

**Meeting Summary
International Polar Year
Arctic human health Initiative
National Advisory Committee
December 1, 2005.**

**Arctic Investigations Program
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
4055 Tudor Centre Drive
Anchorage Alaska 99508
(907) 720 3400
Contact Phone (907) 729 3407 (Alan Parkinson)**

Agenda

9:00-Welcome & Introductions (Alan Parkinson/Neil Murphy/Sharon Hrynkow)

9:15

- Update on IPY AHHI Proposal and submission process
- Discussion of AHHI Proposal
 - Reviews conducted by:
 - IPY Joint Committee
 - Health Canada
 - International Advisory Committee
- Organization of Arctic Health Research Activities at the:
 - National level
 - DHHS/Alaska Research Community
 - International level
 - Arctic Council
 - International Union for Circumpolar Health

10:30-10:50 Coffee

10:50

- Behavioral Health: IPY activities
- Role of the Arctic Health Website in AHHI
- ICARP II Arctic Human Health Research Planning

12:00-1:30 Lunch Provided

1:30

- Funding options
- Discussion/organization of planned AHHI/ICCH13 activities
- Coordination of IPY AHHI Research Proposals/Activities

Walt Parker-update on Information Communication & Technology (ICT) program assessment

3:30- Adjourn

Participants

Alan Parkinson
CDC, Arctic Investigations Program
Anchorage Alaska

Neil Murphy
South Central Foundation
Anchorage Alaska

Sharon Hrynkow
NIH, Fogarty International Center
Bethesda Maryland

Karen Perdue
University of Alaska
Fairbanks Alaska

Rudy Brueggemann
Canadian Consulate
Government of Canada
Anchorage Alaska

Walt Parker
Institute of the North
Anchorage Alaska

Carl Hild
Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies
University of Alaska Anchorage
Anchorage Alaska

Jay Butler
State of Alaska
Division of Public Health
Section of Epidemiology

Kathy Murray
Health Science Information Services
University of Alaska, Anchorage
Anchorage, Alaska

Rhonda Johnson
Department of Health Science
University of Alaska, Anchorage
Anchorage Alaska

Jennifer Johnson
Office of Alaska Native Health Research
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Anchorage, Alaska

Lori Eussen
Division of Information Technology
Alaska Native Tribal health Consortium
Anchorage Alaska

On the phone

Larry Duffy
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Fairbanks Alaska

Marian McDonald
Office of Minority & Women's Health
National Center for Infectious Diseases
CDC
Atlanta GA

Monique Pertrofsky/Doug Klauke
Office of Global Health
CDC
Atlanta, GA

George Happ
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska

Introductions:

Sharon noted that Natalie Tomitich now with NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR), and that Anne Davis and Dr. Jim Herrington, Director of FIC's Division of International Relations standing in until replacement found.

This was the second meeting of this group The National AHHI Advisory group. The last meeting was February 8th, following the submission of the AHHI letter of intent to the IPY JC, January 14, 2005. The purpose of that meeting was to develop from a US National perspective a concept of what an AHHI IPY proposal would look like.

From the AC perspective

- The AHHI is an Arctic Council Initiative that aims to:
 - Increase cooperation and coordination in Arctic Human Health Research
 - Increase awareness and visibility of human health concerns of Arctic communities

- Build on existing Arctic Council human health activities
 - Telemedicine-health communication
 - International Circumpolar Surveillance-infectious disease
 - Assessment of the health of and wellbeing of Children and Youth
 - Guidance documents: ACIA, AHDR, AMAP
 - Monitoring-human health effects of contaminants
 - Monitor effects of climate variability on human health
- Develop and organizational infrastructure for human health activities, prioritization, planning.

US agreed to lead this initiative for the AC. EoI written by Sally Brandel SAO DOS, and Alan Parkinson, Neil Murphy, Carl Hild, Karen Perdue followed this lead pull together meetings to further develop concept and a full proposal which was submitted September 30, 2005

Summary of Proposal progress

- Letter of Intent submitted January 14, 2005.
 - IPY Joint Committee (International)
 - National IPY Committee
 - Arctic Council SAO's
- National Arctic Human Health Committee meeting, February 8, Anchorage, 2005.
- International Arctic Human Health Committee meeting, April 7-8, Copenhagen, 2005.

