TRIBAL NATIONS RESEARCH GROUP’S MISSION:
“To improve the quality of life for all trial members through culturally-compe-tent, custom-fit research”

THIS ISSUE
Tribal Nations Research Group invites you to learn more about the latest developments at TNRG and the most current updates. Meet our newest associate members and read about our highlighted member, Melanie Nadeau.

REACHING TOWARDS HEALTH EQUITY

What is health equity?________________
Health equity is when every person has the opportunity to reach his or her own health potential. There are dramatic differences between the US population vs an American Indian population. By using health equity we can try and correct that difference through health promotion and disease prevention.

What are the dramatic differences?___________
These dramatic differences are called social determinants of health. These are factors such as housing conditions, lack of access to health care, education opportunities, living conditions, employment status. All of these factors affect your health.

How can we obtain health equity?________________________________
The first step in obtaining health equity is to determine how healthy your community actually is. You can do that by conducting a community health assessment of your community. Being able to identify the community’s health injustices is important in developing a strategic plan to reach health equity. TMBCI is currently in the process of their first community health assessment; you can read more about the community health assessment in this issue.

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MINNESOTA COMPASS ANNUAL MEETING

On February 11-12, Tribal Nations Research Group attended the Minnesota Compass Annual Meeting and the Tri-State Compass Team Meeting. This was a great opportunity for TNRG to learn how MN Compass handles their website, disseminates their information, and how it is impacting their state. North Dakota is in the process of developing their own compass initiative and TNRG is also in the same process. If you would like more information on Minnesota Compass please go to their website www.mncompass.org

Anita Frederick, TNRG President, gave a short presentation on TNRG and the feedback was amazing! Many of the partners that attended were amazed by the work TNRG does and they look forward in offering their assistance. We would like to thank the Bush Foundation for this wonderful opportunity for funding and inviting TNRG to this event!

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE HEALTH FAIR

TNRG set up a booth at the Community Health Representative Health Fair at the SkyDancer Casino in Belcourt. Many booths regarding health were set up for the community to learn and explore what it has to offer in terms of health programs. The fair also had a virtual colon experience to learn more about preventative cancer care. This was a great opportunity to learn more about your local health care programs!

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH SUMMIT

The 4th Annual Health Research Summit was held March 30-31, at the Cankdeska Cikana Community College in Ft. Totten, ND. CRCAIH promotes collaborative research partnerships with Tribal communities, research institutions, and healthcare entities to develop and conduct innovative research that will improve American Indian health. The Annual Summit is a platform that brings together collaborators across the South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota region.

Anita Frederick, TNRG President, gave a presentation on the the purpose, function, and sustainability of the TMBCI Research Review Board. Kylie Keplin, program director, gave a presentation on the TMBCI Community Health Assessment that will be launching in May 2016.
This research will provide an overview of findings from a Community Health Assessment of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (TMBCI) Community by the TMBCI Community. This is the first time in history that TMBCI will conduct their own Community Health Assessment. The proposed study is based on the Good Health & Wellness Method in Indian Country from the Centers for Disease Control. This approach offers a more coordinated and holistic approach to chronic disease prevention and health promotion (CDC, 2015). Cultural resource building will involve the development of collaborative relationships between the TMBCI, Tribal Nations Research Group (TNRG), Turtle Mountain Master Health, American Indian Health Resource Center, and the Collaborative Research Center on American Indian Health (CRCAIH). This research will use information from secondary data sources to identify health issues of consequence to the community. Estimates are presented from primary data from a community-wide health survey for selected demographic and health indicators, including access to health care, use of traditional services, community service program use and awareness, physical factors, health screenings, and behavioral health. Demographic information is collected based on gender, age group, household status, income/employment level, education level, and type insurance carried by the participant. Focus groups will be conducted to gather data in regards to views/opinions on what their vision of a healthy community is, what their role is in a community health assessment, and major health issues in the TMBCI Community. The intent of this study is to garnish base-line data about the TMBCI Community, allow for data driven decisions by tribal government, and to track and use the data to discern areas of concern and improvement over time for service programs.

Limited amounts of data are available but remains to be collected and interpreted. Many times data is collected but never returned or made available to the TMBCI community. For the first time in history the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians has taken upon itself to build its capacity and conduct their own Community Health Assessment. Under the authority of the TMBCI the Tribal Nations Research Group was created and is helping to develop systemic, collaborative, and inclusive research strategies; including the Community Health Assessment. The Community Health Assessment methods and framework will be used for future community health needs assessments. After creating a health profile of the TMBCI community, the coalition can create a plan of action and track and use the data to discern areas of concern and improvement over time for service programs.
Dr. Shane Martin

Dr. Shane Martin is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (TMBCI) Tribe. He lives in Belcourt, N.D. and works at the local high school, Turtle Mountain Community High School on the TMBCI reservation. Dr. Martin received his Doctorate of Philosophy from the University of North Dakota. Dr. Martin's professional interests include helping children become successful citizens. He does this with leadership and mentoring and serves as a volunteer. He enjoys helping the local community grow through infrastructure and programming.


