



SOARING TO **NEW HEIGHTS**

THUNDERBIRD PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION 2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT





VISION

Cultivating and empowering relationships that connect us to our cultural strengths and identity within holistic and healthy communities.

MISSION

The Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, a division of National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation Inc., is the leading culturally centred voice advocating for collaborative, integrated and holistic approaches to healing and wellness.

MANDATE

Thunderbird Partnership is the national voice advocating for First Nations culturally-based addiction services.

The Thunderbird Partnership Foundation has a centralized office located on the Eelūnaapèewii Lahkèewiit Territory, in southwestern Ontario.

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MESSAGE FROM OUR **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** AND **BOARD PRESIDENT**

Dear Friends,

The year has been one of reflection, appreciation, and planning for the future.


Renewing our Direction

Last year we focused on gathering your wisdom and advice to help us focus on what is critically important for the future. The one overarching strategic goal is to establish Thunderbird Partnership Foundation as a Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Knowledge and Culture for mental wellness. Hope, Belonging, Meaning and Purpose continue to guide our vision and we have begun a process to elevate these four outcomes to systems-level measures so that we can more easily report on investments against our strategic initiatives.

Elder Agnes Mills

And, just as we were talking about the future, Elder Agnes Mills, also fondly known as the ‘Grandmother’ of the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program, let us know that she was going to begin planning for her retirement as our Elder. This prompted us to think about the Elders’ role and how precious the gift is to support an Elder in transition. Recognition for the knowledge and skills of an Elder has come a long way in our work, and we still have a long way to go. Elder Mills has elevated attention to recognize the need to support Elders’ as they are called upon to support community organizations and Indigenous people wherever they might be, most often for free and without a safe reflective space or emotional support to process the vicarious trauma that comes from listening from your heart, the stories full of pain.

Thunderbird Partnership Foundation has great admiration and appreciation for Elder Mills and many others who are also committed to the wellness of Indige-



nous Peoples, who uphold the legacy of their ancestors to ensure a future for our children and are courageous in their belief that the Great Spirit has ensured there is always an answer to our question – how to live life well? We will continue to advocate for appropriate compensation for Indigenous knowledge, skills, and for the support Elders need in the work they do.

First Peoples Wellness Circle

It's been a few years now since our friends from the First Peoples Wellness Circle have joined us at Thunderbird to bring together the work of mental health and the spectrum of addressing substance use issues. Since that time, First Peoples Wellness Circle has grown, and you can look forward to learning more about their strategic direction. Mental Wellness Teams have increased across the country and many have reached out for support on policy, structure of teams, and training on culture, crisis, and addressing trauma. In response, First Peoples Wellness Circle has begun a needs assessment for Mental Wellness Teams to determine how they can be a support to this growing national program.

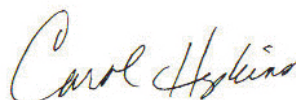
Renewal of NNADAP and NYSAP

We continue to be hopeful that new investments will be made in this national treasure that has been a solid foundation for wellness for the past 50 years. As many conversations occur around health system transformation, we must also maintain and renew the strengths that exist within these community-based and residential treatment programs that are also responding to the opioid crisis. The difference they make is highlighted in this report. We encourage you to use this information to support advocacy for additional investments.

Thank you for your interest and partnership in the ongoing work of Thunderbird Partnership Foundation.



Chief Austin Bear
President



Carol Hopkins
Executive Director

SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

As you move through this year's annual report, you will see our organization continue to strengthen and expand its support, research and advocacy for the strengths of First Nations.

Fiscal 2017-18 marks the third year since our *rebrand* and the final year of our three-year Strategic Plan. It's been a great year marked by exponential growth in our training and development role, an ever-expanding circle of strategic partnerships, new initiatives to support First Nations cannabis awareness, opioid research and support, data collection, training and development, webinars, publications, communications, and connections with you – our stakeholders. Our theme, *Soaring to New Heights* is an apt description of the kind of year it was.

Here's a tally of some of our 2017-18 numbers!

TRAINING COURSES

REGISTERED TRAINING PARTICIPANTS 2017-18



1,124

This represents a **40% INCREASE** over last year's numbers of

669

and **55%** over 2015's

623

28

TOTAL SESSIONS

NEW! FNMWC IMPLEMENTATION
8 trainings, **439** participants

CULTURE AS FOUNDATION
4 trainings, **106** participants

STRENGTHS BASED
3 trainings, **101** participants

**TRAUMA INFORMED/
VICARIOUS TRAUMA**
3 trainings, **227** participants

**BUFFALO RIDERS
EARLY INTERVENTION**
3 trainings, **128** participants

AMIS GOVERNANCE
6 trainings, **114** participants

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE
1 trainings, **9** participants

We are honoured to support the continued skill and knowledge development of First Nations people. The ever-increasing value for our training products has inspired the development of a national train-the-trainer program which we look forward to launching next year. The year also saw the development of a Vicarious Trauma workshop by our Trauma Informed training facilitators, and a revised Buffalo Rider course geared for youth peer mentorship.

WEBSITE ANALYTICS

THUNDERBIRDPF.ORG

15,132 WEBSITE VISITORS



OVER PREVIOUS YEAR (12,431)

54,459 PAGEVIEWS



OVER PREVIOUS YEAR (42,891)

Plus **increased time on website** per user,
and **increased number of pages** visited per user

SOCIAL MEDIA



1,711 FACEBOOK LIKES

UP 18% OVER 2016-17, AND 30% OVER 2015-16



2,519 TWITTER FOLLOWERS

UP 7% OVER 2016-17 AND 13% OVER 2015-16

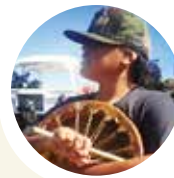
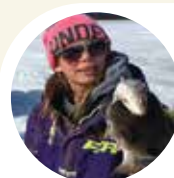
CULTURE FOR LIFE SOARS TO NEW HEIGHTS

2,106 USERS - 300% INCREASE

476 USERS

LAST YEAR

(LAUNCHED IN JUNE)



REASON?

My Culture ~ My Life social media campaign to mark **World Suicide Prevention Day** in partnership with the Assembly of First Nations, National Youth Solvent Abuse Program and First Peoples Wellness Circle.

Sustained web traffic after the campaign, with 3,096-page views this year versus 813 last year.

A national working group has also developed a new website that highlights community based wise practices for life promotion. We look forward to launching this new resource next year!

