



OntarioNNADAP.org

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Addictions Counselor Certification for Ontario's NNADAP Workers

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The Ontario Regional Addictions Partnership Committee (ORAPC) is committed to providing quality certified training opportunities to Ontario's NNADAP Workers as they advocate for wage parity of our On Reserve Addictions Workers with their Off-Reserve Counterparts. Each year the ORAPC offers 3-4 days of certified training at the Ontario NNADAP Conference in the Fall and when funding is available offers additional regional training. This past year funding was available through the National Anti-Drug Strat-

egy for training to be held in various regions in Ontario. Regions who were successful at offering training included: The Treaty #3 ORAPC Representative, Reuben Wasacase, Executive Director at Migisi Drug and Alcohol Treatment Centre was successful in receiving funding to host training in Kenora. This training was provided for Treaty #3 NNADAP workers to get familiar with the Certification Requirements and Process. The Union of Ontario Indians ORAPC Representative, John Mattson, Alderville First Nation

NNADAP was successful in receiving funding for Partner Assault Response Train the Trainer Workshop and Anger Management Training March 5-7, 2012 for 20-30 NNADAP Workers in his Region. The Independent First Nations ORAPC Representative Patricia Sword, Walpole Island NNADAP Program Manager was successful in receiving funding for White Bison training to be offered in the region for approximately 15 NNADAP Workers.

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OntarioNNADAP.org Website Launch

To improve communication among Ontario's NNADAP Workers and the ORAPC the OntarioNNADAP.org website is set to launch in March/April 2012. Thanks to NNAPF who will be hosting the website and Braided Nation the developer, Ontario NNADAP will now have a web space that will serve as a communication tool for news, initiatives, trainings, an-

nouncements, tools, resources and feedback to be shared among Ontario NNADAP Workers. Some of the information

contained on the website will include the Ontario NNADAP Manual, past Ontario NNADAP Conference Reports, Ontario NNADAP Contact List, ORAPC Meeting Minutes, Regional Resources and Helpful Tools for workers. Make sure you visit the website and tell us what you think!!



ORAPC Logo symbolizes the partnership that exists across the Ontario Region.

Addictions Counselor Certification

(Continued from page 1)

FNIH and ORAPC information gathering indicates that numbers of certified NNADAP Workers in Ontario has increased this year and ORAPC will continue to provide certified training to further increase the numbers of certified NNADAP workers.

Certification boards in Canada include the First Nations Wellness/Addictions Counsellor Certification Board (FNWACCB), the Canadian Addictions Counsellor Certification Federation (CACCF) and the Canadian Council of Professional Certification (CCPC).

FNWACCB certifies Aboriginal addictions workers. Under this certification body a worker can get certified at one of three (3) levels: Indigenous Certified Ad-

dictions Specialist I, II or III.

The basic difference between levels I and II is in the length of supervised



training and/or work experience, and in the amount of education acquired. There is no waiver or substitution for the one-year full time supervised work experience as an addictions counsellor.

The board decides which level of certification will be awarded and bases the decision on assessment of the application forms and supporting documents provided (course descriptions and hours, transcripts, the job description, the Supervisor evaluation, and the reference and endorsement letters) allowing the board to fully assess the applicant's work experiences, competencies and training.

The following are **requirements of all 3 levels** of certification:

All applicants must demonstrate knowledge

and/or experience in the following 12 core functions. The competencies documented are assessed according to a competency scale.

12 Core Functions

Screening

Intake

Orientation

Assessment and evaluation

Treatment Planning

Counselling: Individual, Group and Significant others

Case Management

Crisis Intervention

Client Education

Referral

Reports and Record Keeping

Consultation With Other Professionals In Regard To Client Treatment/Services

In addition to the 12 core functions the following must be demonstrated.

Knowledge and skills - assessed through review of all the information provided (course description and hours, transcripts, certificates, previous and present work experience, Supervisor evaluation, letters of reference and endorsement). **Level I requires:** High School or

GED, 1 year of Full-time employment as an Aboriginal Addictions Counsellor and **120 hours of training in Core Functions and 120 hours of training in Addictions related topics.** Please see the www.FNWACCB.ca website for requirements for other levels.

Addictions Related Topics

Communication Skills

Knowledge of Addictions

Analytical Skills

Cultural competency

Group facilitation

Conflict resolution

Collaborative skills

Interviewing approaches and techniques

Professional Integrity

Additional information on the above topics is available at the FNWACCB website.

