

SUMMER INTERNSHIP IN INDIGENOUS EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

A joint partnership with the UBC CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN INDIGENOUS HEALTH (CEIH), DIGITAL EMERGENCY MEDICINE, INTERCULTURAL ONLINE HEALTH NETWORK (ICON), VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH, & BC MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PROJECT TITLE	Adapting Indigenous Traditional Medicine Content into Health Professional Training
Potential Research Question	How can Indigenous Traditional Medicine be incorporated into health professional training?
Keywords	Indigenous, health professional, curriculum, training, traditional medicine, research
Summary of Project	<p>In response to the UBC Aboriginal Strategic Plan, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, and numerous Indigenous health reports and initiatives at the national, provincial level and institutional levels, it has become increasingly important to support health professionals-in-training to become knowledgeable and skilled in their work with Indigenous peoples. Further, an environmental scan conducted by the First Nations Health Authority showed strong support in First Nations communities for the integration of traditional practices into medical care. Various units at UBC, as well as outside of UBC, have generated materials in Indigenous health, determinants of health, cultural competency and cultural safety for the professional development of health professionals. Some of this material is relevant to health professionals in training, while other curriculum may be markedly improved by adapting it in order to meet the needs and life experiences of students.</p> <p>To work towards improving culturally safe care, Vancouver Coastal Health and UBC Faculty of Medicine’s Digital Emergency Medicine (DigEM) through the inter-Cultural Online health Network (iCON) program, jointly created a video and facilitation guide to introduce the concept of Indigenous Traditional Medicine to health professionals, cultural healing practices and guide discussions on how to facilitate access to culturally meaningful and relevant care. This educational content is introductory in nature, and is currently not tailored for medical trainees to enable a deeper exploration.</p> <p>In this project, we would like to discover whether Indigenous Traditional Medicine training intended for health care professionals in practice can be utilized and/or adapted for health care</p>

	<p>professionals in training, such as this video and facilitation guide.</p> <p>In order to answer this, student(s) will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with another health professional student and make a project workplan and timeline • Prepare an application for submission to the UBC Behavioural Research Ethics Review Board (BREB) • Perform a literature review on traditional medicine pedagogy • Perform an environmental scan of Indigenous health and traditional medicine teaching at UBC and other post-secondary institutions that train health professionals, as well as other models that are non-indigenous • Perform key informant interviews with professionals involved in important VCH Aboriginal health programs such as Village of Wellness • Review and assess the video and facilitation guide and other current materials developed to identify what adaptations may be required to incorporate into health professional student curriculum • Create a data collection tools, such as survey and interview protocols • Recruit and survey health professional faculty and students on relevance and use of material • Collect, analyze and summarize quantitative and qualitative data • Make recommendations on how to adapt the existing materials to be appropriate for health education curricular studies and make recommendations to incorporate into the formal UBC health professional curriculum • Create an evaluation framework with metrics to carry out both formative and summative assessment of student learning • The potential to write a manuscript to capture this endeavour and submit to a peer reviewed journal for potential publication regarding outcomes of research question.
Benefit for Student	<p>As a result of their Summer Indigenous Internship experience, the student will gain an understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to critically evaluate & analyze existing literature/data in the Indigenous health education realm, • how to complete a UBC behavioural research ethics review board application, • how to create effective data collection tools with appropriate evaluation questions, • how to compile, analyze and summarize data,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effective communication via telephone, email and in-person with other students, health professional educators and other associated faculty as necessary, • effective communication through survey tool creation, manuscript creation, and student learning materials appropriate to health disciplines, and • effective and appropriate acknowledgement and skills for working with Indigenous people required for the project.
Opportunities	<p>Two positions for 8 weeks at a competitive rate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One position is available for a medical student (from any of the four distributed sites) • One position is available for a student enrolled in one of the health professional programs at UBC.
Location	To be determined.
Supervisors	<p>Dr Nadine Caron, (working with Leah Walker and CEIH team) Dr Kendall Ho (working with Elizabeth Stacy and iCON team)</p>
Work Period	35 hours per week for 8 weeks in June-August (or 280 hours)
Application	Cover letter outlining interest and qualifications, and resume to: aboriginal.health@ubc.ca
Application Deadline	May 20, 2016