

Aboriginal Practice Standards Redesign Project
Quarterly Update
Project Lead Activities
July 1 to September 30, 2010

Overall, this quarter's activities reflect the transition from focusing primarily on the organization and conduct of community information sessions to a meta-analysis of the themes voiced in the community-based sessions and the initial development of a framework for redesigned practice standards.

Activity Category: Meetings/Admin

- *Working Group Meetings* – Working group meetings were held monthly, by teleconference. In September, in place of a teleconference, an 'All parties' face-to-face meeting was held at the CFNCS office.
- *All parties face-to-face meeting* – A day-long meeting was held September 13th with members of the Working Group and Steering Committee. The purpose was to provide an update on project activities and to consider a draft meta-analysis and synthesis of themes from the community information sessions. The resulting document – draft overarching principles, principles for practice and practice and program related themes – was reviewed and suggestions for modifications were made. The discussion was very helpful and several ideas were put forward for ways to strengthen the document.

During the afternoon portion of the All-parties meeting, the Project Lead team posed several questions regarding how to proceed with drafting standards, i.e. whether they should be standards or guidelines (answer – standards) and then, what structure should they take. In consideration of the latter question, two groups were formed, and each was asked to brainstorm content areas. Again, this was very helpful as the two groups provided the Project Lead team with different ideas for structuring a Table of Contents.

- *Partnership meeting* – The Project Lead team attended a Partnership meeting on September 15th to provide a brief update of progress and activities to date.
- *Meetings with CFNCS* – The Project Lead team and CFNCS held one teleconference meeting to review progress and the work plan for the next quarter.

Activity Category: Community Information Gathering and analysis of themes

Two sessions were held during this quarter. The first was held July 7th in Kamloops at Secwepemc Child and Family Services offices. Participants were a mixture of agency staff, community members, and band politicians from the seven bands to which SCFS delivers services.

The second session was held July 8th in Lytton at the Nlha'7kapmx Child and Family Services office. This was a follow up session to one that had occurred earlier in the spring in Kamloops, when many elders who had travelled to Kamloops, felt they did not have adequate opportunity to provide input. Thus, participants were primarily Elders and agency staff.

A thematic analysis of each of the two sessions was completed and has been sent back to the agencies for circulation to participants for their feedback.

Analysis of information session notes

The Project Lead team completed analysis of the notes from all sessions. All communities received both the notes and the analysis of themes for comment and feedback.

In September, not having received any feedback, we forwarded to CFNCS the notes and analysis for Prince Rupert, Haida Gwaii, and Williams Lake sessions, along with a synopsis of each for posting on the Society website.

Beginning stages of drafting practice standards

In preparation for the face-to-face meeting in September and to begin our work of drafting practice standards, we spent much of July and August revisiting the literature review completed last fall and the analyses done of all of the community information sessions. Based on these reviews, draft overarching principles along with principles for practice and program and practice related themes were developed and then discussed at the meeting in September.

The feedback and input received from that meeting was incorporated and the revised documents have been posted on Muklook.

Draft practice standards outline

Following the meeting on September 13th, and in preparation for the October Working Group meeting, a draft practice standards outline has been developed and circulated for discussion and feedback.

Anticipated activities for next quarter

We anticipate that for the next quarter (October to December, 2010), the focus will be:

- Scheduling of second round of community information sessions to obtain feedback on the practice standards outline and direction to date
- Continued work on the practice standards document
- Regular Working Group meetings
- Steering Committee meeting