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED IN 2017-2018

TOTAL OF

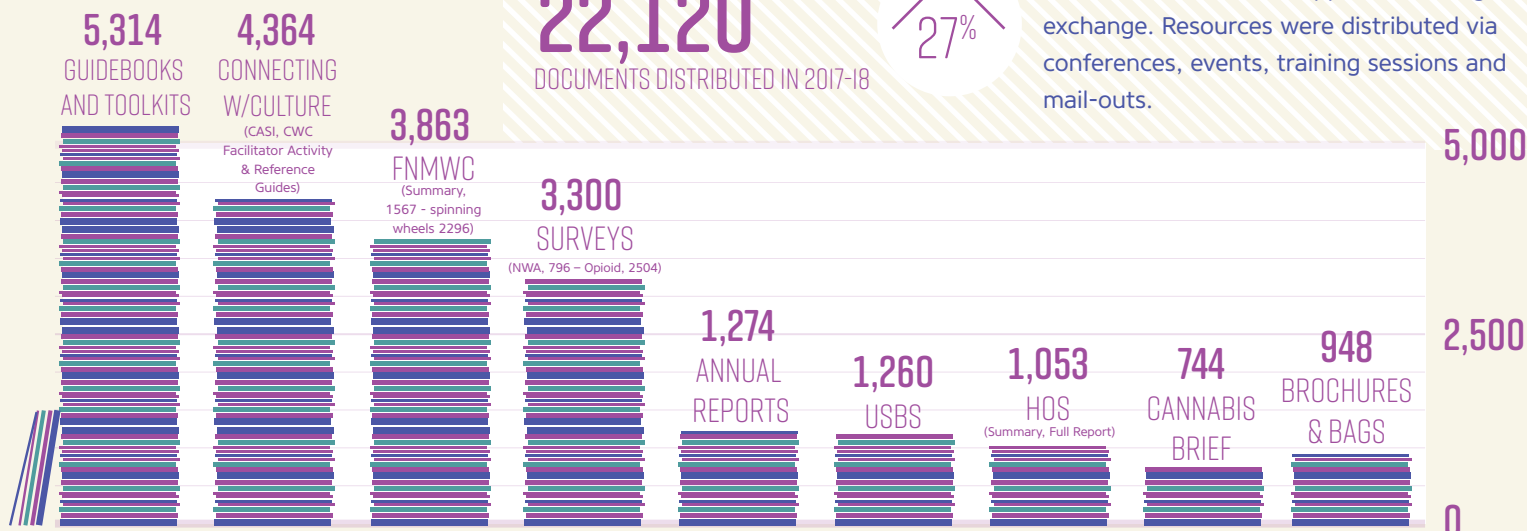
22,120

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED IN 2017-18



27%

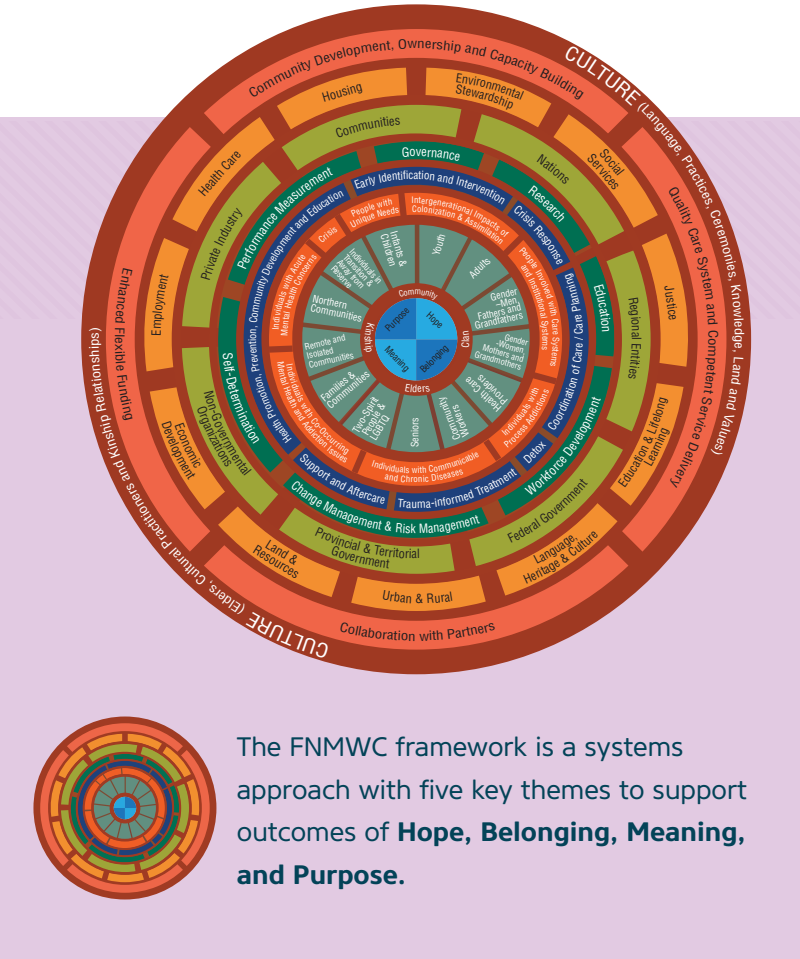
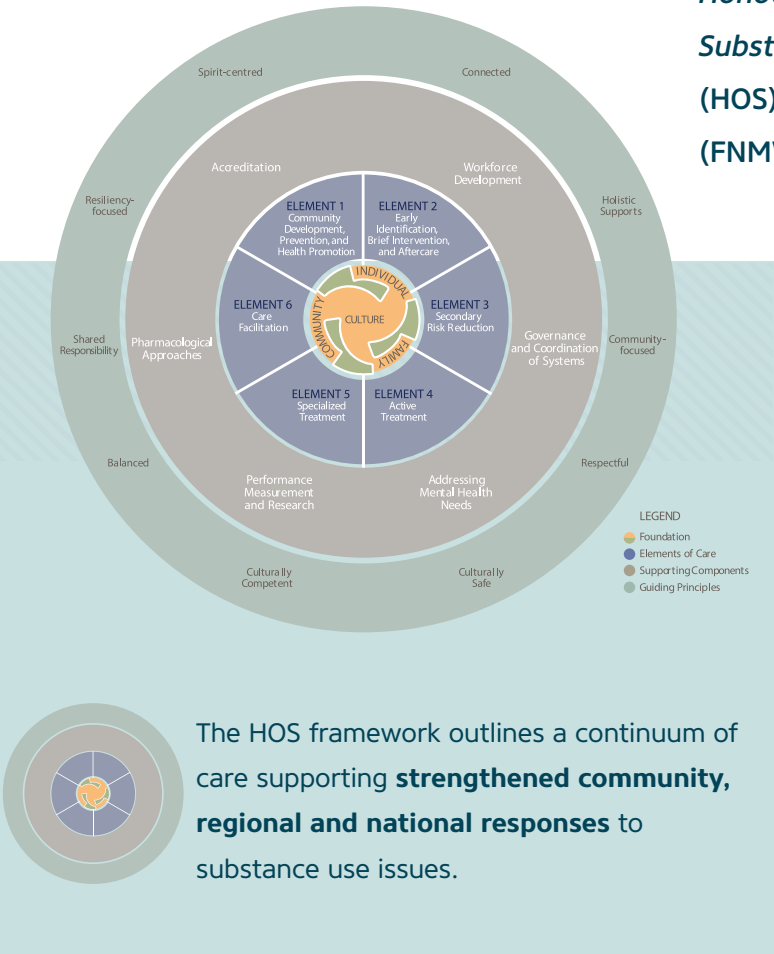
Thunderbird's toolkits/guidebooks and resources continue to support knowledge exchange. Resources were distributed via conferences, events, training sessions and mail-outs.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



Fiscal 2017-18 marks the third and final year of our three-year Strategic Plan, a roadmap to promote and implement both the *Honouring Our Strengths: A Renewed Framework to Address Substance Use Issues Among First Nations People in Canada* (HOS) and the *First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum* (FNMWC) framework.



Our five Strategic Objectives are outlined on the next page. We have designed this year's Annual Report to show how we are delivering on our mandate and satisfying our strategic objectives. **Look for the icons** that correspond to the HOS and/or FNMWC frameworks as well as our strategic objectives throughout this year's report.





Supporting Regional strategies, which includes supporting regional reviews and linking Regional/Provincial Addictions/Mental Health Strategies with HOS & FNMWC frameworks.



Create strategic partnerships to promote the HOS Renewal Framework and FNMWC framework implementation, within corporate/industry sectors, with national and international partners & networks; with a focus on: mental health, prescription drugs, population health: women and youth, and looking for other synergies.



Improve information management through implementation of the Addictions Management Information System (AMIS) and culture-based evidence, which includes establishing governance of AMIS and leveraging culture-based data to promote strengths of NNADAP/NYSAP for increased funding.



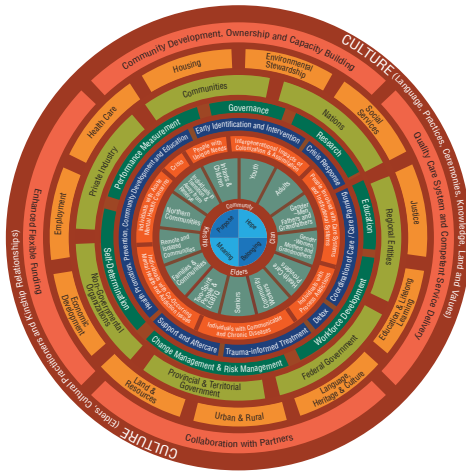
Support culture-based evidence and approaches to promoting mental wellness through the Native Wellness Assessment™ and promotion of Hope, Belonging, Meaning, and Purpose.



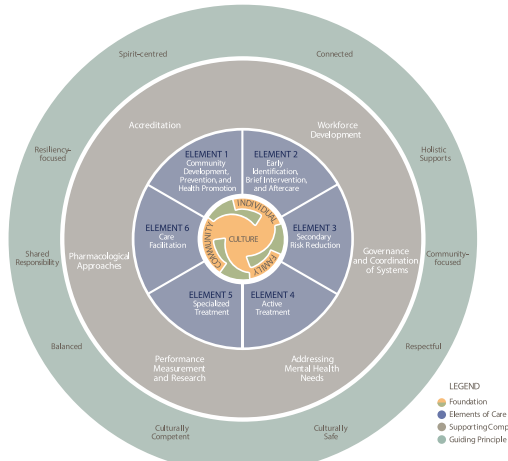
Communications, which includes position papers on substance use, mental wellness, corporate engagement, media packages, AMIS, and tradeshow booths.



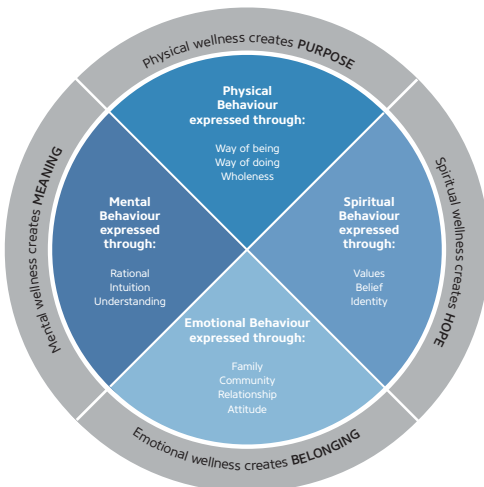
FNMWC – FIRST NATIONS MENTAL WELLNESS CONTINUUM



HOS – HONOURING OUR STRENGTHS: A RENEWED FRAMEWORK TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE USE ISSUES AMONG FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE IN CANADA



IWF – INDIGENOUS WELLNESS FRAMEWORK



OUR KEY INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL 2017-18

HOS/FNMWC/IWF IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

The top priority for Thunderbird Partnership Foundation remains the implementation of the national frameworks: HOS, FNMWC and IWF. The organization continues to engage in conversations and collaboration with First Nations, all levels of government, as well as other non-Indigenous partners to support how people think about substance use issues, mental health, and systems change to facilitate Indigenous wellness.

Highlights for the HOS include: revisions to the Buffalo Riders Early Intervention Training program to be delivered to youth participants, the Ontario NNADAP Wage Parity Case Study and a new partnership to support minimum standards at Alberta Addictions Treatment Centres.

Highlights for the FNMWC include: the addition of training to support the implementation of the FNMWC in First Nations communities; completion of the FNMWC Implementation Guide; development of a new facilitators guide and renewed participant workbook for the FNMWC Implementation training; and revisions to the popular FNMWC Spinning Wheels. Thunderbird also completed service delivery models for land-based services and for community crisis prevention, response, and recovery.

