

## INDIGENOUS HEALTH COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Vision

The Indigenous Health Committee will play a central role in optimizing Indigenous health and healing by working with Saskatchewan individuals, families, communities and institutions.

The Indigenous Health Committee is an integral connection to the College of Medicine and to the future of Health Sciences.

### Values

As an Indigenous Health Committee, we believe that our daily actions, interactions, and decisions will reflect the *Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers*:

#### *Wisdom*

To cherish Indigenous health and healing knowledge is to acknowledge and honor our Elders, keepers of knowledge, families, communities, nations and learning institutes.

#### *Love and Compassion*

We believe that our professions, disciplines, department, committees and programs exist because we genuinely care for those who are in need. Those who are in need deserve unconditional love and nurturing which in turn nurtures Aboriginal health and healing.

#### *Respect*

We recognize that all who we work with in come into contact with deserve value and dignity. All are worthy of respect. To respect all people, communities, institutions and those who we are accountable to is to honor all of creation.

#### *Bravery*

Bravery is to face any obstacles and challenges with integrity and dignity; keeping the values in mind as we work with and come in contact with many.

#### *Honesty*

We recognize that to be honest in words, actions and situations is to be courageous. This honesty mirrors our vision as the Indigenous Health Committee and keeps us attentive to those we serve.

#### *Humility*

We acknowledge, as Indigenous Health Committee members, that we are in a process of learning. To practice humility is to remain teachable and honor all gifts of knowledge, learning and compassion.

#### *Truth*

We recognize that these Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers facilitate truth in the work we do and on behalf of the Indigenous Health Committee we serve.

#### *Discipline/Commitment*

Discipline means accepting responsibility for our own aggressions. Commitment is about integrity and the use of discipline as we maintain these values in our lives.

#### *Consciousness/Mindfulness*

To be conscious of commitments we each make to the teachings and to be mindful of how we interact with others.

#### *Confidentiality*

One needs to think with judicious thought and have respect the sharing of the thoughts, ideas and teachings of others. We always need to reflect on 'what happens at this group stays with this group'.

### **Mission**

The Indigenous Health Committee, as a subcommittee of the College of Medicine's Social Accountability Committee, will play a central role and an institutional connection to the College of Medicine and its Social Accountability mandate. The CARE model, in which social accountability is integrated into the Clinical Activity, Advocacy, Research and Education activities of the College of Medicine, will help guide the mission to optimize Aboriginal health and healing knowledge, teachings and skills.

Ultimately, our mission is guided by the *Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers* and done in respectful collaboration and consultation with Aboriginal Elders, leaders and communities.

### **Membership**

Membership with the Indigenous Health Committee includes Elders, representatives from medical education, faculty, students, and other university and community partners including:

Elder or Elder Advisory Group (*to be involved as determined by this committee*)

Community Member(s) (*to be involved through community consultations*)

Medical students (2-3)

Aboriginal Coordinator

Aboriginal Curriculum Development Coordinator

Director, Northern Medical Services

Chair and Coordinator, Social Accountability

Aboriginal Faculty

Undergraduate education

Postgraduate education

Northern education



This committee will be represented by one (1) to two (2) of its members at College of Medicine Social Accountability Committee table.

### **Meetings**

The Indigenous Health Committee will meet every two (2) months for the first year, and meeting spaces will be determined by the Chair and Committee members.