

ORAPC REVIEW

Priority issues identified by ORAPC

- ◆ Ontario NNADAP is chronically underfunded- Our research indicates the NNADAP budgets were determined by a funding formula last used some time in the 1990's. At some point, funding formulas were no longer used and it would appear that the same amount of funding has been given each year since the 1990's plus an additional 3% (for most years). Recommendation #18 of the 1998 NNADAP General Review recommends that Health Canada review its present funding process and formula and factor in isolation, actual costs, effectiveness and efficiency to ensure they are equitable with other services such as provincial addiction agencies. As stated in the "Honoring Our Strengths: A Renewed Framework to Address Substance Use Issues Among First Nations People in Canada", the "various systems of care are faced with increasingly complex needs: new drugs; more people reporting associated mental health issues; a rapidly growing First Nations youth population; and growing prescription drug abuse concerns in some regions and communities. These factors have dramatically changed the landscape upon which systems were designed." NNADAP Workers have taken on increased responsibilities and roles requiring increased qualifications while the funding has not increased to meet these changes. For example, more NNADAP workers have achieved their post-secondary education training, diploma/degree since the 1990's and many have achieved their addictions counselor certification, unfortunately NNADAP funding has stayed the same not allowing increases in salary or programming. Additionally, many communities are responding to addictions by using culture, land-based and community-based treatment programming with no new monies to sustain those program or properly compensate our traditional knowledge keepers. ORAPC has found that many NNADAP budgets barely cover a worker's salary leaving no dollars to provide programming or assist workers with training.
- ◆ Development of an Ontario NNADAP Capacity Building Strategy has begun. Partners include Treatment Director's Group, National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation and the Chiefs of Ontario - Information collected from Ontario NNADAP Workers indicates Ontario NNADAP Workers receive considerably less than their mainstream counterparts and face higher caseloads. Turnover rates of Ontario NNADAP Workers is high. A consistent, qualified NNADAP workforce is an important part of addressing addictions needs in our First Nation communities.
- ◆ ORAPC lacks an adequate operational budget- Currently the ORAPC budget will allow for 2 face-to-face working meeting annually and minimal coordination expenses. An adequate operational budget would allow for 1 additional face-to-face working meetings per year, 3 sub-committee meetings per year and an increase in coordination expenses to allow for adequate research and administrative support for ORAPC.

Ontario Regional Addictions Partnership

Committee

ORAPC

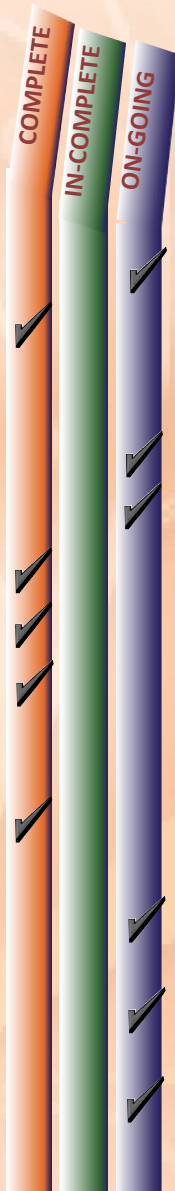
2013-2014



Website: ontarioNNADAP.org

ORAPC Completed Tasks

The ORAPC completed activities as outlined on the 2013/2014 Work Plan.



Highlights of the year include:

- ◆ Host Ontario NNADAP Conference .
- ◆ Review and select six (6) training proposals approved from the National Anti-Drug Strategy funding providing accredited training. Maintaining the OntarioNNADAP.org website.
- ◆ Develop and distribute an electronic issue of the Ontario NNADAP Newsletter.
- ◆ Maintain the Ontario NNADAP Directory.
- ◆ Approve and distribute the ORAPC Review .
- ◆ Research and develop a Pre-treatment Readiness Tool Kit for Ontario NNADAP.
- ◆ Data Gathering from Ontario NNADAP in areas such as Ontario NNADAP Best Practices, Program Needs, Wage and Salary Information, Education Levels, Certification Numbers and Retention Incentive experiences.
- ◆ Commit portion of donation funds from Gawker.com to training initiatives and treatment readiness toolkit development.
- ◆ Identify representatives on National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation (NNAPF) Board of Directors, TFNHSOC Mental Health and Addictions Working Group.
- ◆ Advocate for NNADAP Worker Retention Incentive and Pay Equity for Ontario NNADAP workforce.
- ◆ Development of “Ontario NNADAP Funding Issues and Retention Incentive Report”.

Comments from You...

THE NNADAP WORKER

By way of introduction, I have been in the position of NNADAP for 9 months and have never received any communication from the ORAPC rep.

I think minutes can be sent out. Quarterly newsletters, Quarterly updates on contact information. Highlight priorities for each fiscal year.

I have never been contacted by anyone so I guess that would be a good start. We hear from them at the conference and it stops there. I don't even have any idea what their role is. Thanks

Very good conference all information was very pertinent and makes me want to get my certification.

ORAPC's efforts to address your concerns

The committee has had a few vacancies on the committee but are now at full capacity so hopefully you will have more communication from your representative in the future.

ORAPC has sent out ORAPC meeting minutes and emailed the 3rd volume of the ORAPC newsletter in August 2014. All this information can be found on the OntarioNNADAP.org website

Mandate

The Ontario Regional Addictions Partnership Committee (ORAPC) will facilitate communication and provide advice/guidance/recommendations to the Chiefs of Ontario office, Health Canada First Nations & Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB), NNADAP Community-based and Treatment Centre workers and PTO's on issues of addictions and holistic approaches to healing through ongoing processes of review, evaluation, and monitoring. The ORAPC will provide input on regional and national initiatives in the area of addiction programs and services as the implementation of the NNADAP Renewal Framework moves forward.

Thank you to everyone from ORAPC.