

Kenora Chiefs Advisory
Public Health Pilot Project
Final Report 2009-2010
Highlights

Mapping Process

The International Indigenous Centre for Health Intelligence (IICHI) completed a GPS mapping process for 3 of the KCA communities. The electronic maps will have many benefits to the communities including, use for immunization and disease surveillance, orientation of health professionals, electronic medical records and emergency medical services. The mapping database also has the potential for use as a tool to monitor housing needs and priorities. A proposal has been submitted to complete the remaining communities in 2010-2011.

H1N1

The KCA Public Health Pilot Project played an integral role in the coordination and communication during the H1N1 vaccination process. The communities and the service providers had a matched response approach to address the increase in influenza like illness and the roll out of the H1N1 vaccination. All of the KCA communities had a high percentage of their membership immunized. An information brochure was developed with input from all service providers and communities to keep membership informed on the potential change of health services in the event of an increase in influenza like illnesses.

Public Health Days

Public Health Awareness Days were hosted in 3 of the KCA communities with great success. The goal of the public health days is to increase community awareness of public health and facilitate activities that promote healthy lifestyles. The declaration of a Public Health Awareness Day in the communities involves teaching only public health related curriculum in the schools and public health workshops and awareness activities for the rest of the community members. Given the success of these events, public health days will be hosted in all the KCA communities for 2010-2011.

Traditional Health Framework

The KCA Public Health Pilot continues to work closely with the elders of our member communities. Community based information gathering meetings were held with our elders. Next step will be to meet with all the elder representatives and compare community similarities and differences in regards to traditional healing processes and begin to develop KCA Traditional Healing Framework. Further discussions will help to identify whether or not a coordinated approach will work, or if each framework will be different based on the communities customs and beliefs.