



NEWSLETTER

Transformation of Indigenous Primary Healthcare Delivery (FORGE AHEAD): Community-driven Innovations and Scale-up Toolkits

Territories of the Attawandaran (Neutral) / Algonquin / Haudenosaunee / Anishinaabe / Leni-Lunaape peoples
In proximity to: Chippewa of the Thames First Nation / Oneida Nation of the Thames / Munsee-Delaware Nation

ISSUE 12, DECEMBER 2018

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Season's greetings from the Western Diabetes Alliance Team!

2018 has been a quiet but busy year for us, and we look forward to 2019 as the celebration year for FORGE AHEAD. Thank you all for your patience in 2018 and you will be hearing more from us in the New Year.

Have a fantastic holiday and we hope that it is filled with joy, laughter, and memorable moments with your loved ones as you usher in the New Year.

ꞨꞨꞨꞨ (thank you),

HARSH ZARAN

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CONGRATULATIONS JOELLE!



Joelle Emond was recently awarded one of the most prestigious awards "Prix du mérite annuel en nutrition – Volet jeune professionnel" by the Ordre professionnel des diététistes du Québec (OPDQ) for her outstanding commitment, competence, leadership, and professionalism.

The award recognized her contribution to the advancement of diabetes nutrition therapy with First Nations as demonstrated by her involvement in the creation of the Canoe System, a culturally adapted version of basic carbohydrate counting, and the 'At Peace with Diabetes' Welcome Kit developed with the Kahnawake QI Team.

Fantastic work Joelle and the award is truly well deserved. Her contributions on FORGE AHEAD and SOAR have been instrumental and many congratulations from the Western Diabetes Alliance Team.



CONGRATULATIONS DIABETES ALLIANCE TEAM!



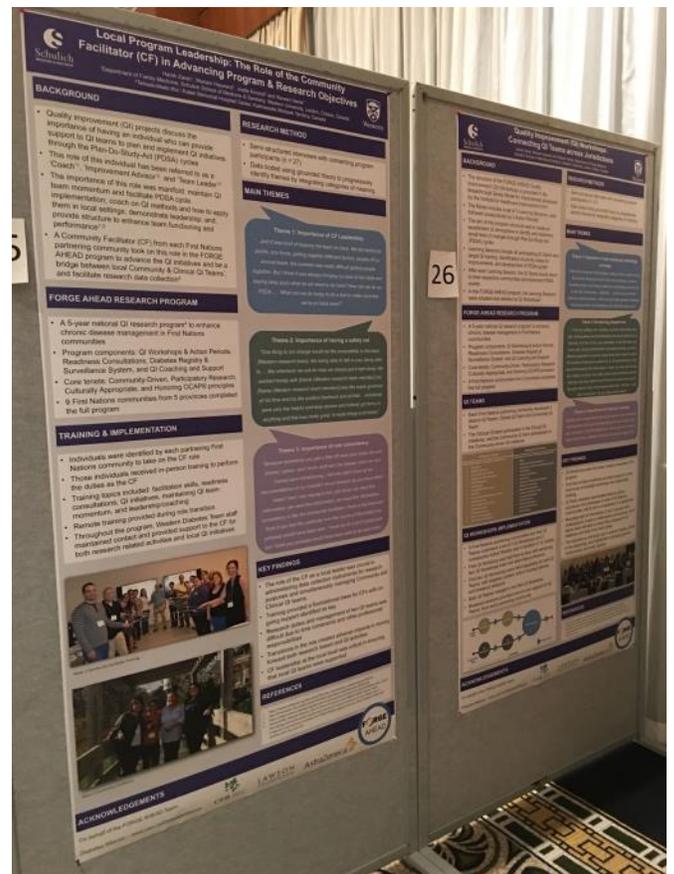
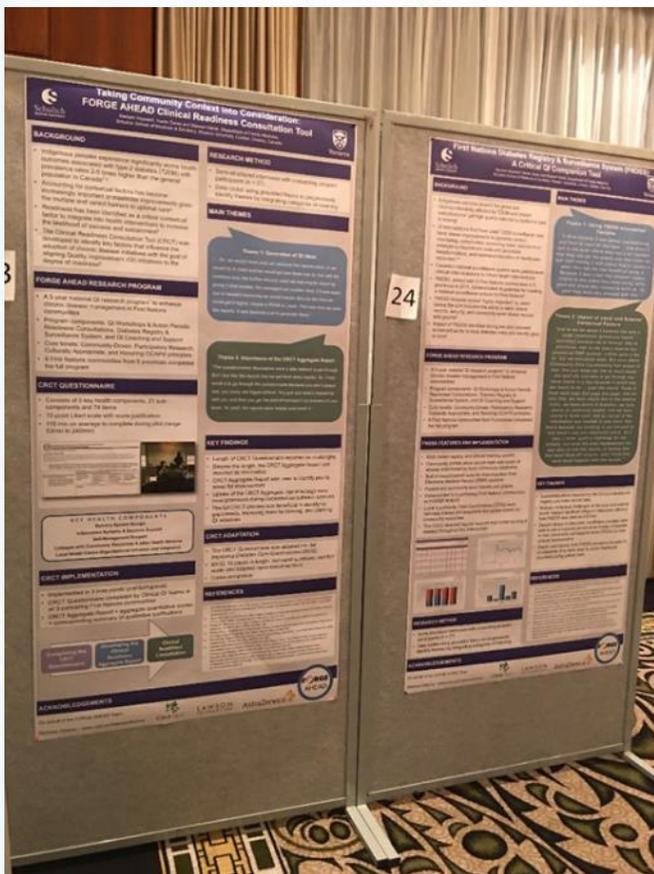
The Diabetes Alliance Team was awarded the Dean's Award of Excellence for Team Innovation for their Indigenous Quality Improvement Program. Much gratitude to all FORGE AHEAD partnering communities and institutional partners for letters of support and continued collaboration.

