

**MEETING SD 19-20-24** 

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

#### MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024 DET'ANCHOGH KŲÉ - EAGLE ROOM / ZOOM 1:30 PM

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Prayer
- 3. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- 4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
- 5. Public Matters: Briefing with Minister of Health and Social Services on Systemic Racism in the Healthcare System
- 6. In Camera Matters:
  - a. Debrief
  - b. Work Plan
- 7. New Business

a.

- 8. Date and Time of Next Meeting:
  - a. Wednesday, July 3, 2024 1:00PM Public Ministerial Briefing on Medical Travel
- 9. Adjournment



## Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Standing Committee on Social Development

#### **Presentation Outline**

BACKGROUND | CONTEXT ACTIVITIES | INITIATIVES CHALLENGES | OPPORTUNITIES KEY LEARNINGS | NEXT STEPS

### Background | Context

#### Individual/Interpersonal

Bias
Stereotypes
Ignoring
Delays and denial of care
Different/subpar treatment
Inappropriate pain management
Not believing patient

#### Institutional (Policies, Practices, Norms)

Disdain for cultural/Indigenous healing

Racism condoned

Acceptance or normalization of substandard care Inadequate accountability measures to address racism complaints

Lack of staff diversity

Dominance of biomedical model/absence of Indigenous knowledge and healing as prevention and care options (viewed as primitive)

Policies and programs not informed by community

Unwelcoming physical environments
Limited resource allocation

#### **White Supremacy**

A system that assumes that the practices of whiteness are the right way of organizing human life.

#### Colonialism

Systems of subjugation or oppression, and a set of beliefs intentionally cultivated about the inferiority of Indigenous peoples

#### **Racism**

A system that structures opportunities and assigns value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (unfairly disadvantaging some and advantaging others)

#### Timeline

2013

Indigenous Health and Community Wellness division 2016 COMMITMENT **2016-2019** Engagement &

Engagement & ACTION PLAN

Development

2019- 2023

Design & Testing

2024+





Government of Northwest Territories

### **Activities** | Initiatives

# Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Training

#### **Training Aim**

To ensure that all staff working within the NWT HSS system have the foundational knowledge, skills, and self-awareness to address anti-Indigenous racism and facilitate cultural safety for the HSS system.

This training will provide HSS staff with a common language and basis to understand the root causes of anti-Indigenous racism and to identify action required at individual and organizational levels to dismantle it.



#### **Training Approach & Stats**

- Roll-out in 2020-21
- Mandatory for all HSS staff (Indigenous staff exception)
- Maximum of 30 staff/session
- Team delivery approach
- Mix of activities and guest speakers
- Counseling support available
- Since 2021/22 = 600 trained

### Program, Planning & Design

#### Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Division

- Indigenous Advisory Body
- Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Guiding Principles
- Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Tool
- Document reviews
- Evaluation of training
- Commitment statements for job descriptions
- Outstanding Cultural Safety Action Plan items
  - Patient Rights and Responsibilities
  - Conduct environmental scan on existing traditional healing practices and services in NWT
  - Facilitate a gathering of Knowledge holders to develop strategies on ways to incorporate traditional healing practices alongside programs and services

### Client Feedback and Advocacy

### Office of Client Experience Update

- First year at a glance
- Highly committed to meaningful impact
- Learning to support our people
- Relationships and influence
- Client at the heart
- Survey data- clients feeling listened to, respected, and culturally safe

#### What We Know

- OCE staff manage events of institutional and interpersonal antiindigenous racism across the HSS System
- Clients know what is best for them
- System support is crucial
- Community partnerships and having Indigenous leadership can expedite meaningful change
- Indigenous language support is a challenge
- When harm happens, we need to do better in supporting our clients and families

### Challenges | Opportunities

#### Challenges

- Small teams that are mostly Indigenous
- Dealing with frequent resistance to addressing racism is high emotional labour for cultural safety and anti-racism program leads and staff
- Reliance on temporary and 3rd Party Funding
- New and existing structures (IAB, Indigenous Client Experience Council, Training Program) require high level of administrative and planning support
- Addressing systemic racism requires a culture shift and action at all levels

#### **Opportunities**

- Leveraging data and client experiences from the Office of Client Experience to inform system change
- HSO Cultural Safety and Humility Standards
- Team commitment and skill to addressing systemic racism
- Anti-racism facilitation training
- Innovative approach to Primary Health Care Reform by centering cultural safety and anti-racism
- Planning to understand steps necessary to take a whole-of-government approach to cultural safety and anti-racism

### Key Learnings | Next Steps

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 Dig up the Roots: Patience and time for the system to learn and change

 Strengthen the Trunk: Build momentum for policy and program changes based on feedback

• **Grow:** Expand training for staff with resources and additional access to patient supports and advocacy.

#### Questions

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Mársı | Kinanāskomitin | Thank you | Merci | Hąį' | Quana | Qujannamiik | Quyanainni | Máhsı | Máhsı | Mahsì
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