



UAKN
Urban Aboriginal
Knowledge Network

rcdu
Réseau de connaissances des
Autochtones en milieu urbain

RESEARCH PROJECT SUMMARY UAKN Western Region

Name of Project:

Exploring the Process and Outcomes of Partnering with Urban Aboriginal Partners to Promote Physical Activity for Young Children

Research Start-up Summary and Abstract:

Experiences in early childhood impact a lifetime. Sound motor and physical development are important aspects of total well-being and are key factors in the development of young children. Collaborating with urban Aboriginal organizations and with urban Aboriginals working in the local school districts, we will implement community-based, participatory action research methods to explore the process and outcomes of developing and implementing culturally sensitive physical activity resources for young urban Aboriginal children (ages 3-8).

An authentic partnership has come together and includes researchers from the Centre for Early Childhood Research and Development at the University of Victoria, the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, the WSANEC school board, the Aboriginal principals of Aboriginal Education in the Victoria, Sooke and Saanich school districts, the Island Métis Family & Community Services Society and others.

Name of Principal Investigator:

Leslie Brown,
Associate Dean,
Human and Social Development
University of Victoria

Collaborating Friendship Centre and/or other urban Aboriginal organization:

Victoria Native Friendship Centre
WSANEC School Board (governed by Chief and Council of Tsartlip, Tsawout, Pauquachin and Tsyecum Bands)
Aboriginal heads of Aboriginal Education in the Victoria, Sooke and Saanich School Districts
Island Métis Family & Community Services Society

Engagement objectives:

This partnership of researchers and urban Aboriginals, collaborating to implement culturally sensitive physical activity resources for urban Aboriginal children and families, is intended to bring about positive

change for urban Aboriginal children and families. Increasing physical activity will help improve learning skills, reduce obesity and improve lifelong well-being. The relationships and networking within and among the districts, urban Aboriginal centres and the university will be facilitated. All partners will be empowered through participation and collaboration. Exploring the process and the outcomes of this work will enhance our understanding of working together to bring about positive outcomes.

A least one Aboriginal graduate student will be trained. Through the engagement of provincial government representatives, public policy will be informed of the research results.

Main contact:

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