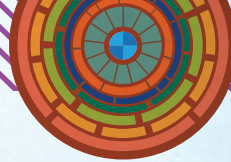
Highlights to support understanding and implementation of IWF: include using the Native Wellness Assessment™ as a tool to support conversations on culture. The Native Wellness Assessment measures: Hope, Belonging, Meaning, and Purpose, and provides both an individual and aggregate measure of change over time when culture is used to facilitate mental wellness. Thunderbird has had good success in using the tool to promote an understanding of how to begin to bring culture into community programs and services. For example, training participants often related to the statement: "I feel a connection between my community history and my own story". This is important as participants often thought that people in community do not know the history of the commu-

nity, the story of colonization and how that has become part of their own and family story. As a result, the reflection on this statement has led to planning for ways to support dialogue in the community and to explore how programs and services can fill this gap to support wellness.

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*"I feel a connection between
my community history and
my own story"*

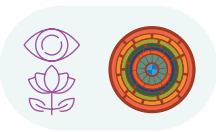
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LIFE PROMOTION INITIATIVES

Life Promotion is a concept born from discussions of Assembly of First Nations regional and national Youth Councils. In 2016, they issued Calls to Action on Life Promotion, and in 2017 Thunderbird Partnership Foundation supported the AFN National Youth Council in finding tangible implementation strategies.

The following are other key initiatives launched in fiscal 2017-18:



1. Thunderbird Partnership Foundation has enlisted the help of Dr. Chris Mushquash in researching what technology-based tools can be beneficial to support First Nations mental wellness.

The research project will review eMental Health solutions, which includes phone-based crisis and help lines, text-based services, chat services and web-based models that may also have capacity for access through smart phone-apps.

Given the current suicide crisis and ongoing need for increased mental health services for First Nations, especially youth, there is a strong case to be made to do more work to explore potential eMental health strategies that can broaden existing supports and culturally relevant resources to an Indigenous population. The recommendations will confirm requirements for potential culturally relevant eMental Health strategies as well as potential for future development requirements to meet emerging needs.

The eMental Health initiative is a result of Thunderbird's partnership with the Assembly of First Nations



2. The Thunderbird Partnership Foundation is providing multiple levels of support to the development of Wise Practices, a new website set to be launched in the fall of 2018

which showcases successful strategies that promote life among young people based on what is already working and/or showing promise in First Nations communities across the country. The resource is designed to be culturally relevant and responsive to the lived realities of young people and all who are invested in wellness for First Nations youth. Wise Practices is a partnership between Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, the First Peoples Wellness Circle, Health Canada and the University of Victoria.

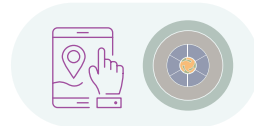


Megan Logan of Eelūnaapèewii Lahkèewiit (Delaware Nation) speaks to issues of Life Promotion on behalf of the AFN Youth Council at the Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa in December with support from Thunderbird Partnership Foundation's Executive Director, Carol Hopkins.

Nora Bressette delivered a portion of the Buffalo Riders Early Intervention Training Program to high school students in Thunder Bay. The workshop focused on life promotion through managing emotions, if students should ever need to respond to a friend or family member experiencing an overdose crisis.



TREATMENT CENTRE ADVOCACY



Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, along with the Assembly of First Nations, and in partnership with the Chiefs of Ontario continued to work together to advocate for improved resources for the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and the National Youth Solvent Abuse Program. A 2017 Ontario NNADAP/NYSAP Wage Parity Case Study included an inventory of services available to First Nations people through this federally funded national program and provincially funded services also serving First Nations. This report highlighted that 80% of NNADAP and NYSAP treatment centres are accredited with standards of excellence compared to 57% of publicly-funded treatment centres off-reserve. This confirms a 2014 study conducted by the Canadian Executive Council on Addictions that reported nationally the accreditation status of treatment centres: was 85% for NNADAP and NYSAP, and 62% for mainstream treatment centres. Community-based NNADAP programs are accredited through community health services. Despite more NNADAP and NYSAP treatment centres being accredited and recognized for their compliance with standards of excellence, they continue to be severely underfunded.

To illustrate the funding shortfall:

- **Additional 52% needed for operations**
- **Additional 47% needed for wages**

The Assembly of First Nations Health Transformation Agenda (2016) estimates that an additional 232.29 million annually is required to address this shortfall.

Considering the current opioid crisis being felt across the country, it should be noted that NNADAP and NYSAP treatment centres have *leaned in* and are responding through outpatient,

day patient and residential treatment services. As further evidence of their leadership in addictions support, NNADAP and NYSAP treatment centres are currently considering guidelines to support further harm reduction policy changes that recognizes the right to health, including medical cannabis for clients, distancing their organizations from the *abstinence* model to meet the ever-changing needs of clients.

In Ontario, despite a recommendation from the Ontario Leadership Council to support wage parity for Ontario-based NNADAP workers, provincial funding for treatment centres did not include additional amounts to address the pay equity gap.

The federal government budget for 2019 includes additional resources for innovative opioid agonist treatment, which may result in more investment for NNADAP and NYSAP centres.

The Ontario wage parity report will be available to share with other regions of Canada in the next fiscal year to support wage parity for NNADAP/-NYSAP workers in different provinces and territories across Canada.



Thunderbird caught up with the executive directors of two NNADAP 'centres of excellence' at the First Nations Health Authority's Mental Health & Wellness Summit in Vancouver last February. Benbowopka and Round Lake Treatment Centres in Ontario were invited to share their best practices, including how to support community-based/culturally grounded treatment. Standing L-R are Marlene Isaac (Round Lake) and Carol Eshkakogan (Benhowopka) with Thunderbird's Carol Hopkins.

FIRST NATIONS OPIOID SURVEY UPDATE



Some sections of the First Nations Opioid Survey will be revised and redesigned, following a research project that was conducted in a northern Ontario community. The research was conducted in partnership with Well Living House in Toronto and identified the need for a new section on harm reduction, as well as the need to translate the survey into OjiCree. The survey was designed originally as an electronic survey but

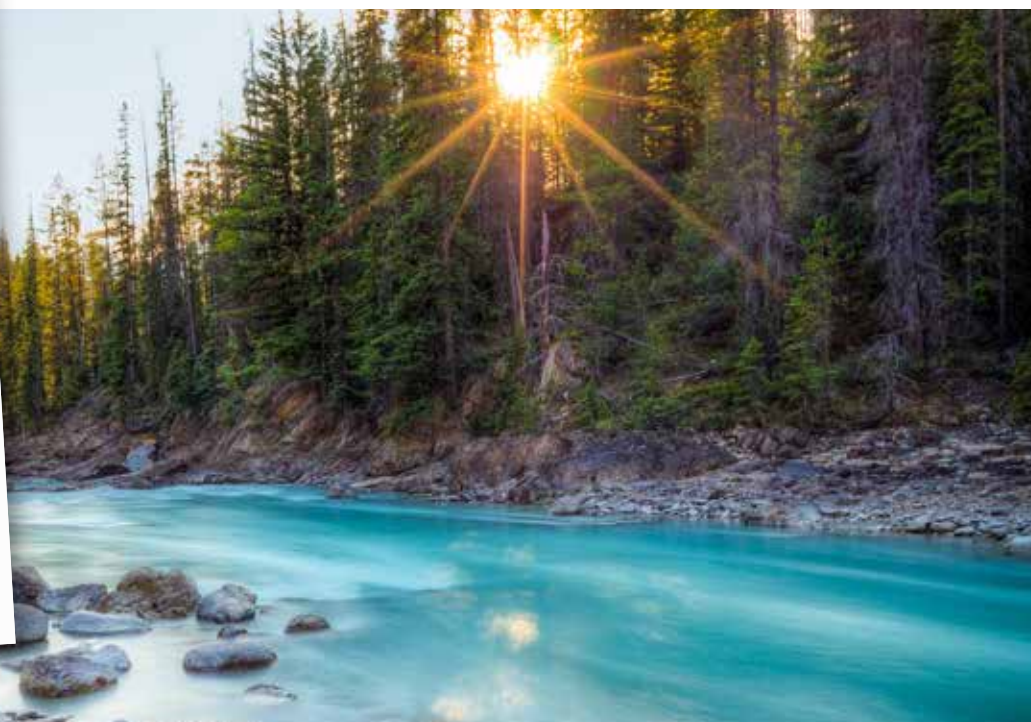
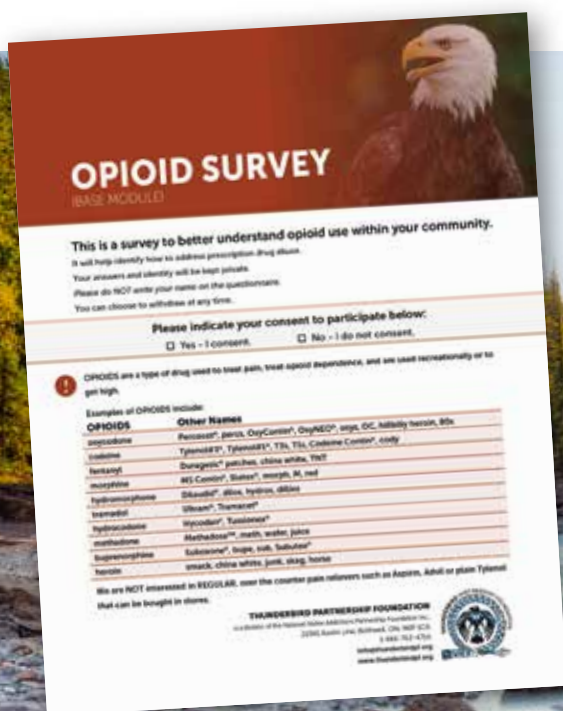
survey is designed to give communities information on opioid use, treatment, pregnancy and community attitude on the impact of opioids

with connectivity issues, it became apparent that the survey needed to be redesigned as a paper and pencil tool. The national opioid survey is designed to give communities information on opioid use, treatment, pregnancy and community attitude on the impact of opioids. The results of which can be used for planning and for monitoring community change over time. The next phase

of analysis will examine the opioid survey results against the measure of Hope, Belonging, Meaning and Purpose using the Native Wellness Assessment™.