The International AHHI group meeting in Copenhagen consisted of representations from

- Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health
- Danish Greenlandic Society for Circumpolar Health
- Nordic Society for Arctic Medicine
- Siberian Branch Russian Academy for Medical Sciences
- Swedish Society for Arctic Medicine
- Icelandic Society for Arctic Medicine
- WHO Euro
- Indigenous peoples organizations
 - SCF, ANTHC, Saami Council.
 - CDC
 - AIP, OGH

Outcomes from the Copenhagen meeting a subsequent meeting held in Quebec, October 25, 2005, identified several AHHI themes for research activities during IPY, these now include:

- Health Networks
 - International Circumpolar Surveillance
 - International Network of Circumpolar Health Research
- Research
 - Health Surveys

- Human health effects of anthropogenic pollution in the Arctic
 - Contaminants and zoonotic infectious diseases, effects on the traditional food supply
 - Health Impacts of oil and gas development
 - Climate variability and human health
 - Infectious diseases, Tb, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, vaccine preventable, emerging threats- avian influenza
 - Chronic diseases, cancer, CVD, obesity, diabetes
 - Behavioral health, suicide, unintentional injuries
- Health Policy Development and Implementation
 - Translation of research into health policy, community action and implementation of prevention and control
 - Proposed Coordination IPY AHHI activities
 - IPY AHHI International Advisory Committee
 - Representation from IUCH, Arctic Council SDWG, AMAP human health working group, indigenous peoples organizations.
 - Planning Arctic Health Research beyond 2009
- Education Outreach and Communication
 - Research Conferences
 - 13th ICCH ‘Gateway to IPY’ Novosibirsk, Russia June 12-16, 2006
 - 14th ICCH ‘IPY Legacy’ Yellowknife Canada 2009
 - Arctic Human Health International Conferences 2007-2008
 - Topic specific workshops 2006-2008
 - Publications
 - International Journal of Circumpolar Health
 - Other published proceedings
 - Fellowships
 - Student Involvement
 - Community Based Activities/Involvement
 - Web Sites
 - Arctic Health (www.arctichealth.org)
 - IUCH (www.iuch.org)
 - AHHI (proposed)

Larry Duffy suggested that the ARCUS website could be used as a vehicle for advertising AHHI

- Full AHHI proposal was developed and submitted September 30, 2005.
 - To the IPY Joint Committee.
 - More than 60 human health related EoIs were submitted
 - Sent out to National International Committees

- Presented to Arctic Council SDWG Khanty-Mansiysk October 12-13, 2005
- Reviewed by Health Canada and Canadian IPY Steering committee

Review of AHHI by IPY JC December 1, 2005

- Strong scientific components
- High level of organization
- Adherence to IPY themes & goals
- Endorsed by the IPY Joint Committee

Canada review Heather Mack Circumpolar Advisor HC Northern Secretariat

Endorsed priority areas for collaboration

- Anthropogenic pollution
- Contaminates & Zoonotic infectious diseases-impact on traditional food supply
- Climate variability and human health and traditional food supply
- Infectious diseases (ICS)
- Behavioral health-(needs more discussion)
- Children & Youth (contaminants & infectious diseases)
- Stressed involvement of aboriginal organizations in IPY (ICC, GCI, AAC)
- Questions Raised
 - Will Canadian proposal stay separate, or merge with AHHI? How will this be accomplished?
 - Will AHHI be linked to ICARPII process?
 - What steps can AHHI take to ensure that Canadian IPY Consultations with northern communities are incorporated?

Action Item: Alan to participate in Conference call to discuss December 13, 2005

Discussion of Canada Proposal.

