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**National
First Nations and Inuit
Injury Prevention
Working Group**

**Meeting Brief
NO: 5
October 11th-12th, 2001 Ottawa**

Background

First Nations and Inuit have identified the need to place INJURY on Canada's health agenda as a major health priority, in line with mental health, diabetes and HIV. Although there is growing momentum in injury prevention within Canada, it remains largely uncoordinated and unsupported. As a beginning, this group has come together to provide a 'national voice' for direction, specifically dedicated to: *1) the development and promotion of a national framework for injury prevention and control, which is culturally relevant to First Nations and Inuit populations; and 2) ongoing work on injury prevention.*

We are working to:

- Make the problem of injuries more VISIBLE.
- Promote the problem of injuries as a PRIORITY AMONG LEADERSHIP (First Nations, Inuit and Government).
- SHARE INFORMATION AND ENCOURAGE INPUT on the National First Nations and Inuit Injury Prevention Framework.
- Provide GOOD INFORMATION on injury prevention initiatives and resources.
- SUPPORT TRAIN THE TRAINER approaches in injury prevention.

The group receives Secretariat support from the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada. National and regional (injury prevention related) information updates will form a standard agenda item for all meetings. Significant highlights, issues and or upcoming events will be reported in **Meeting Briefs**.

NEWS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Lifting the Silence on

Suicide: Together we can make a difference This suicide prevention conference is a partnership initiative involving: Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research (ACICR); Suicide Information and Education Centre (SIEC); RCMP; Gov't of Alberta; Children's Services and Alberta Health and Welfare; and FNIHB-Alberta Region. The conference will be held in Edmonton, Alberta February 6th-7th, 2002 at the Ramada Inn, Kingsway Blvd. For more information contact ACICR at Ph: (780) 492-6019.

Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada is currently planning to host its *Nurses Community Wellness Conference* in spring of 2002

The 11th International and 5th National Conference on safe Communities, an initiative of the World Health Organization, *Growing Safe Communities S.E.E.D.S. Safety, Education, Equal Opportunity, Dedication, Sustainability*, will be held in Rainy River District ON, May 6th-9th, 2002. The conference web site is www.who2002.com

The 6th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control, Injuries, Suicide and Violence: Building Knowledge, Policies and Practices to Promote a Safer World, will be held on Montreal QC, May 12-15th, 2002. The conference web site address is www.trauma2002.com

October 2001 Meeting Outcomes National First Nations and Inuit Injury Prevention Working Group

- *Working group membership was reviewed.* Final recommendations are pending regarding a co-chair structure.
- *A communication-planning document was reviewed,* with a key recommendation forwarded to the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch to include communication planning as a budgeted item for 2002/2003.
- *National level activities required to forward action on injury were drafted for discussion by the working group.* Further planning will be conducted in February 2002. Selected activities for 2002/2003 will be prioritized and submitted for work plan consideration and budgeting.

National information highlights:

Most regional proposals, for new 'one-time regional First Nations and Inuit injury prevention funding' available for 2001/2002 fiscal year have been received by Health Canada. Proposals have been submitted by Atlantic, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia regions.

During the summer months, the National First Nations and Inuit Injury Prevention Working Group (NFNIIPWG), Assembly of First Nations, and Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, have continued to promote Aboriginal participation at the 6th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control. A number of abstract submissions and a round table proposal have been forwarded to the conference's scientific planning committee for consideration.

New resource information has been placed on the First Nations and Inuit Injury web site. See <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/chpd/ipc>

Regional information highlights:

In British Columbia, members of the Chiefs Health Committee, Health Canada and external partners met to begin laying the groundwork for a regional First Nations injury prevention strategy.