First Nations Opioid Town Halls

In addition to the First Nations Opioid Survey, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation conducted a number of town hall discussions about opioids and community-based opioid agonist treatment programs. The dialogue sessions provided information to communities about prevention and treatment strategies as well as tools to begin a community-based treatment program, thanks to the good work of Mae Katt, a registered nurse practitioner and champion for community development. Thunderbird also supported the movement towards First Nations community-governed opioid treatment through a culturally-grounded conversation on harm reduction and trauma. More advocacy is needed for strategies to address opioid misuse that are controlled by and rooted in First Nations communities.



CANNABIS LEGALIZATION



Thunderbird leads regional dialogue strategy

As a result of its partnerships in the Let's Talk Cannabis project, the Thunderbird Partnership Foundation's role to support First Nations through education and awareness has expanded in advance of the legalization of cannabis. In addition to developing, testing and modifying cannabis dialogue tools in partnership with the University of Victoria and the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR), Thunderbird will now lead regional focus groups to gain a better understanding of what supports First Nations need for meaningful dialogue and engagement. The regional sessions will facilitate meaningful dialogue on harm reduction, provide an opportunity to better understand differing viewpoints and support strategies to build youth resilience. Dialogue will also include a component on opioid misuse as discussion about medical marijuana is often linked to opioid replacement for pain management. A video production company has also been brought on board to develop video resources to support the discussions.



Regional dialogue sessions and webinars will take place in the following regions: Atlantic Region, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

The Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat Health Canada / Government of Canada has provided Thunderbird with additional resources to support the regional dialogue sessions and the creation of a national report on the needs and capacity of First Nations to prevent potential harms related to the legalization of cannabis.

Indigenous Cannabis Survey



To further support better understanding of community strengths and opportunities in relation to cannabis, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation has launched a new Indigenous Community Cannabis Survey. The survey is anonymous and has both youth and adult (26+) versions. The data will be used to produce information specific to First Nations' strengths and needs.





SUPPORTING AND MAINTAINING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

POPULATION HEALTH – WOMEN AND YOUTH



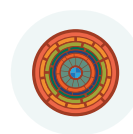
Fiscal 2017-18 brought multiple opportunities to further support Population Health Approaches for Women and Youth:

A national Indigenous Approach to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) has been developed as a result of a partnership between Thunderbird and the Centre of Excellence for Women's Health and the Canada Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Network (CanFASD). Together, the partners have developed an approach which responds to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #33 which calls upon all levels of government to recognize FASD as a high priority and to endorse the development of Indigenous FASD preventative programs that can be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.

Also, in partnership with CanFASD and the AFN, Thunderbird is participating in the First Nations Advisory Committee to provide guidance and expertise on FASD and the Continuum of Care, with plans to pilot the FASD tool in a First Nations community. The initiative will also undertake a gap analysis of Jordan's Principle, in accessing funding from Diagnosis to Service Delivery in the Continuum of FASD Care. The committee will draw from the AFN Health Transformation Agenda, the FNMWC and register the key informant tool under OCAP.



EPIGENETICS, GENETICS AND MICROBIOTA



We have made progress on plans to create a new training program that would educate First Nations community service providers on how the environment can impact biological processes, health and wellness. Indigenous science has long understood our connection between ancestry,

on strengths and resiliency of Indigenous Peoples. The research project has been supported by the leadership of Elder Jim Dumont and Dr. Amy Bombay, along with a team of Elders and First Nations Knowledge Holders. Once communities have participated in training on the role of DNA, microbiota, and epigenetics... from both a Western science and Indigenous science perspective, they will be supported in further research if they choose.

a new training program that would educate First Nations community service providers on how the environment can impact biological processes, health and wellness.

land and environment and to the sacred seeds of life, which is the DNA. Science is now confirming this connection through the study of genes, and the role of gut-bacteria in supporting wellness throughout our life stages.

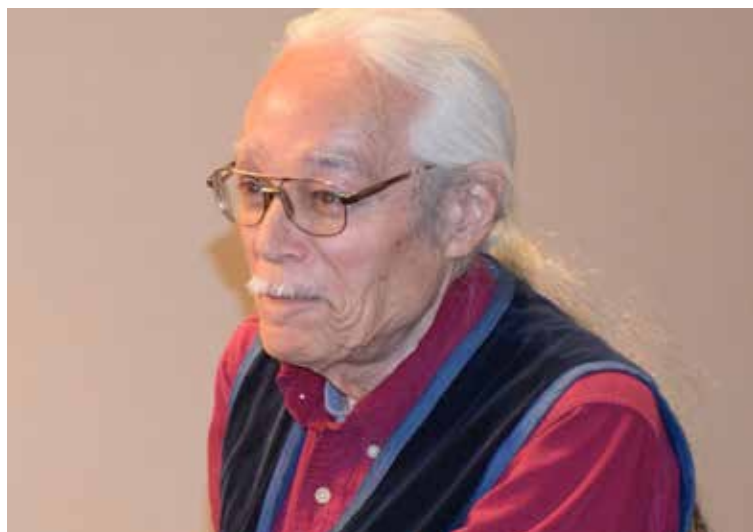
Indigenous Knowledge Keepers involved with the project were invited to Calgary in February for phase two of the project for further development of the training curriculum which is scheduled to be pilot tested next year. The training is focused

Creating Ethical Space for First Nations led Biological Health Research is the third phase of this project and aims to create capacity and opportunities for First Nations communities, organizations, academics, and students to lead and/or make informed decisions about participation in research projects that collect biological data. Funding from the *Healthy Brains Healthy Lives* research program with McGill University, is confirmed to support the development of the science module training segments and the Indigenous Science module training segments.

Thunderbird Partnership Foundation Elder Jim Dumont is providing support and leadership in the development of the new genetic-based curriculum.



Dr. Amy Bombay in discussion about epigenetics at Thunderbird's 2017 AGM, held in Halifax, NS





FACILITATING A CONNECTION BETWEEN FPWC AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON



As a result of a strategic partnership between the Thunderbird Partnership Foundation and the First Peoples Wellness Circle, a new life promotion program in Ontario has secured corporate sponsorship. Feather Carriers has received financial support from Johnson and Johnson. The Feather Carriers model draws upon the strengths of Indigenous communities to support life promotion through nurturing community leaders and knowledge sharing. It was co-developed by FPWC's Dr.

Ed Conners, as well as Dr. Debby Wilson Danard and John Rice. Thunderbird will be documenting how Feather Carriers links with the implementation of the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum framework.

*a new life promotion program
in Ontario has secured
corporate sponsorship.*



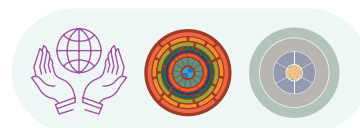
NEW LIFE PROMOTION PARTNERSHIPS WITH CFHI



A partnership with the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement (CFHI) to participate as faculty in a leadership development program on culture and Indigenous evidence has resulted in positive outcomes for both the First Peoples Wellness Circle and Thunderbird Partnership Foundation. The relationship has led to both organiza-

tions informing their northern roundtable collaborative on suicide prevention. A formal partnership agreement will attend to roles, responsibilities, compensation, intellectual property, and process for collaboration, to promote both the FNMWC and HOS frameworks among collaborating partners.

STRATEGIC NATIONAL PROMOTION OF THE HOS AND FNMWC THRU CECA



As an advocate for First Nations addictions and mental health issues through the application of the HOS and FNMWC frameworks, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation met with the Canadian Executive Council on Addictions (CECA) during their annual general meeting in Calgary in November 2017. The meeting provided Thunderbird with an opportunity to ask all regions represented by CECA to outline how they are implementing the frameworks, as well as the Calls to

Action developed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The request is strategic, given Thunderbird's limited resources to ensure the organization's partnerships assist policy development and framework implementation, which have been created by and for Indigenous peoples to facilitate wellness.

CECA is expected to provide an update at its next meeting in the spring of 2018.

NEW OPIOID RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP WITH CRISM



A new partnership has been struck with the Canadian Research Institute on Substance Misuse (CRISM) to support the development of a forum focused on Indigenous-led research in substance misuse. One of CRISM's priorities is Indigenous Peoples and opioids. In partnership with the Prairie Node of CRISM, Thunderbird will lead an opioid focused research project. For Thunderbird, the

partnership will build capacity towards the organization's research capacity.

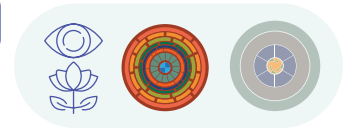
The research project on opioids would have a 5-year commitment. A national research forum would support the development of a national research strategy for substance misuse for Indigenous people.





SUPPORTING EVIDENCE-BASED CULTURE APPROACHES

CRISIS PREVENTION AND LAND-BASED SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS



To support the Indigenous belief that community, clan and family provide the best supports in a time of crisis and that time on the land supports a more expansive understanding of wellness than just the absence of disease, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation has taken its two service delivery models (SDMs) to the next level. The SDMs are rooted in the FNMWC, providing a template to guide communities that want to develop their own wellness and crisis response programs. Curriculum is being developed to support a train-the-trainer model to support both models.

In tandem with the curriculum development, the service delivery model guides are in French translation and design. Thunderbird also gathered insight from participants attending a two-day workshop hosted by Public Health Ontario which will be incorporated into the SDMs.



>>> The view from the Kwanlin Dün
>>> Jackson Lake Camp, land-based
>>> wellness in the Yukon.

THUNDERBIRD SUSTAINS ITS TRAINING LEADERSHIP ROLE



It was another banner year for training at Thunderbird Partnership Foundation as the organization continued to provide multiple courses on demand to support the national frameworks (HOS/FNMWC/IWF) and meet regional interests.