Arctic resiliency and diversity: Community response to change

- Combines 44 Canadian EoI submissions
- Community Driven
- Northern lead
- Creation of health & wellness research network that facilitates
 - Identification of health priorities
 - Facilitate health research activities combining
 - Traditional knowledge
 - Western sciences
 - Create healthy environments
 - Improve health of communities in the north
- Linked to AHHI core proposal

Questions still remain on how AHHI will incorporate/merge with the Canadian Proposal?

Action Item: More discussion/conference call with Canadian representatives needed. Alan will initiate.

Action Item: Review current AHHI proposal for revision and resubmit January 31, 2006. Revision items to Alan before December 30, 2005

Discussion on AHHI organization

Proposed that AHHI will result in:

- Organization of Arctic Health Research Activities at the:
 - National level
 - Arctic Research Commission, Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee/DHHS/CDC/Alaska Research Community
 - International level
 - Arctic Council
 - International Union for Circumpolar Health

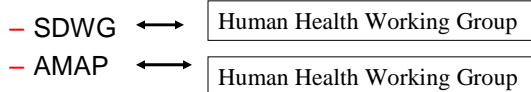
It was suggested that coordination IPY AHHI activities could be accomplished using the IPY AHHI International Advisory Committee which has representation from IUCH, Arctic Council SDWG, AMAP human health working group, and indigenous people’s organizations.

Action Item: More discussion needed with representatives from other AC working group representatives. Alan to present plan to AMAP Human health group at their next meeting in Iceland in May 2006.

- **Proposed Coordination of Activities**

- International

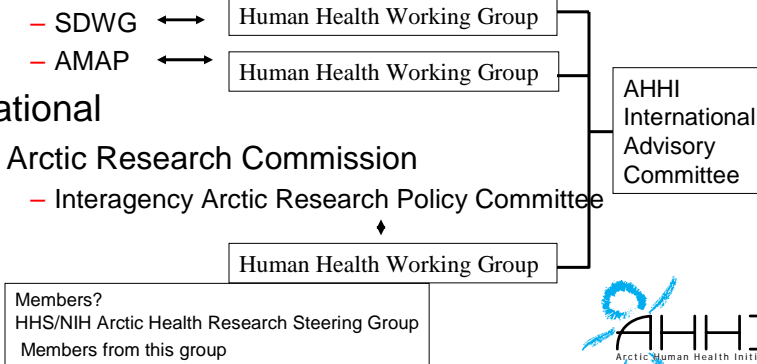
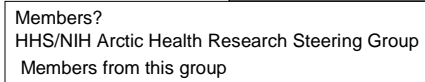
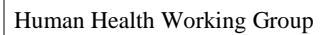
- Arctic Council



- National

- Arctic Research Commission

- Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee



In regard to organization at the US National level.

A roundtable discussion Trans-DHHS/NIH Steering group on Arctic health research occurred, at FIC Bethesda MD July 28, 2005

Purpose

- Exchange information on DHHS and other USG agencies' current activities and plans related to Arctic health;
- Identify additional activities to highlight under IPY/AHHI;
- Determine agencies' interest in and support of collaboration on and coordination of proposed activities under IPY/AHHI --
 - Research – epidemiological, biomedical and behavioral studies
 - Information dissemination, public education, and outreach
 - Capacity development and training
 - International cooperation
- Determine specific areas and/or projects of synergy, and subsequently, next steps, and locus and means of coordination

Outcomes from this meeting resulted in the proposal of the formation of a HHS/NIH Arctic Health Research Steering Group to help coordinate research activities between the Arctic Research Commission, the Interagency Arctic Research Committee and Research Community in the US Arctic.

Action Item: Create ListServ for communication within this group.

Action Item: Explore alternatives for creating an AC Arctic Health Secretariat (?FIC), and potential funding source.

Action Item: Plan HHS/NIH Arctic Health Research Steering Group meeting for January or February 2006.

Discussion on IPY Behavioral Health activities

At the Trans-NIH-HHS steering group meeting on AHHI" (July 28, 2005), A number of NIH Institutes and HHS agencies expressed interest in behavioral health activities for IPY (NIMH, NIAAA, NIDA, SAMHSA and HRSA).

