



Spring 2022 Newsletter

Key Updates

- Meet the new members of our NORTHH team.
- Get an update on our projects.
- Save the date for a NORTHH Community of Practice networking event.

Introducing Our New Team Members!

Jingyu Tu has an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Lakehead University and is currently studying statistics at Western University. She participated in the Northwestern Ontario health workforce project in the summer of 2020, leading the quantitative analysis. And she currently holds a position in data analysis for Kenora's Cancer Screening project. She focuses on data analysis through machine learning based on Python and R. And her objective of researchers is to include more algorithms in healthcare in order to assist establish an equitable, efficient and high-quality healthcare system.

Dr. Roya Daneshmand, NORTHH Research Coordinator

Roya is a full-time research coordinator in the Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute and serves as the Research Coordinator and Project Manager of NORTHH within the Centre for Social

Accountability. As a Research Coordinator, Roya supports research in primary health care, quality improvement, and learning health systems. With a PhD in applied Human Nutrition and master's degree in Public Health Nutrition, Roya has expertise in experimental studies, quantitative studies, and knowledge translation. During her work experience as a researcher in rural Northwest Ontario, Roya supported different quantitative, qualitative, experimental, and mixed method studies to address important topics and challenges for health care providers, patients, and communities in Northern ON with their unique barriers compared to their urban counterparts.

Dr. Maxwell Kennel, CFSA Research Associate

Max is a part-time Research Associate with the Centre for Social Accountability and a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto. Max's research focuses on social critique and the role of religion in society, and he is currently working on a postdoctoral book

Northern Ontario School of
Medicine (NOSM University)
Research Toward Health Hub
(NORTHH)



project on critiques of conspiratorial thinking. In 2021 he defended his dissertation “Ontologies of Violence” in the Department of Religious Studies at McMaster University, edited a special issue of the journal *Political Theology*, and published a book called *Postsecular History* with Palgrave Macmillan. His work with the Centre focuses on writing and communications, the epistemology of social accountability, and the relationship between conspiracy theories and public health.

Hilary Mettam, CFSA Research Associate

Hilary is a part-time Research Associate with the Centre for Social Accountability focusing on management and planning. She previously worked as the Community Development Lead for the North West Regional Palliative Care Program and is passionate about improving patient, family, and caregiver experiences within the health care system. Hilary completed her undergraduate degree at Western University (HBHSc–Rural and Remote Health) and a Master of Public Health at Lakehead University. She is an advocate for research, policies, and programs that focus on improving the overall quality of life of Northern Ontarians. While her current home is in Thunder Bay, Hilary has also lived in Kenora and Fort Frances and enjoys spending time in the region and with extended family in Parry Sound. She loves the outdoors and is an avid hiker, cyclist, and cross-country skier.

Upcoming Events

Community of Practice Networking Event

We would love it if you could join us on Wednesday June 22nd at 7:00 PM for a networking event. This is an open invitation to all our participating clinicians or those interested in NORTHH. We would love to hear what your rural primary care practice-based research questions are and if there is a project we can collectively look to put forward for a future grant. Please use the following links to register and to save the event information including link to the Webex to join.

[Register Here](#)

[Add to Calendar](#)

C4SA Celebration

NOSM U's Centre for Social Accountability invites you to join us for a celebratory event recognizing all that we have achieved so far, learn about what we are doing now, and help us grow our path forward. **Register here!**
https://nosm.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Z9WtPmh1JMflhc

Ongoing Collaborations

[NOSM Centre for Social Accountability](#)

[Primary care Ontario Practice-based Learning And Research \(POPLAR\) Network](#)

[Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network \(CPCSSN\)](#)



Ongoing Projects

- Survey of national PBRLN directors has been completed. Results will be shared soon and are informing the creation of our NORTHH operations and governance.
- Working alongside community partners, we are also summarizing frameworks and processes to guide how we incorporate Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles into our operations and governance including data use.
- Data extraction of Youth Mental Health presentations in northern Ontario both pre and during the pandemic is happening for our NOAMA grant.

Supporting early career researchers and residents in their research

Dr. Stephanie Moreau (Family Medicine resident) and Dr. Kerry Reed (Family Physician and North Bay research coordinator) are exploring the evidence-based prescribing of proton pump inhibitors in primary care.

Supporting preventive care and a learning health system with Kenora All Nations Health Partners

With a team of community partners and primary care clinicians and researchers, we are exploring how preventive care results are captured and shared in electronic medical records, as well as how these services have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Supporting Ontario Health Teams - OHT Team Based approach

NORTHH is collaborating with the Centre for Social Accountability (CFSA) at NOSM University to create a new team-based approach to support learning health systems in Ontario Health Teams in Northern Ontario. The aim of this program is to leverage existing academic capacities and networks between the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) University, Ontario Health Teams (OHTs), and other Northern Ontario health partners. The team-based approach will facilitate the individual professional development of fellow team members and advance the institutional mandates of NOSM-CFSA and the respective Northwestern OHTs. Furthermore, this will allow us to optimally align the skillsets of the NOSM team members with the distinct needs of the regional and locally integrated systems in Northern Ontario.



Interested in learning more about NORTHH?

Please visit “[Join NORTHH](#)” on our web page or contact us by email at

NORTHH@nosm.ca or bzelek@nosm.ca

How Can NORTHH Support You?

- We can provide access to practice-based reports on several chronic diseases to use in your quality improvement initiatives. Examples will be posted on our website soon. <https://cpcssn.ca/quality-improvement-tools/>
- Support elements of your research that use the database. We can do data extraction and data analysis suitable to what exists in the database. We can support review of REB applications and help guide the writing of grant applications.

Consider a Discovery Meeting!

We would be happy to discuss research ideas that are important for you and your team. Send us an email northh@nosm.ca to set up a meeting and our team can help in developing a research proposal based on your interest topic. We will soon have a Discovery Meeting intake form available on our website.

Recruiting Patient Partners

NORTHH is recruiting 2 patient partners as representatives on the POPLAR patient advisory committee. We would like to request that clinicians connected to NORTHH encourage any patients who might be interested to email northh@nosm.ca by June 30th.