The number of people who registered for one of Thunderbird's education courses increased by 40 percent at 1124, compared to 669 participants in

the previous fiscal year. The following courses dominated the year: FNMWC Implementation, Using Trauma-Informed Approaches in Our Work: From Understanding to Practice and Vicarious Trauma, Culture As Foundation, Strength-Based Practice Training, AMIS Governance Training and the Buffalo Riders Early Intervention Training Program.

A significant highlight from the year included the introduction of Thunderbird's newest course, FNMWC Implementation. This training is designed for First Nations communities, addictions and

mental wellness workers, health care providers, as well as other service providers interested in supporting Indigenous wellness using culture as foundation.

Both the Trauma-Informed and Culture as Foundation courses also remain popular across the country. Feedback from participants of the trauma-informed training report a significant increase in their understanding of how trauma-informed approaches can assist clients, their understanding of the link between colonization and intergenerational trauma and how culture is foundational to trauma-informed approaches.

FNMWC Implementation Training feedback

What part(s) of the training had the biggest impact on you?

Having this framework for me is "proof" of what I have felt and practiced to the best of my ability to date. It affirms my beliefs and reminds me of how much learning and growth we have ahead of us. --this is exciting...

When asked what we wanted to get out of the training my answer was "context" for my work. I feel that I really had an epiphany of sorts in terms of beginning to understand the meaning of culture and how it relates to wellness. My understanding of the concept has been totally/completely/irrevocably altered as a result of this training.

Trauma-Informed Training feedback:

What part of the training had the biggest impact on you?

Informative, knowledge based - all people involved in helping other's should be required to take this training

Amazing. Mandatory for all First Nations helpers native and non native

Awesome, eye opening, had a paradigm shift

Vital to go at their own pace and you don't need to rush there or fix everything. Also helped to validate the role culture has in healing.

Culture As Foundation Training feedback:

What part of the training had the biggest impact on you?

How to begin a cultural wellness program in our community now has a starting point (documented); we are no longer in the dark. Wonderful to see the hard work of the Thunderbird Foundation is paying off and seeing results!

Utilizing the NWA feedback form as a tool to evaluate. Also the statistics on the substance use and abuse was eye opening.

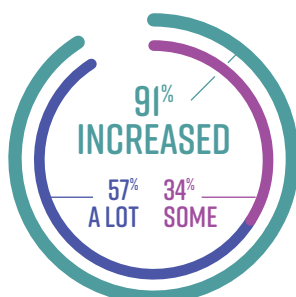
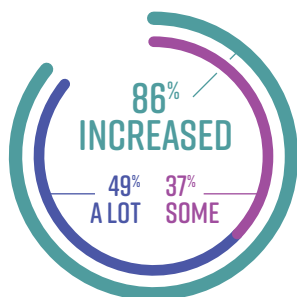
I liked how we can use the data to prove what we've been saying about the importance of culture all along

Teaching about culture- hope, meaning, purpose, belonging

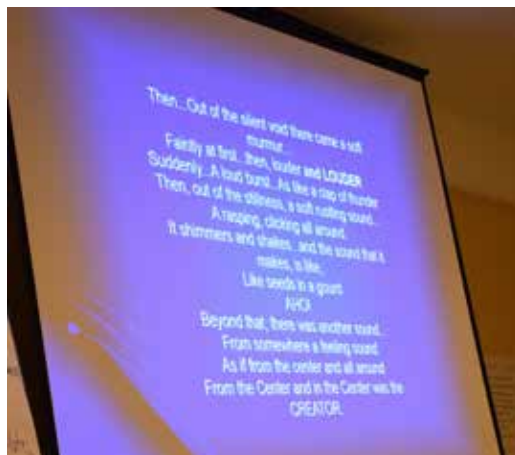
Honestly all of it! Miigwetch

"After this training my understanding has..."

"After taking this course my knowledge where culture can contribute to wellness has..."



Culture As Foundation is much sought after as it provides understanding of the Indigenous Wellness Framework, and Thunderbird's Native Wellness Assessment™, which is seen as a valuable tool by communities. Feedback from participants of this course felt it validated what they are already doing and gave them a chance to see how those who value culture as the foundation share a common vision about the importance of culture, identity and language in supporting wellness.



Garett Cloud of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation participated in the Culture As Foundation education course, which included a hands-on activity while listening to a re-telling of the Creation Story.

The demand for Thunderbird's education courses is likely to remain high, as the organization is fielding requests to host webinars about its training courses from stakeholders and partners to support training investments in the next fiscal year.

BUFFALO RIDERS TRAINING FOR YOUTH

There has been some big changes this fiscal for the Buffalo Riders Early Intervention Training Program. The 5-day training session has been modified for youth participation. Changes include activities that are more interactive for a younger audience. Buffalo Riders modules, such as Taming Emotions have been teased out of the curriculum to help youth learn how to cope with unpleasant emotions, such as anger, guilt or shame in relation to substance abuse/misuse through cognitive strategies and cultural interventions. One such training session for youth in Thunder Bay also provided naloxone training delivered by the local health unit.



Members of the Aboriginal Youth Opportunities program in Winnipeg, MB participated in a new youth focused Buffalo Riders Early Intervention Training Program in March

ENHANCING THUNDERBIRD'S TRAUMA RESOURCES

A priority for Thunderbird in fiscal 2017-18 was to develop additional resources on trauma engaged care. The scoping review conducted by Dr. Cheryl Currie, at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta focused on strategies for reaching hard to serve populations, such as, multigenerational households with intergenerational trauma. Key findings of the scoping review provide key insights for community programming and most significantly, the outcomes recommend in-home support! Some of the key findings include:

- in home service weekly – gender balanced to match family makeup, same cultural identity;
- focus on relationship building & establishing trust vs. focus on issue(s) & services;
- when family is ready to engage in help / supports, start with the priority identified by them rather than what we think is important;
- ensure the helpers going into the home are consistent and support them with regular clinical supervision and case conferencing with a multi-disciplinary team that includes culture;

- provide referrals to other services when wanted by the family, and
- most often, eMental health solutions are not effective for these families, but telephone support in between home visits has good evidence of impact.

The scoping review will also inform Thunderbird's eMental health initiative.



Dr. Cheryl Currie, Associate Professor of Public Health, University of Lethbridge



COMMUNICATIONS

Sharing the success of My Culture ~ My Life social media campaign at the Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa last December.

THUNDERBIRD WEBSITES GAIN GROUND IN 2017-18

The organization enjoyed robust increases on both of its websites in the last fiscal year. Here are some highlights:

thunderbirdpf.org

The number of users visiting the site increased from 12,431 in the previous period to 15,132 in 2017-18. This represents a growth rate of more than 20 percent. The number of page views increased by more than 25 percent (12,000+ views) from 42,891 to 54,459. Every metric increased noticeably, including the time spent on pages (2 minutes 25 seconds last year, compared to 2 minutes 36 seconds this year), and the number of pages per session (2.32 last year to 2.38 this year). These numbers indicate that not only were there more users, but users were more engaged.

cultureforlife.ca

The Culture for Life page experienced even more pronounced growth. The joint campaign, My Culture ~ My Life, to mark World Suicide Prevention Day gave many young people a chance to share how they connect with their culture. There was a sustained increase in website traffic during the campaign and continued higher numbers through the rest of the year.

In 2016-17, during the first six months after launching, cultureforlife.ca saw a total of 476 users. In 2017-18, that number jumped to 2,106, representing an overall growth of more than 300 percent. Page views reflect similar growth, with 3,096-page views this year versus 813 last year.

Thunderbird has significant improvements on both sites in progress for the coming year.

The joint campaign... gave many young people a chance to share how they connect with their culture.



Social Media

Thunderbird's social media platforms had a lively year of engagements, live-streaming events, increased video play and growth. Posts that shared our work continued to earn the most interest.

Facebook engagement is up with 1,711 likes, an increase of 18% over our last Fiscal year. However, Thunderbird's Facebook engagement has increased a whopping 30% since fiscal 2015-16. Twitter engagement is also up, with 2,519 follow-

ers, which represents an increase of 7%. When compared to two years ago however, Twitter engagement has risen 13%.

Highlights include:

Top Posts/Tweets: Live streaming from the AFN's Cannabis Discussion at the Special Chiefs Assembly; Carol Hopkins' Order of Canada; the FNMWC presentation "Wellness on the Land" Land-based Service Delivery Models shared from the IOS2018 event.

TPF is also increasing its use of video to showcase our work, as this is a powerful medium which is

readily accessible by many of our followers. The top performer on YouTube at 379 views is a compilation called: Youth Reflections: Connecting with Culture to support Thunderbird's youth website: cultureforlife.ca.

New additions recorded from the IOS event are following closely behind: How to use the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework at 260 views and Life Promotion: A Strengths Based Approach to Indigenous Wellness at 249 views.

