

CALL FOR POSTER PRESENTATIONS Knowledge Conference

CARING ACROSS THE BOUNDARIES: BRIDGING KNOWLEDGE GAPS, SERVICES AND POLICIES TO SUPPORT FIRST PEOPLES CHILD WELFARE AND HEALTH

MAY 28, 29, 30, 2008
Radisson Hotel Winnipeg Downtown
Winnipeg, Manitoba

The conference organizers invite you to submit a proposal for a poster presentation at our forthcoming knowledge conference, *Caring Across the Boundaries: Bridging Knowledge Gaps, Services and Policies to Support First Peoples Child Welfare and Health*. This event is Co-sponsored by the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada, the Faculty of Social Work (University of Manitoba), the Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare, the Centre of Excellence for Children and Youth with Special Needs, the Southern First Nations Network of Care and the Faculty of Education (University of Western Ontario), the First Nations of Southern Manitoba CFS Authority and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. Funding for this event is provided through an ACADRE grant from the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research (University of Manitoba).

The posters will form a visual display prepared by conference delegates describing a research initiative, program, service model and/or best practice. We are hoping that the poster presentations will serve as an effective forum for the exchange of information and a means to communicate ideas, research and programs. In particular, we are inviting individuals with subject matter expertise to share their understanding of the gaps in services and/or solutions for closing this gaps with respect to:

- (1) The **incidence of First Nations children with special needs** (physical, cognitive, mental health and/or addictions) particularly within a child welfare environment;
- (2) **Service gaps** for First Nations children in care with special needs in both the on-reserve and off-reserve context;
- (3) **Service gaps** to FNs children with special needs (FASD/disabilities) in care and in the efficacy of **differential response models to address these needs**;
- (4) Understanding **mental health issues** for First Nations families and/or children that become involved with First Nations child and family service agencies;
- (5) **Treatment programs** for First Nations families and youth with addiction issues who are involved with child welfare;
- (6) **Educational approaches** to understanding the issues and challenges of First Nations families and children dealing with special needs (health and disabilities), mental health and addiction issues when involved with the child welfare system; and

(7) Showcasing **innovative child welfare and health partnership initiatives** with First Nations populations both on and off reserve.

Colleagues intending to submit a poster presentation are invited to submit a proposal including the title and a 75-200 word abstract along with your name and contact information. The deadline for submitting a poster presentation proposal for review and consideration is **April 15th, 2008**. Please indicate in your proposal whether you will need access to electrical outlets and/or the internet for your display.

A Program Committee will review all proposals. The choice of poster presentations will be based on:

- Relevance to issues surrounding health and child welfare gaps in knowledge, services and policies for First Peoples children, youth, families and communities dealing with disabilities, FASD, mental health and addiction concerns;
- Clarity and organization of poster presentation proposal.

Call for poster presentation applicants will be notified by **May 1st, 2009**. The main contact person will be the only one contacted regarding a submission. An individual or organization may submit more than one proposal. All accepted poster presentation abstracts will be published in the conference program brochure.

Posters will be displayed between 7:00-9:00 pm in the evening of May 28th and between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm on May 29th and 30th. All poster presentations will be showcased during an extended lunch break on the last day of the conference. Awards will be given for the best poster presentations prior to the conclusion of the conference.

For more information or to submit a poster presentation proposal, please email or contact:

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