Welcome
Bienvenue
Mii Kwen Daan
Continuing the Dialogue

“Follow Your Dreams”
Recommendations Update
Community Engagement

Community Centre
Fort William First Nation
Thunder Bay, ON
August 1 to 3, 2006

Community Engagement

• “Community Engagement” encompasses:
  – public consultations
  – community development
  – community capacity building

• Goal of Community Engagement:
  – develop and enhance community participation in planning and decision-making
  – raise awareness about community issues and concerns
The *community engagement principles* developed for establishing these partnerships include:

1. Being clear about the purposes of the engagement effort and potential partnership.
2. Becoming knowledgeable and understanding of each other (the school and the communities).
3. Establishing relationships, building trust, working with the formal and informal leadership, and seeking commitment from community organizations and leaders.
4. Understanding and accepting that community self-determination is the responsibility and right of all people who comprise a community.

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The *community engagement principles* developed for establishing these partnerships include:

5. Partnering with the community to identify or create the necessary student support and learning experiences necessary for the community and cultural immersion.
6. Recognizing and respecting community diversity.
7. Accepting and being prepared to release control of actions or interventions to the community, and be flexible enough to meet the changing needs of the community.
8. Understanding that community collaboration requires long-term commitment by NOSM and community partners.
Community Engagement

Theme 3 of the Follow Your Dreams report asked "What are the expertise and resources in Aboriginal communities which could assist in the growth and development of NOSM":

- Development of the Aboriginal Reference Group
- Traditional Healing
- Incorporating culturally appropriate settings
- Community Members especially Elders and Youth
- Professional Services – Dilico, TeleHealth, Seven Generations
- Linkages to various Aboriginal Groups, PTO’s
- Health Care Centers/services – air ambulances, first response teams, etc
- Models of Health Care Delivery – Aboriginal Health and Wellness programs

What actions have been completed or initiated?

- Development of the Aboriginal Reference Group
  - mandate is to advise the School on all initiatives pertaining to Aboriginal health, research, education and administration
  - There are 11 voting members on the reference group who meet quarterly
  - The Group is actively recruiting for an Aboriginal Youth representative
What actions have been completed or initiated?

- **Traditional Healing**
  - Josias Fiddler and Julie Ozagawosh have introduced traditional healing teachings to Staff, Faculty and Students
  - Traditional Healers within the communities will share with the Students on the ICE 106 placement the use of traditional medicines

What actions have been completed or initiated?

- **Incorporating Culturally appropriate settings**
  - Each campus has a room with the proper ventilation to allow for smudging. East campus – Room 215, West campus – Room MS2003
  - Two Sharing Circles were held to foster healthy working relationships
What actions have been completed or initiated?

- Community members, especially Elders and Youth involvement
  - Everyone welcomed to attend community information sessions
  - Elders are actively involved with Aboriginal Reference Group, Senior Leadership Group, Student Affairs sessions and Orientation sessions for Local Community Coordinators
  - Métis Elder participates in the Aboriginal Admissions subcommittee

- Professional Services
  - Dilico Child and Family Services is a First Nation operated Health Services organization that hosted the ICE 106 students
  - Keewaytinook Okimakanak provided use of their TeleHealth systems to assist the School in engaging the communities that were unable to travel to the School’s campuses
What actions have been completed or initiated?

- Linkages to various Aboriginal Groups
  - Various activities have been undertaken to strengthen/develop links within Aboriginal communities/groups:
    - Community visits
    - Updates submitted to the Chiefs as requested, Aboriginal Health Boards/Committees, Band Councils and local community groups
    - The Founding Dean, Vice Deans, Director of Aboriginal Affairs, Admissions and Student Affairs have attended as many events and functions as possible to represent and promote the School

- Health Care Centres
What actions have been completed or initiated?

- Models of Health Care Delivery

- At least six Health Access Centers have traditional healing practitioners combined with western health practices.
- This is a break from the former model of health care that is delivered by outside health professionals, who may not recognize the natural and traditional ways and perspectives of healing in the Aboriginal communities.
### 2006 ICE Host Sites

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<td>Fort Albany First Nation</td>
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<td>Fort Frances Tribal Area Health Authority</td>
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<td>Garden River First Nation</td>
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#### Additional Information
- **Seven** First Nations in Sioux Lookout zone (remote)
- **Three** communities in the James Bay Coast region (remote)
- **Two** Métis Nation of Ontario sites i.e. Thunder Bay and Timmins
- **Four** Health Access Centers sites (road access)
- **Thirteen** remaining First Nation sites (road access and semi-remote)
- **Four** Regional Aboriginal Community Coordinators were hired for their experience and knowledge of the communities to assist with recruitment of sites and developing placement plans
Integrated Community Experiences

Northern Ontario School of Medicine

Integrated Community Experiences

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**Next Steps?**

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