

# Summer Update

September 2018

## This Edition Contains:

- *Summary of Full Team Meeting*
- *Sucker Creek's Experience with DRUM – by Tanis Willier, Health Director*
- *DRUM2 Youth Logo Competition*
- *Seeking a Web Developer for DRUM 2*



*DRUM 1 Team Members*



*Elders Council at DRUM 2 Meeting*

# DRUM 2 NEWSLETTER

## Development of a Rural Model for Integrated Shared Care in First Nations and Métis Communities

Full Team Meeting in Edmonton - June 2018



*Renée Masching presenting on the DRUM process to the team after the feast*

The full DRUM 2 Team came together on Treaty 6 Territory in Edmonton on June 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> to officially kick-off the DRUM 2 Research Project. The meeting began with a feast on the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup>, where members of the DRUM Elders Advisory Council began by sharing a prayer in their languages. After the feast, each of the three DRUM 1 communities (Sucker Creek, Tallcree, Driftpile) shared their perspectives and experiences with the project to date. Day two began with a smudge ceremony offered by Elder Sandy Leo Laframboise and a circle where all team members shared a bit about themselves, their work, and how they will be contributing to DRUM 2. Team members learned a bit about the communities involved with DRUM and had the opportunity to form new connections. In total 67 people were in attendance.

Team Members had the opportunity to be trained in Dried Blood Spot training by Dr. John Kim and Stephanie Lavoie. The training was hugely successful – Thank you John and Stephanie for sharing your knowledge with us all! We were also joined by key members of the First Nations Inuit Health Branch and Alberta Health Services, many of whom attended the Dried Blood Spot training and feast. Thank you for joining us!

The Elders Advisory Council for DRUM2 convened their first meeting successfully during the DRUM 2 Full Team Meeting. We are looking forward to supporting the Elders Council to guide the work of DRUM 2, and ensuring we are doing work in a good way moving forward.

## Contact Us

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We are holding a DRUM 2 logo development contest for First Nation and Métis youth in Alberta. The successful artist will be awarded an honorarium of \$250. [For more information please see the posting here.](#)



Sucker Creek

## Sucker Creek's Experience with DRUM

By Tanis Willier, Health Director

Our involvement with Community Based Research (CBR) began in July of 2006 with a Treaty 8 CBR training project designed to identify resilience factors for youth that kept them safe from HIV and other STBBIs. Over 100 Sucker Creek youth completed surveys as a part of our research project. This taught us a lot about our youth, particularly around the use of protection and the typical age youth were becoming sexually active. These results were eye-opening and is one of the reasons why we are so passionate about increasing awareness, prevention, testing and treatment of HIV, HCV and BBIs.



Our involvement with DRUM began with a community readiness assessment. By conducting community readiness interviews, we determined that our community was at a stage 2, which meant we needed to go back to the drawing table to promote awareness in our community. This also highlighted the need for us to promote testing and treatment to our members to ensure our infection rates do not increase from lack of knowledge and awareness. We also need to create awareness to reduce the stigma associated with HIV, HCV, and BBIs and promote the new treatment options available enabling people to live long healthy lives. Our involvement with DRUM was extremely valuable, as it provided the mechanism for us to understand where our community is at with prevention and awareness of HIV and other STBBIs.

Our work with DRUM 1 has identified clear next steps for us to focus on in DRUM 2. We will be developing strategic ideas to encourage members participation in awareness training and campaigns. We will also be determining if there is a community need or desire for support groups and services for individuals living with HIV, HCV and BBIs. We have been working with the new Nurse Practitioner Cheryl Brace, who will be working with our nation, Driftpile and Tallcree to enhance prevention, testing and supportive services under our shared care model. We are also looking forward to working with the other communities who have joined the DRUM 2 project and hope to share

some of our learnings with them (and learn from them as well) on this journey.

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*We are looking to contract a qualified Web Developer to help us design and develop the DRUM website. Please see the attached job description for more information.*

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***Thank you to our partners and funders:***