EVENT/CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. 2018 BEST START Annual Conference Presentation on Trauma-Informed Approaches in Action, Toronto, ON
2. Addictions and Treatment, Post Gladue Conference, Osgood Hall, Toronto, ON
3. AFN Health Transformation Agenda Summit, Toronto, ON
4. AFN Special Chiefs Assembly, Ottawa, ON
5. Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) Cannabis Forum, London, ON
6. Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Human Trafficking, London, ON
7. Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Indigenous Education Gathering, Oneida of the Thames First Nation, ON
8. Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Trauma Informed Presentation, London, ON
9. Atlantic Policy Congress Health conference, Moncton, NB
10. Canadian Society for Addictions Medicine, Niagara Falls, ON
11. Chiefs of Ontario Health Forum, Toronto, ON
12. CRISM Prairie Node Annual Meeting Presentation: Indigenous Engagement in Research: Why it matters, Calgary, AB
13. Cultural Safety and Trauma Informed Care, University of Saskatchewan, First Peoples First Person Indigenous Hub, Canadian Depression Research and Intervention Network, Saskatoon, SK
14. Culture and Wellness Public Talk, Ontario Brain Institute, Toronto, ON
15. Culture As Intervention Presentation, Laurentian University School of Social Work/Native Human Services, Sudbury, ON
16. Culture in Wellness, Dilico Annual General Meeting, Thunder Bay, ON
17. Epigenetics Research, DG Science Committee, Health Canada, Ottawa, ON
18. Epigenetics Research Meeting, McGill University, Montreal, QC
19. First Nations Health Authority, Health & Wellness Summit, Vancouver, BC
20. First Nations Health Managers Association Conference, Toronto, ON
21. First Peoples Wellness Circle, Traditional Knowledge of Trauma Gathering, Vancouver, BC
22. FNMWC & Life Promotion, Pan American Health Organization, Montreal, QC
23. FNMWC Governance, Sagkeeng Family Treatment Centre, Winnipeg, MB
24. FNMWC Governance, Sturgeon Lake Child and Family Services
25. FNMWC Implementation, New Brunswick First Nations Mental Health Forum, Miramichi, NB
26. FNMWC Implementation: Atlantic Policy Congress Mental Wellness Forum, Moncton, NB
27. FNMWC presentation to the National Collaborating Centre for Public Health and Wellness Promotion, at the National Gathering entitled: Population mental health and wellness promotion: Clarifying the roles of public health, Gatineau, QC
28. FNMWC, 2017 Workshop for Advancing Pain Research in Indigenous Health Contexts, Winnipeg, MB
29. FNMWC, Canadian Public Health Association Conference, Halifax, NS
30. FNMWC, National Aboriginal Mental Health Research, McGill University, Montreal
31. FNMWC, Public Health Residency Program, University of Ottawa
32. FNMWC Implementation presentation, Six Nations, Ohsweken, ON

3. Governance in Mental Wellness, Chiefs Forum, First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission (FNQLHSSC)
34. Igniting the Warrior Spirit, Winnipeg, MB
35. Indigenous Epigenetics Knowledge Keeper Research Meeting, Calgary, AB
36. Indigenous Mentorship Network Program (Saskatchewan node), Saskatoon, SK
37. Indigenous Mentorship Network Program, (Ontario Node), Western University, London, ON
38. INDSPiRE: National Gathering for Indigenous Education, Montreal, QC
39. IOS2017, 5 presentations and poster competition, Calgary, AB
40. Life Promotion - World Congress on Public Health 2017, Melbourne, Australia
41. Mental Wellness Forum, FNQLHSSC, Quebec City, QC
42. National Gathering of Elders 2017 - Co-Sponsor, Edmonton, AB
43. National Policy Forum and Future of Mental Health in Canada Panel Discussions: Hart House Debate Society, University of Toronto, ON
44. Native Wellness Assessment, Laurentian University, Native Human Services, School of Social Work
45. Ontario Ministry of Education, Presentation on Native Wellness Assessment™ and Indigenous Wellness Framework, Toronto, ON
46. Ontario Native Education Counselling Association (ONECA), Toronto, ON
47. Ontario Regional Addictions Partnership Committee (ORAPC), Sault Ste. Marie, ON
48. Opioid Town Hall, Horse Lake, AB
49. Presentation at Partnership Symposium on Cannabis Public Education and Awareness, Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine, Ottawa, ON
50. Saskatchewan NNADAP conference, Saskatoon, SK
51. Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Presentation on Legalizing Cannabis, via videoconference from Sudbury, ON
52. Strategic Management, Rainbow Lodge, Sudbury, ON
53. Union of Ontario Indians Health Forum, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

WEBINAR PARTICIPATION

Facilitated FNMWC presentation for Wisconsin, May

Facilitated Land-based Service Delivery Model presentation for FNIHB Alberta, June

Facilitated a Native Wellness Assessment™ presentation, to the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), November

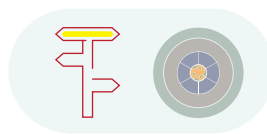
»»»»»»»»
It was a year spent traveling from coast (Peggy's Cove, NS) to coast (Vancouver, BC), sharing our work at events here at home (Calgary, AB & Regina, SK) and abroad (15th World Congress on Public Health in Melbourne, Australia.)

COMMITTEES/ADVISORY ROLES

1. FNMWC Implementation Team Secretariat
2. National Collaborating Centre for Public Health and Wellness Promotion, Population Mental Health and Wellness Promotion Forum, Advisory Committee
3. Canada Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Network First Nations Advisory Committee
4. Ontario Mental Health and Addictions Leadership Council
5. Prescription Drug Abuse Coordinating Committee
6. Federal Mental Wellness Advisory Council
7. Institute for Work and Safety Advisory Group
8. CRISM Implementation Committee
9. Chiefs of Ontario Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Task Force
10. AFN Mental Wellness Committee
11. Public health forum planning committee
12. Social Determinates of Health DG committee
13. Canadian Executive Council on Addictions



ISSUES OF SUBSTANCE



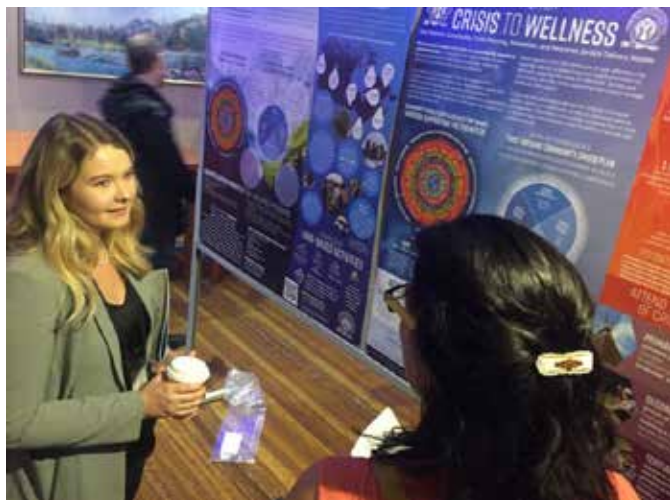
IOS resulted in national exposure for Thunderbird's service delivery models created to support crisis response and land-based wellness programs.

Thunderbird had a strong presence at the Issues of Substance (IOS) conference in Calgary in November, where it shared five separate presentations: FNMWC Implementation, Honouring Our Strengths: Indigenous Culture as Intervention in Addictions Treatment, Using Trauma Informed Approaches in Our Work: From Understanding to

Practice, and Life Promotion: A Strengths Based Approach to Address Suicide and Opioids: A First Nations Community-Based Treatment Approach.

Thunderbird also participated in the IOS poster competition, where its poster, Wellness on the Land, won top spot in the Program and Policy Category. The poster, along with another called Moving from Crisis to Wellness were developed to showcase the new land based and crisis response service delivery models.

Thunderbird's poster to support land-based healing won the accolade of national addictions specialists at the Issues of Substance conference in Calgary, AB.





IMPROVING INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

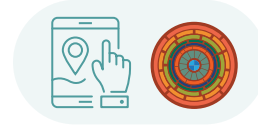
Native Wellness Assessment™ Update



Fiscal 2017-18 saw steady interest in the Native Wellness Assessment™ (NWA™) from communities, including new interest from the Alberta and British Columbia regions.

Thunderbird Partnership Foundation provides phone, web-based and face-to-face training and demonstration support for its unique assessment tool which measures the impact of cultural interventions on wellness over time. Through feedback from stakeholders, Thunderbird has made revisions to the client report on the results of the NWA™ Report, which is now two separate documents: a comparative report for clients and a supplementary reference guide.

Addictions Management Information System Update

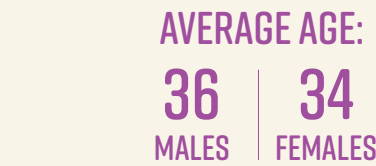
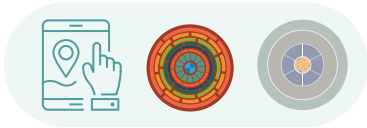


Thunderbird Partnership Foundation provides robust support for the Addictions Management Information System (AMIS), an on-line case management system. Supporting treatment centres in assessing their readiness helps them shift their workflow where needed and to ensure they have a foundation for their participation and use of the information management system. Thunderbird and The Youth Solvent Abuse Committee (YSAC) have worked together to gather treatment centres annually to ensure they are able to produce their annual reports from AMIS and prepare the results in an infographic format. Next year, an additional national meeting will call together treatment centres who are not currently using the information management system to explore their needs.

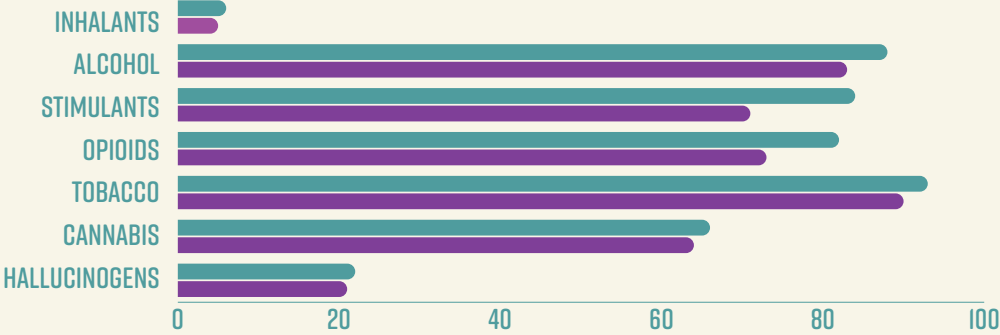


NNADAP INFOGRAPHIC - ADDICTIONS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (AMIS)

AMIS has been designed according to the needs of NNADAP and NYSAP funded treatment centres. There are a total of 51 NNADAP and NYSAP centres across the country, and 30 are actively using AMIS. The infographics included in our report represents data available from 20 of those centres as of June 8, 2018.