NIMH, SAMHSA and FIC worked together to develop the agenda and support the recent symposium on suicide prevention in the Arctic, with participation by experts from Alaska, Canada, Norway, and Russia (as part of the annual congress of the International Association of Suicide Prevention in Durban, South Africa). In addition, NIMH, NIAAA, and NIDA are collaborating with the Canadian Institute of Health Research on issues related to behavioral health and substance abuse. So the Novosibirsk conference,

as a “Gateway to IPY”, would be a natural segue to this activity. Other FIC areas of interest for IPY activities are inhalant abuse, trauma and injury, the role of women in science, and indigenous people’s issues. Use of telemedicine (AFHCAN) as a tool in mental health evaluation, and the proposed establishment of a pilot site in the Russian Far east as an IPY initiative were discussed. The possibility of including an International Telemedicine Symposium in 2007 as an IPY event was also discussed.

Discussion on the Role of the Arctic Health Website in AHHI

The Arctic Health Website:

- Sponsored by the National Library of Medicine's, Division of Specialized Information Services
- Maintained by the University of Alaska Anchorage's Health Sciences Information Service.
- Aims to:
 - Provide a central source of information on diverse aspects of the Arctic environment and the health of Northern peoples.
 - Provides access to evaluated health information from local, state, national, and international agencies, as well as from professional societies and universities.
 - Provides an arctic health information repository and clearinghouse of previously published and unpublished articles and reports pertinent to the Arctic readily accessible to health care and research professionals.
 - Provides a system for rapid dissemination of new results
 - Provides computerized directory of scientists with arctic health expertise

The AHHI needs a Website to provide information about IPY’s history, themes, AHHI’s background, organization, partners, and a catalog of AHHI proposals, scientific plans, progress, results, publications and upcoming events. The issue of cost to expand the current Arctic Health Website to include AHHI maintenance was discussed. In the absence of new funding, it was suggested that resources from CDC, UAA, and ANTHC’s AFHCAN be used to set up the AHHI site within the Arctic Health Website.

Action Item: Alan to put Kathy Murray in contact with the AIP media support contractor, to begin this process. Lori Eussen from AFCHAN would also help with this and other media needs of AHHI.

Action Item: Continue to search for additional resources.

Discussion on ICARP II Arctic Human Health Research planning conference Copenhagen November 11-13, 2005.

ICARP II is a Strategic planning process for Arctic Research activities for the next 10-15 years.

ICARP II Goals:

- Prepare arctic research plans to guide international cooperation for next 10-15 years
- Ideas submitted for future directions

- 13 themes identified, plans drafted June 30, 2005-provided input for conference
 - Sustainable development
 - Indigenous peoples
 - Coastal processes
 - Deep central basin
 - Arctic ocean margins gateways
 - Terrestrial Cryospheric hydrologic systems
 - Terrestrial biosphere/biodiversity
 - Modeling/Predicting climate
 - Vulnerability/resilience and rapid change
 - Arctic Science in public interest
 - Enabling research infrastructure
 - Resources & Funding
- Outcomes of ICARP II to be used for:
 - Initiating important circum-arctic research projects
 - IPY initiatives
 - Guide for Arctic research 10-15 years

Human health is not currently an ICARP II theme area. Alan presented Human health and the AHHI planning process at the ICARPII Open Session in an attempt to get human health recognized as an ICARPII theme.

Action Item: Conference committee has requested a write up of Human Health as a proposal to be considered for inclusion as an ICARPII theme.

Discussion of funding options:

NSF-not specifically for health research more for education training-Announcement specific for IPY anticipated soon at www.nsf.gov

NOAH Oceans and Human Health

Civilian Research & Development Foundation www.crdf.org

(Can this be used for Russian involvement in IPY and ICCH13?)

Congressional Delegation

Action Item: f/u

State of Alaska-

Action Item: Jay Butler to f/u

Corporate Sponsors Oil & Gas Development/Use NIH Foundation

Action Item: Rudy to generate a list of potentials US/Canada Oil & Gas Sponsors

Action Item: Karen & Rhonda to draft proposal to NIH Foundation.