CIHR COMMUNITY-BASED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (CBPHC) 12 TEAMS FINAL MEETING — DEC 6-7, 2018/MONTREAL

The final meeting of the 12 CBPHC Teams funded by CIHR was organized to showcase the advances in primary health care research and discuss how to take the research knowledge and findings and make it relevant for patients, families, communities, and other stakeholders.

Harsh Zaran, Mariam Hayward, and Joelle Emond participated in this event on behalf of the FORGE AHEAD program team. They presented four posters showcasing the program:

1. Taking Community Context into Consideration: FORGE AHEAD Clinical Readiness Consultation Tool
2. First Nations Diabetes Registry & Surveillance System (FNDSS): A Critical QI Companion Tool
3. Local Program Leadership: The Role of the Community Facilitator (CF) in Advancing Program & Research Objectives
4. Quality Improvement (QI) Workshops: Connecting QI Teams across Jurisdictions



PROGRAM TEAM NEWS



(From Left: Christopher Ryan, Riley Kennedy, Romina Pace)

Christopher Ryan

As the new Communications and Design Coordinator, Chris is involved with multiple projects across different research pillars on the Diabetes Alliance Team. Over the next year, Chris will be running our social media accounts, looking after our website, and helping develop video and graphic materials to showcase some of the great work being done across the team.

Riley Kennedy

Riley is a new Research Assistant on the SOAR program. He is in his first year of the Bachelor of Health Sciences program at Western University and intends to complete an honors specialization in health promotion, a minor in First Nations studies, and a minor in community development. Riley has previously worked for Niagara Region Public Health with the youth engagement team. Also, he assisted on a study funded by The Beryl Institute focused on patient experience at the Walker Family Cancer Centre. In his spare time Riley enjoys being with his family and eating his grandma's food.

Romina Pace

Romina joined the Diabetes Alliance Team to pursue her interests within the Indigenous pillar of research. She travels to Cree communities in Quebec as a General Internist and provides healthcare services. She is working on quantitative datasets from FNDSS to develop findings at the community level and the FORGE AHEAD program as a whole. She loves travelling and makes it a point to visit new countries every year.

PUBLICATIONS

National Survey of Indigenous primary healthcare capacity and delivery models in Canada: the TransFORMATION of IndiGENous PrimARy HEAlthcare delivery (FORGE AHEAD) community profile survey. BMC Health Serv Res. 2018 Nov 1;18(1):828. [doi: 10.1186/s12913-018-3578-8](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-018-3578-8).

Holiday Office Hours:

We will be closed from December 21, 2018 - January 3, 2019. Please note that the Western FORGE AHEAD Research Team will not be available during that time.

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