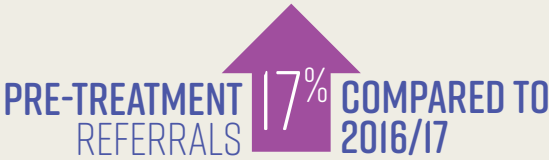
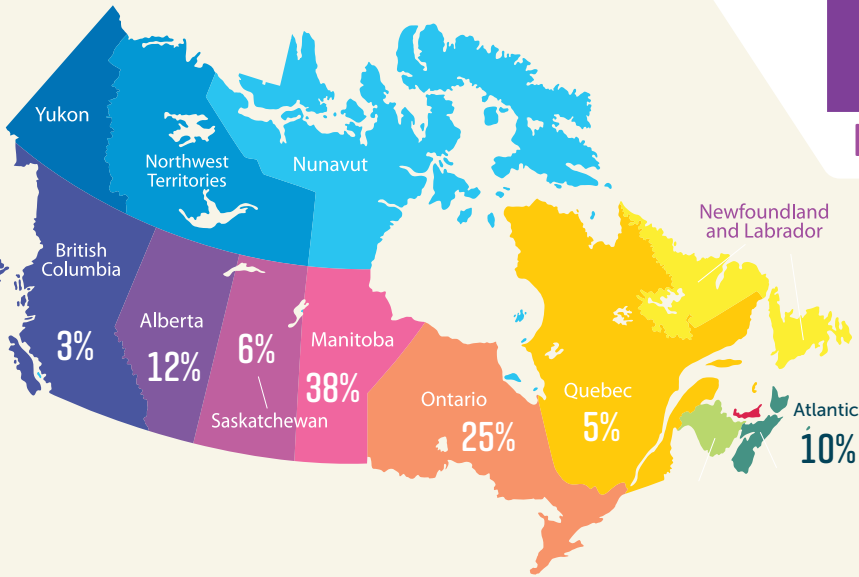
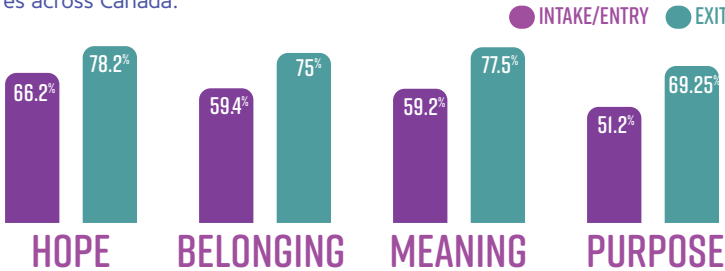


SUBSTANCE USE FROM DUSI-R



NATIVE WELLNESS OUTCOMES

The Native Wellness Assessment™ is the first instrument of its kind that is psychometrically and statistically validated to measure the impact of cultural interventions on wellness over time. The graph below represents a 12-18% increase in client wellness resulting from cultural interventions at NNADAP treatment centres across Canada.



- o Pre-treatment helps ensure client readiness to optimize likelihood of treatment completion
- o NNADAP Counselor Resource support is available at www.ontarionnadap.org



54%
NOT COMPLETED
HIGH SCHOOL



23%
have a history of
SUICIDE IDEATION
OR ATTEMPTS



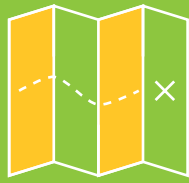
18%
of clients were involved
with the
JUSTICE SYSTEM



57%
of those involved with the
justice system are on
PROBATION

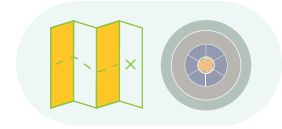


56%
COMPLETED
TREATMENT



SUPPORTING REGIONAL STRATEGIES

OVERVIEW OF ONTARIO MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTIONS CENTRES AND PROGRAMS



Thunderbird Partnership Foundation has completed an overview of Indigenous and non-Indigenous led mental health and addictions centres and programs in Ontario. The inventory review identified potential gaps and opportunities for investments, as well as compared data, with specific attention paid to Indigenous providers.

A total of 118 organizations: 51 Indigenous-led/based treatment programs/services and 63 non-Indigenous-led mainstream service organizations across the province received the survey last August.

ConnexOntario provided Thunderbird with information about the organizations as it maintains a large database of relevant services in the province.

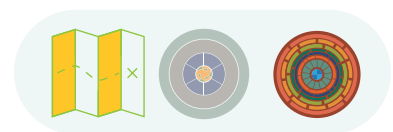
A sampling of the overview found that Indigenous providers were more likely to serve younger children and families than non-Indigenous providers.

The overview will be incorporated into the Ontario Wage Parity Case Study.



Thunderbird provided an update on AMIS when it joined an Ontario's Treatment Centre Directors meeting in Kenora in June 2017.

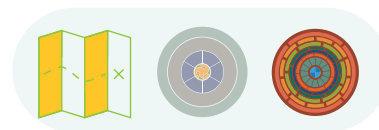
SUPPORTING MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ADDICTIONS TREATMENT CENTRES IN ALBERTA



A new project funded by the Alberta Ministry of Health is underway to develop minimum standards of care for publicly funded residential treatment services in that province. The Thunderbird

Partnership Foundation will partner with the Metis Nation of Alberta to establish minimum standards of care for residential addictions treatment services.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS SECURED FOR INDIGENOUS WELLNESS IN ONTARIO



Thunderbird Partnership Foundation is pleased to report that its mandate to promote the implementation of the HOS and FNMWC frameworks has resulted in some major investments for Indigenous wellness in Ontario.

In 2017, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation was invited to share insight into the frameworks at a meeting of First Nations tribal councils, as well as Ontario ministries and federal departments. As a result, Thunderbird was nominated by the Chiefs of Ontario and vetted by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MoHLTC) with the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres, Tribal Councils, the Ontario Metis Nation and the Ontario Native Women's Association to establish a First Nations, Inuit and Metis reference group.

With Thunderbird's leadership, the group identified needs and developed criteria surrounding funding for Indigenous-led treatment centres and mental health and wellness programs in the prov-

ince, drawing from multiple sources, including the HOS and FNMWC frameworks. The reference group shared its recommendations with Ontario, which resulted in the following funding announcement by the provincial minister of health in February:

- \$18M for 34 new mental health and addictions programs for 2017-18, 2018-19 and beyond; and
- \$18.4M for 10 new or expanded treatment and healing centres for 2017-18, 2018-19 and beyond.

Funding for this Indigenous wellness initiative stems from *The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples*, which was identified by a parallel Indigenous process set up under *Open Minds, Healthy Minds*, Ontario's comprehensive mental health and addictions strategy.

FINANCE REPORT

Throughout fiscal year 2017-18, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, a division of the National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation Inc., focused on investments to mobilize expanded implementation of the HOS and FNMWC frameworks, producing tangible outcomes to support our mission to be the national leading voice advocating for collaborative, integrated and holistic

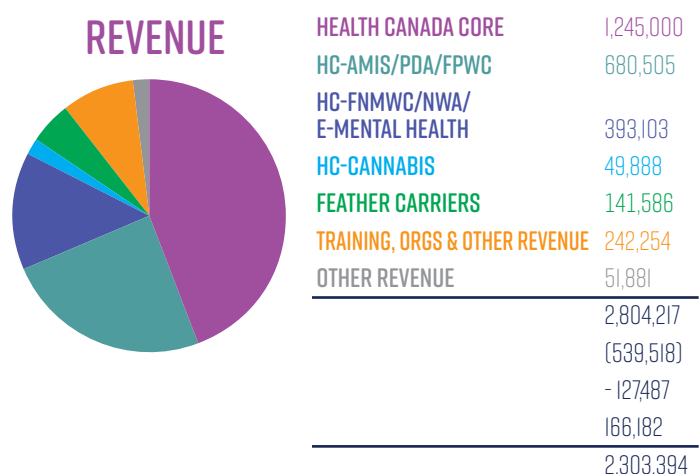
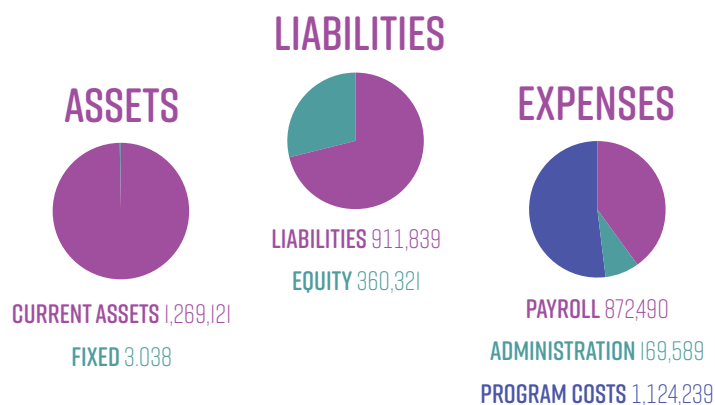
approaches to healing and wellness.

The organization continued its commitment to ensure First Nations cultural strengths and Indigenous knowledge are cultivated and empowered in all sectors of our work, including activities, partnerships and committees that facilitate a systems-change approach and action the organization's strategic objectives. Investments in

knowledge sharing, research and collaboration opportunities continued as a priority area with participation in numerous committees, presentations and tradeshow booth engagements at diverse forums to foster strong communication and linkages with stakeholders.

