



EPID@Work Research Institute: Enhancing the Prevention of Injury & Disability in Northwestern Ontario

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Ambassadors Presentation

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Land Acknowledgement

- Lakehead University's EPID@Work Research Institute respectively acknowledges its campuses are located on the traditional lands of Indigenous Peoples.
- Lakehead University's Thunder Bay campus is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg Fort William First Nation, Signatory to the Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850.
- Lakehead University's Orillia campus is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg.
- EPID@Work acknowledges the history that many nations hold in the areas around our campuses. EPID@Work is committed to eliminating systemic discrimination on both our campuses and to building and maintaining relationships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation.

Vicki Kristman, PhD



- Grew up in Port Rowan, Ontario
- Career aspirations: vet
- BSc – U of Guelph
- MSc – Queen's U
- PhD – U of Toronto
- Post-doc – UHN & CIHR Strategic Training Program (U de Sherbrooke)

What is EPID@Work?



- Conduct high-quality, **transdisciplinary** research
- Participate in **integrated knowledge exchange**
- Provide **exemplary** training
- Provide research and education to **community**
- Active researchers
 - 14 Full faculty members
 - 4 Adjunct members
- Building KMI group
- 10-15 trainees (ugrad, grad, PDF, post-grad Medicine)
- Over 50 community partners and looking to expand**

Problem

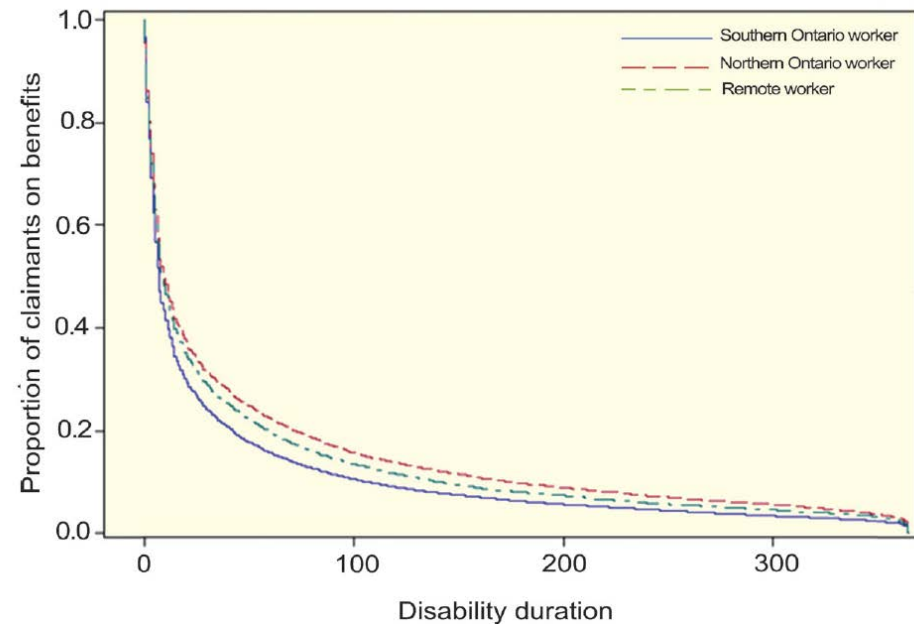
- Work injury and disability
- 30% less employment
- Relevance to NWO

Original Article



Working and Living in Northern vs Southern Ontario Is Associated with the Duration of Compensated Time off Work: A Retrospective Cohort Study

