

Centre for Health and Culture 2009-10 Annual Report

(Executive Edition)

The team for the Child Caregivers Project has been completed and the Proposal submitted.

Partnership: traditional medicine library with Senior Library Administration, we can announce some success- we hope the library will be open for use before the fall, but it will be officially opened by the Healers at the Gathering. The Director reported on his recent trip to the conference on Northern Peoples Folk Medicine in Tromso, Norway, and the potential for five volumes of studies on traditional medical knowledge in the Circumpolar region. He also gave an outline report of his lectures and negotiations with medical colleagues in the Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt .

Manual of Cultural Competence for Health Care Professionals; Pilot copies have been presented across Canada and at International Congress of Family Medicine in Cancun. Feedback from constituencies like medicine, nursing, social work, pharmacy and ethnic communities has been incorporated. The final copy will be published early in October for use across the country.

The chair of Family Medicine has committed to creating more films for the cultural competence initiative and would like to see three more films over the next couple of years. Decisions on which group to approach will have to be made this summer. Themes include mental health among immigrants and refugees on the various post-traumatic syndromes evident in recent arrivals.

Plans for the **National Gathering of Healers**, an opportunity to bring into the conversation a important segment of the population who has hitherto been entirely isolated. Current plans are for a three day conference on October 21-24. Incorporating TMK into curriculum and establishing a National Centre will be central issues.

Partnership with Alberta Mycological Society for funding for the **Poison Mushroom Poster Project;** application for funds from CICF had been successful and some minor changes to the application. The poster will be sent to all Emergency Units across the province, and to all public health clinics free of charge. The funding amounted to \$2500.00.

Following attending the University of Tromso in Tromso, Norway on **Idioms of Health and Healing**, we now have agreement to publish the first of five books on Northern Peoples Healing Traditions. The first is on Siberian material. Joint publication with CCI.

After a very successful Middle Eastern tour, the director notes that we could be of some assistance to schools there if our interests merged with their; for example, on stem cell research or end-of-life care, we might have some colleagues who would work with us. The modern ME is also training physicians who immigrate to the West and they need cultural training. A project with this in mind will be forthcoming in 2010.

The Wilbush collection, as a result of the gifts given to the Centre for traditional Chinese Medicine will form part of the gift from the Centre to the new Indigenous and Traditional Medical Library in the Scott Library. The Center will probe a working relationship with Shangdou University, which the Dean of Medicine and Dentistry Dr. Philip Baker had recently toured. Mention was made of Dr. Henry Lu's Clinic in Vancouver as a potential partner in development.