Past Presentations: Aberdeen Area Youth Wellness Champion presentation in Aberdeen Glazier Sports Presentation in Minneapolis Byron Dorgan Youth Wellness Summit NDHSAA Presentation on Native American Sport Programs and Capacity Building

William Houle

Mr. William Houle currently is employed full-time at Turtle Mountain Transportation Center in Belcourt, N.D. He is enrolled member in the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. William Houle's professional interests include water quality and non-point source pollution. William's past research includes water quality data on streams, lakes, and ground water.

Melanie Nadeau

Melanie Nadeau is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, which is located at the north central part of North Dakota. She has been married for 21 years and has 1 daughter. She received her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of North Dakota and a Masters in Public Health in community health education with a concentration in health disparities from the University of Minnesota. This fall Melanie will be entering her 5th year in the PhD in Epidemiology social behavioral track program at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health as a doctoral candidate. Melanie has worked 10 years as a research assistant on various projects within the American Indian community and is also a previous recipient of the prestigious Bush Fellowship and the Diversity of Vision and Experiences (DOVE) Fellowship. Currently Melanie is the Operational Director/Assistant Faculty in Practice for the American Indian Public Health Resource Center at North Dakota State University. Melanie is one of only a few people to research breast cancer risk factors in an American Indian community. Here research titled “Exploring breast cancer risk factors among American Indian Women” focuses on gathering the information needed to determine relative risk for risk factors associated with breast cancer among American Indian women. Melanie will explore the following risk factors: woman’s age, age at first live birth, age of onset of menstruation, the number of previous benign breast biopsies, total number of first-degree relatives with breast cancer, body mass index (BMI) and parity. Although Melanie has an extremely busy schedule, she enjoys spending time with friends and family as well as attending cultural events.
RECENTLY APPROVED TMBCI RESEARCH PROJECTS

“Turtle Mountain Community College Anishinabe Campus Research Capacity Building”
Project PI: Stacie Blue, Turtle Mountain Community College
Purpose of the research project is to expose TMCC students to research methodology and practice. The research project will use biological indicators such as macroinvertebrates and leaves of aquatic plants to measure the quality of water in different bays of Fish Lake.

RESEARCH BEING CONDUCTED BY TMBCI TRIBAL ENROLLED MEMBERS

“Exploring Breast Cancer Risk Factors among American Indian Women”
Project PI: Melanie Nadeau, PhD Candidate University of Minnesota

“School Connectedness and Academic Achievement of American Indian High School Students”
Project PI/Co PI: Dr. Andrea, Laverdure Ed. D. & Dr. Teresa LaFromboise, Ph. D.

“Exploring the History of Public Discourse on Self Determination as a Value and Belief of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians”
Project PI: Teri Martin-Parisien, PhD Candidate University of North Dakota

“Instructor Perceptions on the Values of College Readiness”
Project PI: Erica Gunville, PhD Candidate University of North Dakota

TMBCI Health Priorities
Project PI/Co PI: Anita Frederick, Tribal Nations Research Group

Quality of Health/Life after Organ Donation or Transplantation: American Indians’ Experience
Project PI/Co PI: Misty Lynn Wilkie-Condiff, PhD, RN

“ND Tribal Smoke free Casino Project-Air Quality Monitoring Process”
Project PI: Stephanie Jay and Jackie Giron, TMBCI Tobacco Prevention Programs

“ND Smoke-Free Casinos Project-Collaboration with five ND Tribes and ND Department of Health”
Project PI/CO PI: Stephanie Jay and Jackie Giron, TMBCI Tobacco Prevention Programs

TMBCI RESEARCH PROTECTION ACT

The TMBCI Research Protection Act was signed into law by TMBCI resolution on July 31, 2014. All research conducted on the TMBCI Reservation and TMBCI Tribal Lands are required to adhere to the Act. The Purpose of the act is:

• to protect the people, culture, and natural resources of the Tribe and the Tribe’s future generations from unauthorized scientific research;
• to reduce any adverse effects of human subject research and related activities on the Tribe and its People;
• to ensure that researchers recognize the Tribe’s control of research activities and ownership of all data and information generated or produced by such research;
• and to establish and provide a statutory basis for a process to review and govern any research, collection, database, or publication undertaken on the Reservation.

All comments and/or need for additional information should be directed to Anita Frederick-Research Liaison at 701-477-5526 or anitabfrederick@gmail.com, mailing address PO BOX 1906 Belcourt, ND 58316.

You can find an application for initial review for research on the TNRG website, www.tnrg.com

No research may proceed on the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indian Reservation unless approved by the TMBCI RRB.
TMBCI COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT
MAY 2016-AUGUST 2016

TELLING OUR STORY OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

JUST A FEW MINUTES OF YOU TIME CAN HELP MAKE TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS A HEALTHIER PLACE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN!

OUR PARTNERS

[Logos of various partners]