Members of the ORAPC are available to answer questions and assist the workers with the process of applying for certification. Additional information regarding the certification process can be found at www.FNWACCB.ca www.CACCF.ca www.cpcprofessionals.com

**Building
and
Honouring
Our
Partnerships**

**We're on the Web!!!
OntarioNNADAP.org**

Prescription Drug Abuse Strategy

“Take a Stand” - November 18, 2010

Following concerns raised to Chiefs of Ontario regarding Prescription Drug Abuse in First Nation's Communities and Advisory Panel was struck to develop this document to assist communities to deal with this important issue. Two of our ORAPC members Penny Hill and Rolanda Manitowabi were part of this Advisory Panel.

“This report builds upon this body of work to inform the development of federal, provincial and First Nations research initiatives, programming and policy development. The main body of the report outlines a strategy and action plans to address Prescription Drug Abuse. Practical information, promising practices, guidelines, to prevent, reduce and eliminate prescription drug abuse

are provided in the appendices of this report. Also of importance is the identification of processes and templates that may be adapted for use by First Nations commu-



nities as they address prescription drug abuse, recognizing that a one size fits all approach would be inappropriate due to the diversity of the First Nations of Ontario.

The report will inform all parties who have some involvement or role in the prescription drug abuse issues so that they may understand the im-

pact of their actions and partner in the implementation of strategies for the prevention, reduction and elimination of prescription drug abuse. A solutions-based approach is promoted in this report to address this issue in First Nations communities in Ontario, including community, family and individual responses.” - Introduction, Page 2 of the Report

The strategy takes a Strength-based approach and recognizes that First Nation's communities possess the strength and knowledge necessary to deal with the prescription drug abuse problem. It sets forward a four part strategy which includes Health Promotion, Healthy Relationships, Reducing the Supply, and Continuum of Care. The report also provides

different approaches and actions communities can choose from to achieve those strategies.

The Appendices include some valuable resources communities can use to assist in their strategy such as community context literature, current situation in Ontario facts and figures, gap/challenges in the current system delivery model, promising practices and updates and current initiatives. The entire report can be viewed at chiefs-of-ontario.org/Assets/Final%20Draft%20Prescription%20Drug%20Abuse%20Strategy.pdf

Please review the report and share with your First Nation's Program Managers and Chief and Council.

NNADAP Collaboration with ONWAA

Ontario Native Welfare Administrator's Association's (ONWAA) Executive Director, Michael Nadeau, reported to ORAPC that on-reserve Welfare Administrator's are reporting high numbers of prescription drug problems among their clients. On-Reserve Ontario works are interested in assist-

ing their clients as these problems create barriers to engaging clients in programming. NNADAP and Ontario Works programs are encouraged to work together to deal with these issues wherever possible. ONWAA will be holding their annual Conference in September of 2012.

ORAPC will assist ONWAA with contacts for trainers in the addictions field.



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NNADAP Renewal— “Honouring Our Strengths” Framework

The NNADAP Renewal Process was designed to create a strategic vision for planning and delivery of on-reserve addiction services. The Renewed NNADAP Framework was done through a process that engaged First Nations communities, service providers, representative organizations and other key stakeholders. The First Nations Addictions Advisory Panel (FNAAP) completed the engagement process and combined the findings with those of the Regional Needs Assessments, NNADAP Renewal National Forum Report, Research documents, NNADAP Research Papers, submissions on the NNADAP Renewal website (e.g., blog posts and document reviews), previous evaluations of

NNADAP, including the 1998 NNADAP Review and previously completed regional needs assessments, the Renewed NNADAP Framework was developed. Out of this process the “Honouring our Strengths: A Renewed Framework to Address Substance Use Issues Among First Nations People in Canada” was developed.

“Honouring Our Strengths outlines a continuum of care in order to support strengthened community, regional, and national responses to substance use issues. It provides direction and identifies opportunities to ensure that individuals, families, and communities have access to appropriate, culturally-relevant services and

supports based on their needs at any point in their healing process.

