

Sharing Space Community of Practice
June 29, 2021
1:00 PM Atlantic / 9 AM Pacific

Agenda for Sharing Space:

- Meeting opening
- Presentation by Leona Quewezance & Miranda Keewatin: Kotawe (start a fire) igniting cultural responsiveness through community-determined intervention research
- Other project updates and discussion:
 - Making it Work (Joanna)
 - How people are doing throughout the summer (check in)

Presentation from ANHN and Q&A (recorded)

Q&A/Discussion

- 1) Amazing to hear the fluidity of the methodologies – especially connecting community, research and COVID protocols. Still doing things in a way that is structured and respectful. How were research questions developed and did they evolve?
 - a. Research questions stayed the same – were developed by ANHN, Kotawe Team and Council. Questions are asked at every sharing circle in the same way and until the end of the project.
- 2) Seasons – how we can orient our research around the seasons? Elder Maggie Paul has also urged us to consider this.
 - a. One of the unique things we did was digitalize NAKpA – able to do panel discussion virtually ... these sessions can be up to 7 hours long. There is a host, moderator, and someone entering things into Excel ...
 - b. Each question is colour coded ... there's lots of moving around.
 - c. Morning Star Lodge provides training!! Just reach out.
- 3) Cultural intervention practices: do you think there are lessons learned re: how the Willow Warriors will be able to continue to access services and ceremony offered by this project? Research can't always sustain the connections and so on ...
 - a. Everyone that went to ceremony ... it's not us that sustains us after that, its our ancestors that keep things going after. A non-Indigenous person asked why we were doing this – it was magic ... it had nothing to do with me putting the ceremony together ... but it's the ancestors who bring all of these things together.
 - b. We do have a WW who is finding her way, she's been introduced to the Elder, and now she's doing her own healing with the Elder and in her own time ... if you want ceremony, you have to go to that ceremony and be in ceremony with the Elders and ancestors ...
- 4) Where does NVIVO fit into this model of data analysis?
 - a. NVivo – was overwhelmed when first using the software but realized it can do a lot of work for me. Take audio, transcribe it, upload it into NVivo – create nodes by season and question. Have all the data coded and then when we sit with our participants and look at quotes together.

- b. When you start getting familiarized you realize there are lots of gifts – it can do lots of work for you. NVivo will help to store and sort data ... into one word doc ... then the data is put onto a slide and then, the data is presented to the group for discussion.
 - c. Evaluation tools – uploaded – Nvivo is showing what is common, what has changed over the last evaluations.
- 5) When doing these long sessions of coding ... are there tips you could share to help keep people engaged over that time?
 - a. Last session, we took all season sessions and ran all seasonal data at the same time. After reflection, we will only work on 1 season at a time ... when hosting virtual meetings, I build in breaks and stretch them out ... when we were able to be in one place, we were able to share food. But I put down tobacco to help us prepare as well ...
- 6) Picking, sorting and storing stories – important. How seasons as a theme is being handled given climate change?
 - a. Climate change isn't something that we're addressing yet ... weather seems to work magically with the Elders – we work with very powerful Elders. Worked with an Elder living in a medicine camp – she was taking back her land and her ways. IF things aren't working, it gets addressed and dates, for example, change right away.
- 7) Evaluation tool: can you speak more re: that?
 - a. It informs our team re: if the women are enjoying the healers, the bundles and whether they feel safe. This is a tool that ANHN has been using for years and implemented into the process.
 - b. Eval tool is kept very simple: what did you learn? How did you feel? Will you take it forward? Simplicity is beautiful at its best is powerful ... it helps encourage the women to share lots ...

GROUP DISCUSSION: re: how people are doing after one year of CIVID and how

- **Making it Work** – co-led between PAN and AHA Centre. Community-based services for people living with HIV, hep c, mental health issues and substance use. Working with case study sites across what is known as BC – Prince George, Vancouver, Victoria, Smithers. Realist Evaluation framework – pulling together a framework that answers why programs work? For whom? Why? Still working virtually. Ethics application in for community consultations and a larger consultation with a graphic facilitator. It has been interesting to adapt graphic facilitation to a virtual space – she has been using Miro as a software with more interactivity with participants and pre-developed images.
- Dallas – new community coordinator at All Nations Hope – have been learning about Indigenous Research and grant writing. Also work at the Waniska Centre too.