In the province of Alberta, injury prevention consultations held with First Nations communities have been completed. A report is pending and will be shared at the next working group meeting in February 2002.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

1) **Updated Terms of Reference**
(dated June 2001)

2) **Communication**

Backgrounder (dated October 2000). This document shares information about the problem of injury among First Nations and Inuit and the need for a culturally relevant framework for injury prevention and control; reflects on milestones achieved to date and the path to action on injuries being developed; and outlines how the national working group was formed and the journey being undertaken.

(4) **Meeting Briefs**

No: 1 (June 7th-8th, 2000)

No: 2 (October 4th-5th, 2000)

No:3 (February 6th-7th, 2001)

No:4 (June 21st-22nd, 2001)

INJURY Prevention and Control
WEB SITE:

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/chp/ipc

Click on

National First Nations and Inuit Injury
Prevention Working Group

**NEXT SCHEDULED WORKING
GROUP MEETING**

February 4th-5th, 2002

EDMONTON, Alberta

Regional information highlights (continued):

Health Canada, Saskatchewan Health and the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Injury Prevention Program (SAIPP) recently joined efforts to complete a report called '*Injuries Among Saskatchewan First Nations: An Analysis of 1997/98 Hospital and 1998/99 Physician Data*'. This document is the first of its kind in Canada to use and report on First Nations injury morbidity data. Further injury data analysis will be conducted to examine the problem of accidental poisoning among First Nations toddlers.

In Manitoba, a new injury prevention coordinator will be hired to work with First Nations communities. The coordinator will be housed at Injuries Manitoba-Prevention of Adolescent & Childhood Trauma.

In Ontario, training in injury prevention will be provided to workers from First Nations communities.

In the Atlantic provinces, individual communities are raising awareness of injury issues, and a scan is being carried out to identify needs and priorities.

NEW Skill Building Resource Information

The Health Canada web site address listed below will link you to the *Centre for Surveillance Coordination*. The site provides information about the Network for Health Surveillance in Canada and its activities. One key activity of the network relates to a 'Skills Enhancement for Health' project, an internet-based training initiative designed to build skills in epidemiology, surveillance and information management. This training opportunity will be offered in March 2002.

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgsp/csc-ccs/index.html

RECENTLY PRODUCED INJURY PREVENTION RESOURCES

1. **INJURY DATA REPORT: 'Unintentional and Intentional Injury Profile for Aboriginal People in Canada: 1990-1999'**. Copies of the report are available under the publication section of the injury web site. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/chp/ipc/publications.
2. **INJURY DATA REPORT: 'Injuries Among Saskatchewan First Nations: An Analysis of 1997/98 Hospital and 1998/99 Physician Data'** Electronic copies of the report can be requested by contacting Karin Johnson at Health Canada FNIHB Phone: (613) 954-2463.
3. **LITERATURE REVIEW:** to request a copy of the report produced by *Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada (ANAC)* and the *RCMP* on 'Family Violence' contact Bernice Downey at ANAC Phone: (613) 724-4718.

4. **PRACTITIONER'S RESOURCE: *A Journey: Strengthening Aboriginal Communities Through Injury Prevention (revised facilitator guide)*** A resource that walks facilitators through a 3 day injury prevention workshop. The workshop focuses on increasing awareness of injuries and capacity building for Aboriginal practitioners. The facilitator guide is available for \$50.00 and a companion participant notebook is available for \$10.00. Orders can be placed by contacting the Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research.

Contact information:
Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research
University of Alberta
4075 RTF, 8308-114 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E2
Phone: (780) 492-6019
Fax: (780) 492-7154

5. **INJURY ARTICLES:** Information about aboriginal injury problems, prevention activities and resources.

Topics Available

- **community-based injury surveillance**

This article explains what injury surveillance is, how it can help your community, how it works and how a community can get started.

- **drowning prevention initiatives**

This article looks at what we know about: DROWNINGS as a significant injury problem: drowning prevention initiatives making a difference in Manitoba, including information about Personal Floatation Device (PFD) loaner programs; and a Water Safety resource which may be useful to your community.

Copies of these injury articles are available online at
www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/chp/ipc/publications.