This vision is intended to guide the delivery, design, and coordination of



services at all levels of the program. This approach recognizes that responsibility for a strengthened system of care includes individual responsibility

for managing one’s own health, communal responsibility among First Nations people, and a system-wide responsi-

bility that rests with individuals, organizations, government departments, and other partners. The focus of the framework is on addressing substance use issues; however, it also considers the important roles mental health and

well-being play in all aspects of care, including prevention, early identification, intervention, and follow-up. In addition, it recognizes that community development and capacity building are central to more self-determined substance use and mental health services and supports.” - Executive Summary, Page 2

Please review the full document at the NNADAP Renewal website www.nnadaprenewal.ca

Ontario NNADAP Guidebook

ORAPC has developed an Ontario NNADAP Guidebook. This resource will assist NNADAP Workers in Ontario communities with recommended processes and practices in the field of addictions and set some common standards and practices across Ontario NNADAP. It will also assist with the orientation of new workers in the field.

The Manual was distributed at the 2011 NNADAP

Conference in electronic format. It is also available on the OntarioNNADAP.org website..

The guidebook contains the following: an Overview of NNADAP, NNAPF and ORAPC; NNADAP Worker Expectations which includes Orientation, Code of Ethics, Oath of Confidentiality, Certification Information, and Job Description; Cultural Information as it relates to healing from addictions;

Reporting Requirements; Skills Development; Client File Management; Promotion and Prevention; Cycle of Addiction and Change; Treatment; Post Care and Relapse Prevention; and addictions related resources such as templates of forms, assessments, workplans, etc.

A special thank-you to ORAPC, FNIHB and Chiefs of Ontario for making this guidebook possible.

“This resource will assist NNADAP Workers in Ontario communities with recommended processes and practices in the field of addictions”

OxyContin to OxyNEO

Purdue Pharma announced it would halt production of OxyContin on March 1, 2012. The replacement medication, OxyNEO, turns to a tar like substance if users try to heat it up for injection and it cannot be ground into a powder to be snorted.

First Nations have repeatedly called upon both levels of government to enhance community-based programming to deal with opiate addictions.

On February 15, Health Canada announced that all "long-acting oxycodones" have been removed from the NIHB Drug Benefit List.

Those people that are currently prescribed OxyContin will be switched to OxyNEO and no new prescriptions will be written outside of exceptional and case-by-case situations.

Those who are addicted to OxyContin and obtain it illegally may be faced with severe withdrawal, switch to another opiate, or apply for methadone treatment. Many First Nations leaders have stated that we may see an in-

crease in withdrawals and an increase in people seeking services to deal with their addiction to opiates.



Ontario's strategy to deal with the problems created by the change to the new formulation include developing treatment guidelines with CAMH, increased monitoring of methadone programs to identify communities that require more resources, making alternative with-

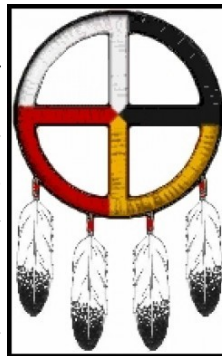
drawal treatments such as Suboxone available, monitoring of hospital emergency rooms for increase in patients suffering withdrawal. It also involved asking Ottawa for assistance in increasing counseling in remote reserves through the Ontario Telemedicine Network.

A Ottawa CBC news article in April, reported many addicts were changing their drug of choice to fentanyl and dilaudid. It also reported longer waiting lists at treatment centres in Ottawa.

Culture for Healing

Culture plays a vital role in the healing journey of First Nation's people. Although we know this is true, the concern has been raised that empirical evidence is lacking to support this widely accepted fact. In terms of prevention, there is some literature showing enculturation builds resiliency (Aboriginal People, Resilience and the Residential School Legacy, Madeleine Dion Stout and Gregory Kipling, AHF, 2003). We also know that effective addictions prevention and intervention is grounded in traditional teachings about a holistic approach to a healthy life (Addictive Behaviours Among Aboriginal People in Canada, Deborah Chansonneuve, 2007). Literature on those and other topics is available at the Aboriginal Healing Foundation website: www.ahf.ca under the "Publications" tab. In an attempt to build the empirical evidence

base of the role Culture plays in healing and wellness of First Nations people, the Addiction Research Chair at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) is undertaking some research in this area. "The aim of this project is to evaluate the effectiveness of First Nations culture as a health intervention in alcohol and drug treatment. Health for First Nations is broadly envisioned as wellness and is understood to exist where there is physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual harmony. It is recognized at the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP) and Youth Solvent Addiction Program (YSAP) treatment centres that Indigenous traditional culture is vital for client healing." U of S will be



collecting information from a sample of treatment centres of how Indigenous traditional culture is understood and practiced to inform a valid instrument to measure the impact of cultural interventions on client wellness. This instrument will then be developed and tested, and the findings applied. Gathering this information will "document the nature and demonstrate the effectiveness of cultural interventions within treatment programs" and will inform program design to provide effective cultural interventions. You can visit the Addictions Research Chair website to share and hear stories about how culture has helped you or someone you know on the journey of healing from addictions.