NIH- Institutes/Centers

FIC/NSF joint funding- AI conference: Ecology of Infectious Diseases

Action Item: George Happ to f/u with Sharon on funding/organization of this conference

SI Potential funding for Outreach & Education
USAID-Russ Howell's proposal. Linkages to be explored

There was discussion on broad nature of Outreach Education & Communication IPY theme, and how to organize this within AHHI? Theme involves wide range of target groups, schools, universities, graduate/undergraduate, communities, public, and players scientists, media, lay press etc etc. (No lead for AHHI?). Need for coordinated approach.

Action Item: Create working group to explore options for AHHI

Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality Agency Small grants for Conference (?ICCH13) support (R13). www.fedgrants.gov/applicants/hhs/ahrq/ahrq/pa-06-074/listing.

Discussion/organization of planned AHHI/ICCH13 activities

ICCH 13 is the AHHI gateway for IPY, and will feature plenary IPY keynote speakers, specific IPY topic specific workshops for researchers planning IPY projects, workshop on community involvement/impact, and a workshop on IPY research translation into health policy and implementation. A final wrap-up combined researcher/community/policy development workshop will be scheduled for the last day of the conference to summarize individual workshop outcomes.

Current IPY workshops planned:

Infectious Diseases

Hepatitis and Liver Diseases

Cold injury

Others could include

Behavioral Health-suicide/abuse

IPY youth forum on health issues-planned for 2007.

Discussion on coordination of IPY AHHI Research Proposals/activities

Suggested that IPY AHHI proposals be submitted to the IPY Website as EoI's.

www.ipy.org/development/framework/IPY_EoI_Annex_1.doc

Once cataloged they can be referenced and tracked and entered into the AHHI data base and placed on the Arctic Health AHHI website.

Presentation of an update on the Information, Communication Technology (ICT) Assessment program- Walt Parker

This is an Arctic Council initiative within the SDWG. As resource development occurs the need for infrastructure for ICT will increase, as will the need for coordination and planning. While ICT encompasses many aspects of sustainable development (such as commerce, education, aviation, oil and gas industry, communities, local/federal governments) there will be a need for ICT in the area medical utilization and telehealth. There have been several decades of progress in some countries (Alaska, Canada, Scandinavia and Russia) in the area of telehealth. But there will be increased needs in some areas between medical centers, and small communities. This program is in the

process of identifying authors and subject matter experts to conduct workshops on ICT infrastructure in the Arctic and sub Arctic and write up the assessment.

Next Steps-Action Items Identified

- Summarized Quebec meeting-Alan/Neil/Carl (Completed)
- AHHI Newsletter-Alan/Neil others
- Conference call Health Canada-Alan (Completed)
- Write up ICARP-II Human Health Proposal-Alan (Completed)
- Write AHHI concept paper for IJCH-Alan/Neil others
- Identify AHHI core funding-all
- Revise AHHI core Proposal-all-Comments by December 30
- Plan/conduct DHHS/NIH Steering Group meeting (January/February 2006?)- Sharon/Jim Herrington
- Plan/conduct AHHI International Advisory Group meeting Iceland May 2006-Alan
- Plan AHHI activities for 13th ICCH Novosibirsk June 12-16, 2006-all
- Develop Proposal for NIH Foundation-Karen/Rhonda/Rudy/Sharon
- Establish NIH IPY Behavioral Health agenda (FIC point of contact)- Sharon
- Investigate funding options for support of IUCH ie CRDF-Sharon
- Develop ListServ for HHS/NIH steering committee-Sharon
- Add HHS/NIH members to AHHI mailing list-Alan
- Explore options for Arctic Council Arctic Health secretariat and funding-Sharon
- Develop Outreach Education Communication Strategy-Lori/others
- Establish AHHI Website within Arctic Human Health. Kathy/Alan/Lori
- Continue to explore NIH support for the Arctic Health AHHI Website-Sharon/Carl/Kathy/Lucy/ others.