- Andrea- Even though there's been a lot of challenges with COVID, it's helped to keep in contact with people I work with across the country and will continue this practice after COVID. Project she's been working on to develop culturally-appropriate coming-of-age youth in urban areas in foster care is starting to be wrapped up. Graphic Novel ... it's been coding and in Research as Ceremony, Wilson talks about a fishing net ... it worked in my project ... helps to show relationships. They used the research methodology, they worked with someone who helped to make symbolism more accessible. Worked with Ken Stacey from Camosun College on the Graphic novel ... it's very possible, it's very feasible ... but it's easy to propose in a grant and then, at the end, you've got something that is very sharable – community owned, community driven too ... to be able to say that you've done research that's been rigorous but also helps to demystify research ... it's been a gift. Please contact Andrea Mellor if you'd like to learn more! Someone told me, when I did a 3-minute thesis presentation that my proposal wasn't feasible, but it totally is.
- Question: what are some initial thoughts re: where the graphic novel is going, and how it's going to be shared?
 - We had research agreements re: how we would share any of our products ... it was very important that anything we did would be shared with community first before it goes out to a wider audience or not. This is an important process and was important to have the agreement in writing. Can go back to it with REB and research agreements ... will be shared first with a feast and then, maybe printed and sold at U Vic's bookstore with proceeds back to the youth centre.
- Art and Justice – Kelsey – provide art materials to people in federal prisons. Focus to find ways to continue engagement without being able to go into prison. Working with an actor who has recorded a one-man play that is being shared within the prison. Working with art galleries to show the work of the participants and seeing if we can get day passes for prisoners to come and participate in the showing. Working with high school in Abbotsford to support collaboration between students and prisoners. We now have a 1-888 number where anyone in prison can contact Kelsey – trying to find ways to let people that they aren't alone and we are thinking of them is so important. Will have a website soon so that sale of proceeds can go back to prisons so they can get paid for their art. We need to support ongoing advocacy for our incarcerated neighbours is really important.
- Britt – SHAWNA adjusted to COVID very well, but we are heading back to the office next week, and it's exciting to connect with people face to face ... we've done really well in connecting with people = maybe even connecting virtually with more people than we've been able to connect with in person. We've done COVID research and that is getting rerouted into the main research. We're looking at vaccine comfort levels and so on. There are lots of feelings around COVID and managing all of that ... research-wise, we have so many plans and ideas and it can be frustrating to figure out what to do first so we can do it well and not spread ourselves too thin. Expectations of academia do not match community ... you need to let community lead the way. Thanks to everyone for sharing their work ... I always learn things ...
- Carrie – share about the Fireside Chat – coming to an end – CHIWOS will be tomorrow and then one in July. Created under Catalyst Grant that was supposed to bring women

together ... so over the course of the year, they've hosted a series of monthly research sharing sessions in the meantime.

- Question re: different level of comfort: are there ideas around in-person/zoom hybrid meeting ... we had one and it was a disaster- there is a group of people in person and then someone excluded on Zoom ...
 - Finding ways to find spaces where people feel safe and comfortable it will be the balancing act over the next year. There is no balance ... maybe doing them separate and then finding ways to bring these two together. Everyone is going to have different levels of comfort in coming together. But it's important for PAN to find ways to balance this dance well.
 - Willie Ermine's ethical space ... is there another way we need to think about our meeting spaces – can we re-imagine meetings? Different paradigms of meeting together Ermine talks about it as a conceptual space, but is there a way that we can organize / share/ create a new space to meet in. We need a whole new idea re: meeting everyone's needs.
 - Wondering if we need to turn to our youth? They're on technology all the time, so how do we work with tech in hand, and still do virtual work. Also, will funders glom onto the cost effectiveness of virtual meetings in lieu meeting in person?
 - How is this virtual gathering change the world of research and sharing knowledge? We as researchers found a way to deliver the information, but it's become VERY dry. I'm looking forward to being together in person again ... it's important re: how we retain the info as well ... when Willie Ermine spoke, it was different and less engaging because there were time constraints and so on to consider. I hope that we don't go the cheap way ... and that we will continue to gather in person.
 - Outside of the meetings, networking is more possible and unavoidable.