This project responds to the renewal recommendations outlined in *Honouring Our Strengths: A Renewed Framework to Address Substance Use Issues Among First Nations People in Canada*. For more information go to <http://www.addictionresearchchair.ca/creating-knowledge/provincial/sharing-the-role-of-aboriginal-traditional-culture-in-healing-from-addictions/>

There are some Community based and Land Based Detox and Healing Programs happening in the Ontario Region. We are hoping to highlight these programs in future newsletters. If you are conducting new and innovative programming in your First Nation please contact ORAPC so we can share these approaches with Ontario NNADAP and learn from your experiences.

ORAPC

The Ontario Regional Addictions Partnership Committee (ORAPC) facilitates communication for the implementation of the NNADAP review. The ORAPC examines the recommendations and provides input on regional and national initiatives, when requested, in the area of addiction programs and services. The ORAPC provides advice, guidance and recommendations to leadership through the Chiefs of Ontario office and the First Nations & Inuit Health Branch on issues of addictions and holistic approaches to healing. This is achieved through ongoing processes of review, evaluation, monitoring and communication with Ontario's NNADAP Workers.

Chair

Rolanda Manitowabi

Treatment Centres Rep

Wanda Smith

NAN Rep

Francine Pellerin

NAN Rep

Leo Metatawabin

AIAI Rep

Valerie George

UOI Rep

Shirley Mandoshkin

UOI Rep

John Mattson

Treat #3 Rep

Reuben Wasacase

Six Nations Rep

Penny Hill

IFN South Rep

Patricia Sword

IFN North Rep

Barb Kejick

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Ontario NNADAP and NNAPF

Ontario NNADAP has rejoined the National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation (NNAPF). The Ontario Representatives for NNAPF are Wanda Smith, Executive Director of Native Horizons Treatment Centre and Treatment Centre Representative to the ORAPC and Francine Pellerin, Matawa First Nations Management and NAN Rep to the ORAPC. More information about NNAPF and initiatives are available on the NNAPF.org website.

Chief's of Ontario Trilateral Committee on Health Addictions and Mental Health Working Group

Rolanda Manitowabi, Chairperson of the ORAPC has been appointed to sit on the Chiefs of Ontario Trilateral Committee on Mental Health and Addictions. This Committee has representatives from the Federal Government, Provincial Government and Ontario First Nation's Government. The Mission Statement of the Committee is to assist FN members affected by chemical dependency and mental illness to achieve a better quality of life allowing them to live as productive and accountable members within their communities by providing collaborative concrete approaches to deal with the epidemic of prescription drug abuse, aligning with current work being done in FN's, improving services, accessibility, availability and developing "new approaches".

2012 Ontario NNADAP Conference

The 2011 NNADAP Conference was well attended by over 100 NNADAP Workers. There were also a number of non-NNADAP Workers who attended. All participants played a huge role in making the Conference a success. A final report was mailed out to all NNADAP Workers in Ontario including NNADAP funded treatment centres. The report is also available at OntarioNNADAP.org.

This year's Conference is scheduled to occur **October 15th—18th, 2012** in **Thunder Bay, Ontario**. Workshop topics may include Prescription Drug Abuse

(focus on oxycodone) and Treatment Options, Certification Requirements, Counselling Theory, Clinical Supervision, Ethics, Mental Health, HIV/AIDS, Treatment Topics, Lateral Violence, and Cultural Approaches. A complete Conference Package will be available on the OntarioNNADAP.org website.

The ORAPC is accepting proposals from Facilitator's and Presenters who wish to deliver any of the above training topics. Applicants can

email Facilitator Bio and Course Description to Wanda Smith, Executive Director, Native Horizons Treatment Centre at nhtc@sympatico.ca

Hope to See
You There!!!

