



SASKATCHEWAN POPULATION HEALTH AND EVALUATION RESEARCH UNIT

University
of Regina



Reducing Isolation of Seniors Summit - Regina - April 9, 2019

Tom McIntosh and Bonnie Jeffery were successful in receiving funding from SHRF's Research Connections grant for a Policy Maker-Community Summit to Address Social Isolation of Older Adults. SPHERU is conducting an evaluation to assess the impact of a federally-funded initiative Reducing Isolation of Seniors Collective (RISC). This invitational Summit will engage rural and urban older adults in Saskatchewan with community leaders and policy makers in a focused discussion to determine interventions which will address the issue of social isolation of older adults. The Summit will share findings to date from the evaluation, will provide an opportunity for the organizations in the RISC collective (Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism, Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan, Red Cross-Saskatchewan) to share knowledge about their projects, and will engage with key stakeholders and policy makers to continue the work toward responsible policy and practice interventions.



Innovation in Population Health Intervention Research

Paul Hackett, Juanita Bacsu, Tom McIntosh, Nazeem Muhajarine and Bonnie Jeffery have a chapter in a soon-to-be released book entitled *Bioarchaeology of Marginalized People*.

The piece entitled, "Innovation in Population Health Intervention Research: A Historical Perspective" highlights how a historical approach can guide our understanding of population health intervention research by addressing the underlying origins of health inequities among vulnerable populations.

Drawing on the diverse historical research being carried out by the SPHERU team, we look at some of the novel advantages and methodological challenges to studying the past in order to improve the present.

In addition to this, Natalie Ludlow and Paul Hackett have another chapter entitled "Health inequity and spatial divides: infant mortality during Hamilton, Ontario's industrial transition, 1880-1912". This chapter explores the evolving spatial and historical patterns of infant mortality in the city of Hamilton, Ontario, as it underwent a pronounced industrial transition, emerging by the 1920s as a modern city built around the steel industry. Drawing upon censuses and death records, health reports, photographs, and maps for two key points in time on either side of this transition, 1880-1882 and 1910-1912, we find that these patterns changed considerably as working-class sections were increasingly unhealthy environments compared to other parts of the city, even as diarrheal and infectious respiratory mortality became increasingly common among the city's infants.