

4.5 Surveillance and Management of Climate Change Impacts in the North: Implications for Northern Public Health Policy and Infrastructure

Summary

Project Leader(s)

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The vision for the project is that improved Community Health and Environmental Surveillance (CHES) programs for each northern region (and preferably across all regions) be planned, designed, put in place and made operational over the next decade. The Programs will be designed to be sensitive to climate related health effects and enable the prospective evaluation and management of health impacts associated with major ecological shifts including the eventual opening of the northern passage. The purpose is to work with Northern managers, organisations and individuals to build capacity to support surveillance and management of climate change health impacts in the North. Capacity building includes working to augment and/or improve human, technological, organisational and financial resources needed to accomplish the long term vision. The approach to the initiative is one of action research, deemed to be appropriate and functional for a capacity building initiative in the Canadian North. The project is seeking to inform and mobilize the necessary human and other resources to move towards the building/development of surveillance systems and programs, through education and training, partnerships and information sharing, pilot projects, fund mobilization and other mechanisms. The initial phase of the project has developed case studies describing the current state of health and environment surveillance with respect to climate impacts and their links to public health action for each of the Inuit regions from East to West: Nunatsiavut (due in 2007), Nunavik (2006), Nunavut (due in 2007) and Inuvialuit (due in 2007). Pilot projects have been initiated in Nunavik (syndromic surveillance of some infectious diseases) and Nunatsiavut (drinking water surveillance); a pilot is being planned for one other region within a PhD project.

People

Network Investigators

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Partners

Public Health Agency of Canada
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Publications

Articles Published in Refereed Publications

Furgal, C. and J. Seguin, 2006, Climate Change, Health and Community Adaptive Capacity: Lessons from the Canadian North, *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 1, Accepted

Furgal, C, Gosselin, P and N Vezeau, 2006, Climate, Health and the Changing Canadian North, *Climate change: Kyoto, 10 years and still counting*, 1, Accepted

Other Refereed Contributions

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Non-Refereed Contributions

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Furgal, C. and J. Seguin, 2005, Climate change health impacts, vulnerability and the capacity to respond in northern Aboriginal communities, Canadian Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Conference, 1, Published

Gosselin P., Bélanger D. et Doyon B, 2005, La santé et les adaptations aux changements climatiques: situation actuelle au Québec, Abstract published in Revue d'Épidémiologie et de Santé publique, Vol 53, no4, septembre 2005, p. 440., Published

R.Kwiatkowski and P.Gosselin, 2005, Health Impact Assessment Methodology for Community Decision Making in Northern communities, IAIA 05, Boston Conference Proceedings, 1, Published

Champagne-Shields, I., Gosselin, P., Furgal, C., Wigle, D., Angus, D, 2006, Public Health Surveillance and Environmental Monitoring Case Study: Nunavut Region, 2005 ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting , 40, Published

Gosselin P., C.Furgal & S.Owens, 2006, Partnering to augment capacity: Surveillance and Management of climate change impacts in Labrador, Nunavik, Nunavut and Inuvialuit, Health Research in Labrador Conference, 1, Published

Gosselin P., S. Owens, C. Furgal, L. Château-Degat, J.-F. Proulx, 2006, Public Health Surveillance and Climate Change Case Study Results in Nunavik, 2006 Arcticnet NCE conference proceedings, 1, Published

Gosselin P., S. Owens, C. Furgal, D.Martin, G.Turner, 2006, Public Health Surveillance and Climate Change Case Study Results in Nunatsiavu, 2006 Arcticnet NCE conference proceedings, 1, Published

Harper, S.L., Edge, V.L., Wallace, C. and McEwen, S. , 2007, An Investigation of Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Surface Drinking Water Quality and Infectious Gastro-intestinal Illnesses in Nunatsiavu, Canada, 2007 ArcticNet Annual Conference Proceedings, 60, Published

Pardhan, A., Furgal, C., Gosselin, P., Edge, V.L., Wilson, J.,McEwen, S. and Reid-Smith, R., 2008, Public Health Surveillance and Climate Change: A Baseline Study in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, 2007 ArcticNet Annual Conference Proceedings, 1, Published

Specialized Publications

P. Gosselin, D. Bélanger, B. Doyon, 2005, Les projets santé en matière de changements climatiques au Québec, Ouranos symposium, 1, Published

D. Martin, D. Bélanger, P. Gosselin, J. Brazeau, C. Furgal, S. Déry, , 2005, Les changements climatiques, l'eau potable et la santé humaine au Nunavik : Stratégies d'adaptation. , Rapport final au Fonds d'action pour le Changement climatique. Ressources naturelles Canada., 1, Published

Gosselin P., 2005, Survol des projets en changements climatiques, Journée annuelle de la recherche, Unité de recherche en santé publique, Centre de recherche du CHUQ,, 1, Published