pathways to becoming a Peer Researcher" as the PRA CBR Quarterly Meeting had been discussing.

Sex Now (see attached slides)

- Community Based Research Centre (CBRC) – promotes health of gay, bisexual, and queer men (cis and trans) and Two-Spirit People

- Came from a history of research being done ‘on’ gay men that wasn’t being done in the best way, CBRC wanted to do research that was more helpful for gay men, and included nothing about us without us principles
- Sex Now – longest running survey of GBQ men (inclusive of cis, trans, and Two-Spirit)
- See slides for details on Sex Now Consultation, Recruitment, Surveys, Eligibility Criteria, Results etc.
- See Sex Now data on ourstats.ca
- This spring and summer are planning to do another in person survey, depending on how COVID-19 progresses
- Have started consultation process for Sex Now 2020 – get in touch if you would like to provide your input

Update: Journal of Indigenous HIV Research, AHA Centre

- Call for papers for the Journal of Indigenous HIV Research - <https://pacificaidnetwork.org/2020/02/13/call-for-papers-journal-of-indigenous-hiv-research/>
Special Issue: **Navigating Allyship: What does it mean to work together in service to the community?**
- Webinar upcoming on the JIHR and the Call for Papers – planned for April – stay tuned

5. Break

6. Program & Project Updates

Thrive Project (Anna & Antonio)

Recently started recruiting participants. Home and community care needs of older adults (50+) living with HIV.

- Challenge – home and community care is not understood as the Ministry understands it, many people who were calling us receive a lot of community supports (i.e. DPC) but we are specifically looking at Ministry subsidized home and community care – i.e. home support, assisted living, community care. So far have interviewed 6 people, are postponing some due to COVID-19. It’s a tough group to get ahold of, but important to tell their stories. If anyone has any thoughts as to how to reach this group, please let us know.
- Success – stories that we hear are very hard, but people are telling us that sharing their stories has been healing.
- Lesson Learned – making sure that our communication is clear with the knowledge user.

Suggestion – recruitment/reminder of follow ups – went to pharmacy and put reminders there.

Required thinking outside the box. Some groups meet in community in town, older groups, may be able to connect with them. *If you have other thoughts about recruitment – reach out to Anna*

SHAPE Stop HIV/AIDS Program Evaluation Survey (Clara & Tim)

Interested in how vulnerable people are infected, factors beyond clinical factors, social factors like housing income, how attitudes affect engagement in care. On follow-up 1 and 2, on hold due to COVID-19.

- Success – redid study postcards for follow up 1 and 2 reengagement. Managed to re engage people who hadn't been involved since 2016.
- Challenge – COVID-19, a lot of this requires in person work.
- Lesson Learned – important to always adapt and meet people where they are at.

Currently looking for topics for Follow up 3 – e.g. Aging with HIV. If you have other ideas, get in touch with Clara (ctam@cfenet.ubc.ca)

SHAPE RETAIN Study (Tatiana)

Qualitative study – looking to better understand strategies to keep people connected to care. RETAIN: part of STOP HIV program – program aimed at folks who have had a treatment interruption. Connected with drug treatment program.

- Objectives: qualitative interviews with PLWH through SHAPE, qualitative interviews with health care providers involved with RETAIN initiative, and using a strengths based approach will be looking at Indigenous experiences convened Indigenous steering committee, how to do knowledge gathering etc.
- Study recently received 3 years of CIHR funding, will be hiring staff including a Research Coordinator, Peer Research Associates and an Indigenous researcher. About to start with care provider recruitment, but now this is on hold for a little while. Will send around postings – with caution that we won't be hiring anyone in the short term due to COVID-19.

Making it Work (Joanna)

A CBR project looking at integrated services for people living with HIV, hepatitis C and /or challenges with mental health and/or substance use. Working to build out the study into four case study sites across BC who are providing services through an Indigenous worldview or with a strong focus on cultural safety.

- Will be hiring Peer Research Associates in Vancouver, Victoria, and Smithers to join our PRA in Prince George. We will also be hiring a graduate student to support the project. We will see what the coming months hold in terms of COVID-19, but are going to try to keep moving this work forward online as much as possible.

Northern Health (Ashley)

Looking for ways to contribute to research – get in touch if you want!

CBRC

Completed Sex Now 2019. At the whim of COVID-19 for in person events.

- Lesson Learned – want to keep track better for where people were recruited through online in future iterations of the online survey.

BC Living with HIV Stigma Index

CBR project documents experiences of stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV.

- Success – had a deliberative dialogue on stigma interventions, have a webpage hosting material from that day. <https://pacificaidsnetwork.org/training-leadership/stigma/deliberative-dialogue-2019/>
- Challenge – staying on track with so many priorities.
- Lessons learned – keeping track of all the things going on, making sure you are pushing things forward and looping in, but celebrating success as they happen.

7. Meeting Adjourned