

PAN 2015 Executive Director's Summit

Draft Notes

Date & Time: Wednesday, September 23, 3:00 – 5:00pm

Location: Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel, 7571 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC

- 1. Welcome: Stacy Leblanc and Andrea Langlois**
- 2. Population Size Estimates Workshop: Eve and Robert from the University of Manitoba and Megan Thumath, BCCDC**

Introduction:

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has partnered with a number of key provincial stakeholders – including PAN – and has contracted the Centre for Global Public Health (CGPH) at the University of Manitoba to develop population size estimates for key populations affected by HIV and hepatitis C in British Columbia to help inform organizational, regional and provincial level program planning and evaluation. At this workshop members of the project team will meet with PAN member organizations to discuss the scope and benefits of the project and the way forward for implementation.

Meeting Notes:

- Population size estimates are critical to programs and services and are used to better serve the needs of communities. Key populations most involved in HIV/AIDS in BC include men who have sex with men, sex workers, and people who inject drugs. What we don't know is how many people total there are of each of these populations and where they are in province. Without this information we are not able to adequately plan and implement responsive services.
- The project is currently in phase 1 (establishment of baseline). In this phase, the team is collating the available information through contacting diverse partners including BC Centre for Disease Control and community organizations in various regions. BC (and Vancouver in particular) has some data sources (e.g. testing data as well as data from community and service orgs). Also there are many one-off research projects (including PhD thesis) that already have

estimated certain populations, which we need to collate. However, there is work that needs to be done in collating estimates from across the province.

- Through feedback mechanism, team hopes to gather information that would be important and useful for services and programs, as well as recommendations from the community partners in this room. The team is also committed to sharing these tools, once developed.

Session with Eve and Robert (team from University of Manitoba):

- Geographic mapping and population size estimates are used as a frame for planning and delivery of services, resource allocation, and setting up evaluations. For example, map was created in South India based on how many people an outreach service was reaching and where these folks are located, which was used as a tool for community outreach work as well as a tool for broader tracking. Through key informant interviews (e.g. in the case of population size estimate of sex workers, key informants can be pimps, madams and sex workers), estimates on numbers and hot spots can be made. Invisible nature of the sex work location, as well as the industry itself, can pose as a challenge, however.
- In trying to develop estimates in Winnipeg, challenges and concerns faced in mapping and enumeration of population size estimate include:
 - a.** Concerns about speed of geographic mapping
 - b.** Costly
 - c.** Sustained input from the community beyond data collection
 - d.** Disruption of community relationships
 - e.** Ownership, sharing, and use of data

Given this, it is great that BC is proceeding with this work with an eye to engaging community-based organizations.

- Questions and Comments:
 - o Methodology on how to get the numbers through mapping (this is not a current methodology recommended for this phase of the project but a way to gather primary data. Current work in BC will look at making population size estimates by looking at secondary data sources from regions across the province)
 - Informants know where the hot spots are. Through key informant interviews, they can give estimates on numbers, which then can be verified/validated by community members.
 - How to scale this up to a population number: hot spots entered into GIS (as an exhaustive list), which is then broken up by region (or catchment areas)
 - o Another challenge: virtual interactions – hard to count
 - May need to make adjustments to data collection methods

- Globally, key populations and population size estimates are important. We have a unique opportunity to initiate something that would be useful for many projects and programs.

Small Group Discussion Results

What forms of knowledge and evidence do you use to determine the program needs of the communities you serve?

- I-track, M-track
- Surveillance data – BCCDC
- BCCFE Med Data – DTP
- Academic research
- Reporting from ASOs – self-reported health status data
- CBR initiative launched in 1998
- Program interaction data
- Needs assessments and surveys
- BCCDC drug use survey

What forms of knowledge/evidence would be good to have?

- Things happening on the ground that frontline service providers know about – outreach worker are attuned to – need to get info to BCCDC quicker
- Bloodlines project – evaluation questionnaire
- Wanting to know more strategies – wisdoms around accessing key population
- Central repository for CBR
- Training support for community mapping

What approach or tools do you employ to set goals and keep track of the progress your organization makes with respect to their programs?

- Work planning and strategic planning
- Staff meetings
- Evaluation tools that organizations use – some are funder driven
 - Output based
 - Stats sheet
 - Key informant interviews
- Historical data – how many people were served previously
- Input from peers/members
- Trends – monitoring progress
- Monthly satisfaction surveys
- Need in terms of evaluation
- Multiple funders – evaluation tools are cumbersome – asking similar things in multiple format – unified evaluation tools – need to focus beyond outputs to look at health outcomes
- Need to find out the impact of prevention
- Qualitative data
- Logistics of tracking progress – limited resources – challenging to carve out time

- Travel
- Need to also have user-driven evaluation

What approaches do you use to reach members of your community that encounter barriers in accessing and utilizing your programs? How do you assess your “success” in reaching these groups of people?

- Why are we doing this?
 - o To speak to health authorities about services that are needed based on populations in region
 - o Lots of overlap
 - o Survival sex work and career sex work
 - o Advice about using data that is already being collected and feeding to funders – rather than collecting new data that would impact relationships – need to use this data
 - o Criminalization will make this challenging
 - o Recommend using secondary data sources – might make people feel less like they are being counted
 - o Inhalation drug users – need to look beyond injection drug users
 - o Include trans folks and male sex workers

3. PAN IGNITE talks

- [BC People Living with HIV Stigma Index](#)
This project is led by people living with HIV and will address HIV-related stigma in BC. For more information and to watch the People Living with HIV Stigma Index video, visit: <http://pacificaidnetwork.org/stigma/>
- [Positive Leadership Development Institute](#)
Program run by people living with HIV for people living with HIV focuses on increasing leadership capacity and resilience. The graduates have built incredible skills and empowered themselves to give back to community in diverse capacity. A great example is PAN’s PLDI and Stigma Index Manager, Jaydee Cossar who is a PLDI graduate contributing immensely to PAN and the greater HIV community in meaningful ways.
- [Gay Men & HIV Provincial Working Group](#)
Following a report on HIV and stigma for gay men, this provincial working group was formed in order to sustain this important movement and efforts. Committee engages both health authorities and community agencies, and currently is focused on moving the priorities and recommendations from the initial report forward in action. Jody Jollimore has been hired as the Gay Men and HIV Provincial Implementation Consultant and he is currently consulting various stakeholders across the province.

- Members' and Stakeholders' Survey

What — An annual survey to measure progress on goals and objectives of PAN's 2013 – 2018 Strategic Plan. Want to identify supports and services needed by PAN member organizations, as well as gaps and challenges faced by PAN members. This annual survey will allow PAN to also measure how we're doing as a network organization, and will be used as a tool to plan and implement important programs.

Who – PAN member organizations (EDs, program managers, etc.); people with lived experiences involved with PAN; key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders

When – Online survey will be launched as early as September 24 and as late as September 28

Why (this is important) – PAN wants to make sure we are achieving what we said we would achieve and not let strategic plan sit on the shelf, collecting dust. PAN is sincerely interested in supporting member organizations, and wants to know how member organizations want PAN to support them

How long is the survey – 20-30 minutes, mostly quantitative questions

Incentive – enter a draw for \$50 visa gift card

4. **Closing**