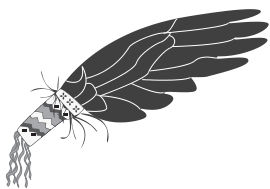
The year also saw the organization increase its full-time staff to twelve (including one full-time coordinator for the Feather Carriers life promotion initiative) and one part-time employee (eMental Health project lead). Additionally, Thunderbird contracted personnel for specialized services including training sessions, Indigenous language translation, proposal writing and rapid literature reviews.

The financial report also indicates funding received for First Peoples Wellness Circle to: develop tools to support their governance structure, become an incorporated entity, continue supporting FNMWC implementation, Life Promotion(Feather Carriers) and develop a needs assessment for Mental Wellness and Crisis Support Teams across Canada.



2017-18 ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- development and delivery of the FNMWC Implementation Training Course;
- development of Train-the-Trainer curriculum to complement the service delivery models for land-based and community crisis prevention, response and recovery;
- 40% increase in registered training participants of our regional and community-based accredited training programs compared to 2016-17, through the delivery of 28 training sessions across the country (three in the USA);
- development of resources and work planning to support 10 Regional Cannabis Dialogue Sessions in 2018;
- development of a cannabis brief and surveys to support First Nations' preparation for legalization;
- facilitation of First Nation community town hall conversations to support opioid awareness, harm reduction approaches, cultural healing practices and distribution of the redesigned First Nation Opioid Survey;
- exploring the context and availability of eMental solutions including but not limited to: crisis/help lines, text-based services, chat services and web-based models;
- in partnership with the Wise Practices Advisory group, developed a life promotion website for launch in 2018;
- launched a successful life promotion campaign on social media called My Culture ~ My Life, in partnership with the AFN and FPWC, which highlighted the strengths of youth and their connection to culture that resulted in a 300% visitor increase to cultureforlife.ca;
- development of information to support safe policy pathways to address sexual abuse;
- developed a partnership with Johnson & Johnson resulting in a one-year funding commitment for the First Peoples Wellness Circle, to hire a full-time national coordinator;
- advocacy for NNADAP and NYSAP resource enhancements, with the completion of an overview of an environmental scan of Indigenous and non-Indigenous led Mental Health and Addictions Treatment Centres and Programs to identify gaps and opportunities for investment (Ontario);
- in partnership with Dalhousie University (Dr. Bombay), a successful proposal submission to CIHR to support a 2-day Indigenous Epigenetics community-based training; and
- distribution of 22,120 individual HOS/ FNMWC focused resources which represents a 27% increase over prior year, which were shared at 53 separate tradeshow booth events, 27 training sessions and multiple mail-outs.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PARTNERS AT FIRST PEOPLES WELLNESS CIRCLE

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, the First Peoples Wellness Circle focused on a number of priorities, including the continued development of the organization. FPWC became officially recognized as an incorporated entity in 2017 and in 2018 is focusing on the bylaws and policies necessary for effective governance. We congratulate the executive of the FPWC; Dr. Brenda Restoule Chair, Dr. Ed Connors Vice Chair and Normand D'Aragon Secretary/Treasurer. We thank Thunderbird Partnership Foundation for their continued support, guidance, resources and good will in supporting the work of our organization moving forward.

In May 2017, FPWC convened a gathering of First Nation and Metis Indigenous knowledge holders to explore the Indigenous understanding and teachings on the concept of trauma, and how to address this for our families and communities. This 2.5-day gathering explored this concept through language, teachings and knowledge that emphasized the importance of a strengths-based approach to living by seeking and regaining wellness. A second gathering to further explore this concept is postponed until the 2019 fiscal year.

FPWC continues to support the work of the First Nation Mental Wellness Continuum (FNMWC) framework through our involvement as a co-chair and member of the secretariat. We supported the development of the Service Delivery Models in 2017, will support the Thunderbird Partnership Foundation in the development of Safe Care Pathways to address sexual abuse and will lead the work on the development of an evaluation framework in 2018.

FPWC continues to advance its work on life promotion through the support and ongoing development of the Feather Carriers program, chairing the First Peoples subcommittee of the Canadian Association of Suicide Prevention, completing the development of the Wise Practices project, membership on the National Suicide Prevention Collaborative and guiding the work of the Life Promotion/Suicide Prevention Collaborative (Embracing Life Together) with the Canadian Foundation on Healthcare Improvement.

Our efforts to continue to expand our partnership remains an important component to advancing the goals in our strategic plan. Our partners include Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, Assembly of First Nations, First Nation and Inuit Health Branch, Canadian Association of Suicide Prevention, Canadian Foundation on Healthcare Improvement, First Peoples First Person Indigenous Research Hub and Waakebiness-Bryce Institute on Indigenous Health.

Finally, FPWC is pleased to be awarded funding for 2018 to facilitate a needs assessment of the Mental Wellness and Crisis Support Teams in Canada. The intention of this work will be to identify needs related to governance, infrastructure, capacity building and identifying best practices. Our work will also include early work to support the development of capacity within these new teams.

First Peoples Wellness Circle
partners Dr. Brenda Restoule and
Bill Mussel



MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



OFFICERS	BOARD MEMBER	REPRESENTING
NATIONAL ELDER	Agnes Mills	First Nations
BOARD PRESIDENT	Chief Austin Bear Muskoday First Nation, SK	First Nations
BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT	Bill Mussel	First Peoples Wellness Circle
BOARD TREASURER,	Colleen Geddes , Jackson Lake Wellness Team, Kwanlin Dün First Nation	Yukon
BOARD SECRETARY	Mari Stagg , Interlakes Tribal Health Centre	Manitoba
NATIONAL ADVISOR	Keith Leclaire , Department of Health, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne	Thunderbird Partnership Foundation
	Dr. Brenda Restoule , Nipissing First Nation (alt)	First Peoples Wellness Circle
	Willie Alphonse , Nenqayni Wellness Centre Society and	Youth Solvent Addiction Committee
	Pamela Charlong , Walgwan Centre (alt)	
	Isadore Day , Ontario Regional Chief and	Assembly of First Nations
	Stephanie Wellman (alt)	
	Jennifer Joy	Health Canada
	Patricia Wells (Shade) Kainai Wellness Centre and Nicole Tailfeathers , Treaty 7 Management Corporation (alt)	Alberta
	Norma Saulis* , Wolastoqewiyik Healing Lodge and Brian Augustine , Lone Eagle Treatment Centre (alt)	Atlantic
	Sonia Isaac-Mann , First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), and	British Columbia
	Michelle DeGroot FNHA (alt)	
	Ellen Smith , Kyikavichik Consulting Services, and Theresa Simon (alt)	Northwest Territories
	Vacant	Nunavut
	Julie McKay , Wabun Tribal Council and	Ontario
	Wanda Smith , Native Horizons Treatment Centre, ON (alt)	
	Richard Gray First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission and	Quebec
	Sophie Pelletier , FNQLHSSC, (alt)	
	Janice Nicotine , BTC Human Services Corporation	Saskatchewan
	*retired in February 2018	

Thunderbird Partnership Foundations's officers for 2017-18:
(L-R) Chief Austin Bear: Board President, Colleen Geddes:
Board Treasurer, Mari Stagg: Board Secretary and Bill Mussel:
Board Vice-President



MEET OUR STAFF



CAROL HOPKINS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MARY DELEARY
OFFICE MANAGER/INDIGENOUS
KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATOR



NORA BRESSETTE
CURRICULUM COORDINATOR



VAL PETERS
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



SYLVIA STE. GEORGE
AMIS GOVERNANCE COORDINATOR



JASMINE FOURNIER
INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE
COORDINATOR



STEPHANIE MCCONKEY
RESEARCH SPECIALIST *



AMY FOURNIER
CLERICAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



SHERRY HUFF
WRITER-EDITOR/SOCIAL MEDIA
COORDINATOR



JORDAN DAVIS
WEB/GRAPHIC DESIGN AND IT



EUGEHNE ADANGWA
BILINGUAL TRANSLATOR

*The Thunderbird Partnership Foundation created a new position in early 2018 to support data management. Stephanie McConkey is the team's newest member, fulfilling the role of research specialist.

The team at Thunderbird Partnership Foundation were able to spend some quality time together and on the land after their 2017 Annual General Meeting held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. They invited Thunderbird Elder Jim Dumont to help them with a special ceremony honouring the spirit and strength of the Thunderbird and to continue supporting their work.





THE LOOK AHEAD – STRATEGIC RENEWAL UNDERWAY

Thunderbird Partnership Foundation is now in the process of developing a new five-year strategic plan, accompanied by a business plan to support the organization's continued growth and success. To inform the strategic renewal process, Thunderbird conducted a service effectiveness survey, which was shared with the organization's stakeholders to evaluate and monitor its progress towards meeting its strategic goals. Titled Thunderbird Partnership Foundation Service Effectiveness Survey 2017 – Hope, Belonging, Meaning & Purpose, the survey was distributed electronically via email to stakeholders, as well as at conferences via tablet. Thunderbird also contracted independent key informant interviews with key partners. Results reinforced recognition of the organization's core strengths, from partnerships and collaboration, to being a champion of Indigenous Knowledge and culture, and for supporting regional networks across the country. The survey also affirmed Thunderbird as a highly valued and respected organization with many strengths and much potential for growth. Stakeholders envision Thunderbird Partnership Foundation establishing itself as a Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Knowledge and Culture with a focus on the following strategic initiatives:

1. **RESEARCH AND EVALUATION**

- quality care systems and competent service delivery

2. **POLICY AND ADVOCACY**

- collaboration & partnerships; community development, capacity & ownership

3. **BEST PRACTICES AND STANDARDS**

- community development, capacity and ownership

4. **SUPPORT AND TRAINING**

- quality care systems and competent service delivery

5. **LEADERSHIP**

- culture as the foundation

