

Participant Consent

You are invited to participate in a study called ***Restoring Indigenous miyo-mahcihoḃān (physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being)***. Please read this form carefully, and feel free to ask questions you might have.

Primary Investigator (PI): Dr. Holly Graham-Marrs, Assistant Professor in the College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan (Phone: 306-966-6237; email: holly.graham@usask.ca)

Co-Investigator: Dr. Vivian Ramsden, Associate Professor and Director of Research Division, Department of Academic Medicine in the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

Co-Investigator: Dr. Peter Butt, Associate Professor, Department of Academic Medicine in the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

Research Assistant: Charlotte Ross 1- 306-281-9462

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study is to explore what facilitates empowerment, thus, improving the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples, specifically the Plains Cree people from Thunderchild First Nation.

Process

Participation in this study means that you will meet with the PI or research assistant at the Health Clinic two times. The first time you will discuss the research project and have an opportunity to voice your questions or concerns. If you agree to be a participant in the study you can do your interview at this first meeting. This interview will take approximately one to two hours and will be audio taped, but you may request for the recorder to be turned off at any time. During the second meeting (to occur about 2 to 3 weeks after the first meeting), you will have an opportunity to review the transcription from the interview and you may add, alter, or delete information as you wish.

Dr. Holly Graham

Thunderchild Band Member

Potential Benefits

The benefit of this study is that your perspective may expand the knowledge available to health care professionals about what facilitates empowerment, improves health and well-being, for the Plains Cree people from Thunderchild First Nation. You will also be given tobacco and \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) at the first interview as a token of appreciation for sharing your knowledge.

Potential Risks

There are four main foreseeable risks involved in participating in this study. First, you may experience some emotional stress as you share your descriptions of what facilitates empowerment for you and may require additional support either from a family member/friend or require professional assistance after the interview. Should you require professional assistance, please call Red Echo Associates at 306 -845- 7079. Red Echo Associates are aware of the study; they will provide support to participants if the need arises. Second, as a researcher, I also have an obligation and duty to report any disclosures of current child abuse (physical or sexual), suicidal ideation, and homicidal ideation to the appropriate personnel/authorities (i.e., child protective services, local police). Third, if you are an Elder, your identity and participation in this study will not be anonymous; if you are a youth participant, even with precautions to ensure anonymity, there is a possibility that someone may be able to identify you as a result of what you share. Fourth, the primary investigator (Dr. Holly Graham) is a member of Thunderchild First Nation. There is a possibility that she may work in this community as a psychologist in the future. Please understand that you are under no obligation to participate in the research if this makes you uncomfortable and/or if you are a relative or family member.

Confidentiality

Elders

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The Elders will be selected by Chief and Council and will be given an opportunity to decline. All Elders will be informed that their narratives/perspectives may be included in a CD/DVD so that: a) community members can readily access their Plains Cree teachings, b) they can be passed on to successive generations, and, c) they may be incorporated into their school curriculum. Thus, anonymity is impossible within this context.

Youth

I will make every attempt to protect your confidentiality as a youth participant. You will be given an identification number, and all information obtained will be coded to maintain your anonymity. Although results will be presented in a general format, quotes from your own story may be used; therefore you may be identifiable on the basis of what you have said.

The original audiotapes and transcripts will be kept in a locked cabinet and will be available only to the PI, co-investigators, research assistant, participants, and community team; and kept for a period of five years after the study has been completed. The master list that contains names and addresses will be destroyed once the need for it has passed (after the second meeting and you have signed the data/transcript release form).

Right to Withdraw

You may withdraw from the study for any reason, at any time, without penalty of any sort before you sign the data/transcript release form (at the end of the second meeting). If you withdraw from the study any data that you have contributed will be destroyed. You may refuse to answer any questions during the interview.

If you want to withdraw at any time, just tell me and we stop the interview.

Questions

If you have any questions about this research or your participation, please feel free to contact the

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researchers at the numbers provided. This research has been approved on ethical grounds by the University of Saskatchewan Research Ethics Office. Any questions regarding your rights as a participant may be addressed to the committee through the Research Ethics Office (306) 966-2084. Out of town participants may call collect.

Dissemination

The researchers and community will collaborate and develop a website/blog on the Thunderchild First Nation website to ensure that the community is informed about the research project, timelines, stages, findings, community-based plan, and dissemination. In addition, all participants involved in the study, members of the community, and leadership may share their experiences or perceptions related to this research project.

Results of the study will be presented to the Chief and Council and the Health Board. Any concerns mentioned will be resolved in a manner acceptable by both the Thunderchild First Nation and the PI before submitting for publication. If you are interested in a copy of the results from the study, you may let the PI/research assistant know at the interview or you may contact her later by telephone. Once requested, the PI will provide a copy of the data analysis upon completion to you. Also, the Research Ethics Office at the University of Saskatchewan will be notified in writing after the PI and the Chief and Council of Thunderchild First Nation have met and mutually agreed on the dissemination of the study.

Consent to Participate

I have read and understood the purpose of this study and what is being asked of me as a participant. I have been provided with an opportunity to ask questions, and my questions have been answered. I consent to participate in the study described above and understand that I may withdraw this consent at any time. A copy of this consent form has been given to me for my records.

Dr. Holly Graham

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Signature of Participant

_____ (date) _____

Signature of Researcher

_____ (date) _____

Oral Consent Obtained

I have read and explained this Consent Form to the participants before receiving the participant's consent, and the participant had knowledge of its contents and appeared to understand it.

Signature of Researcher

_____ (date) _____

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