S Senthanar^{1,2}, VL Kristman^{1,2,3,4},
S Hogg-Johnson^{3,3}



Focus Areas

- Mental health in the workplace
- EDI
- KMI



Audrey Gilbeau
Executive Director / Governance

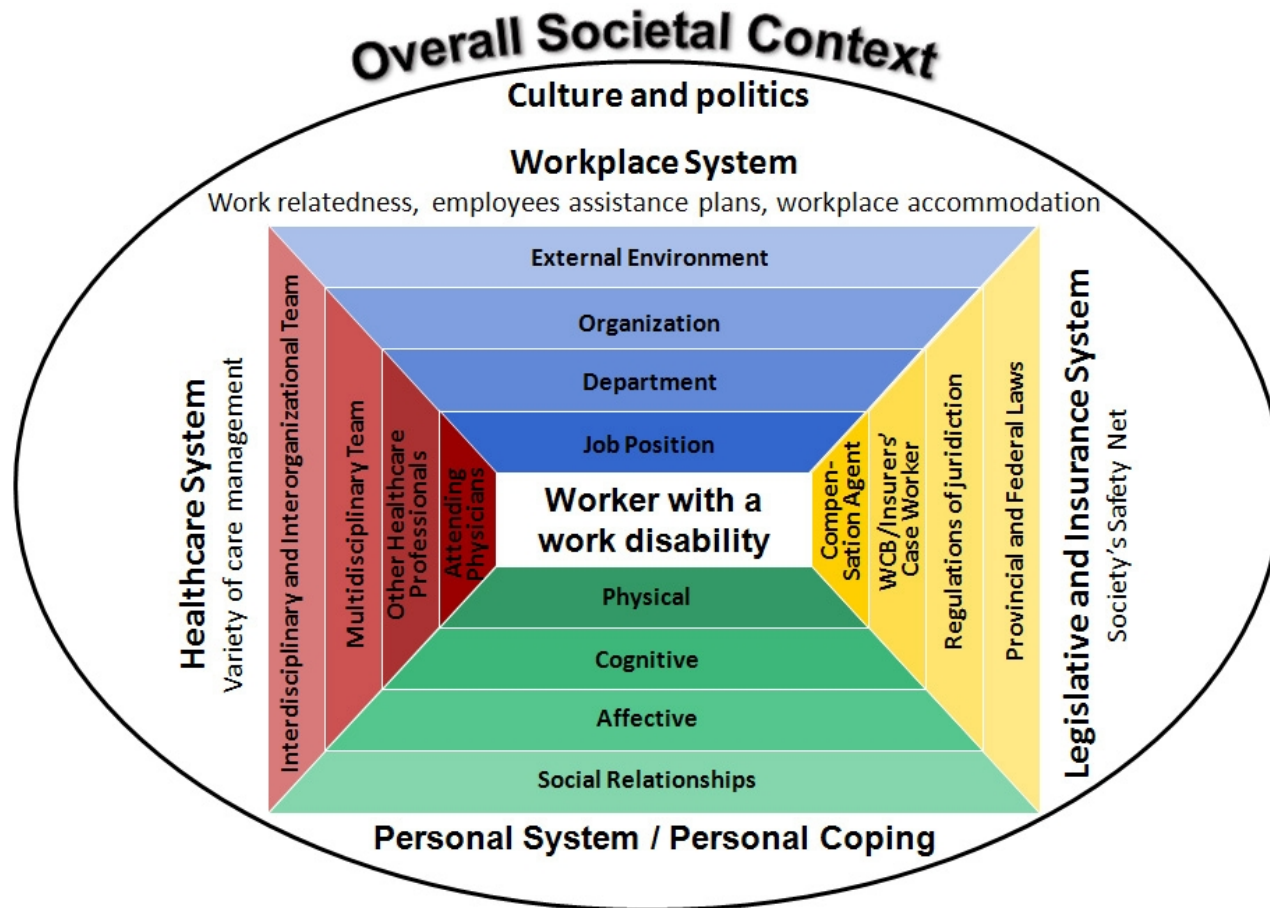


Ministry of Labour, Training
and Skills Development

Mandate

- Bring people **together**
- Reduce **occurrence and impact** of work-related injury and work disability
- Through **collaborative applied research and provision of education** to enhance knowledge related to injury and disability.
- Information generated from our research will **inform practice and policies** aiming to improve health and social outcomes in Northwestern Ontario and beyond.

Institute Philosophy

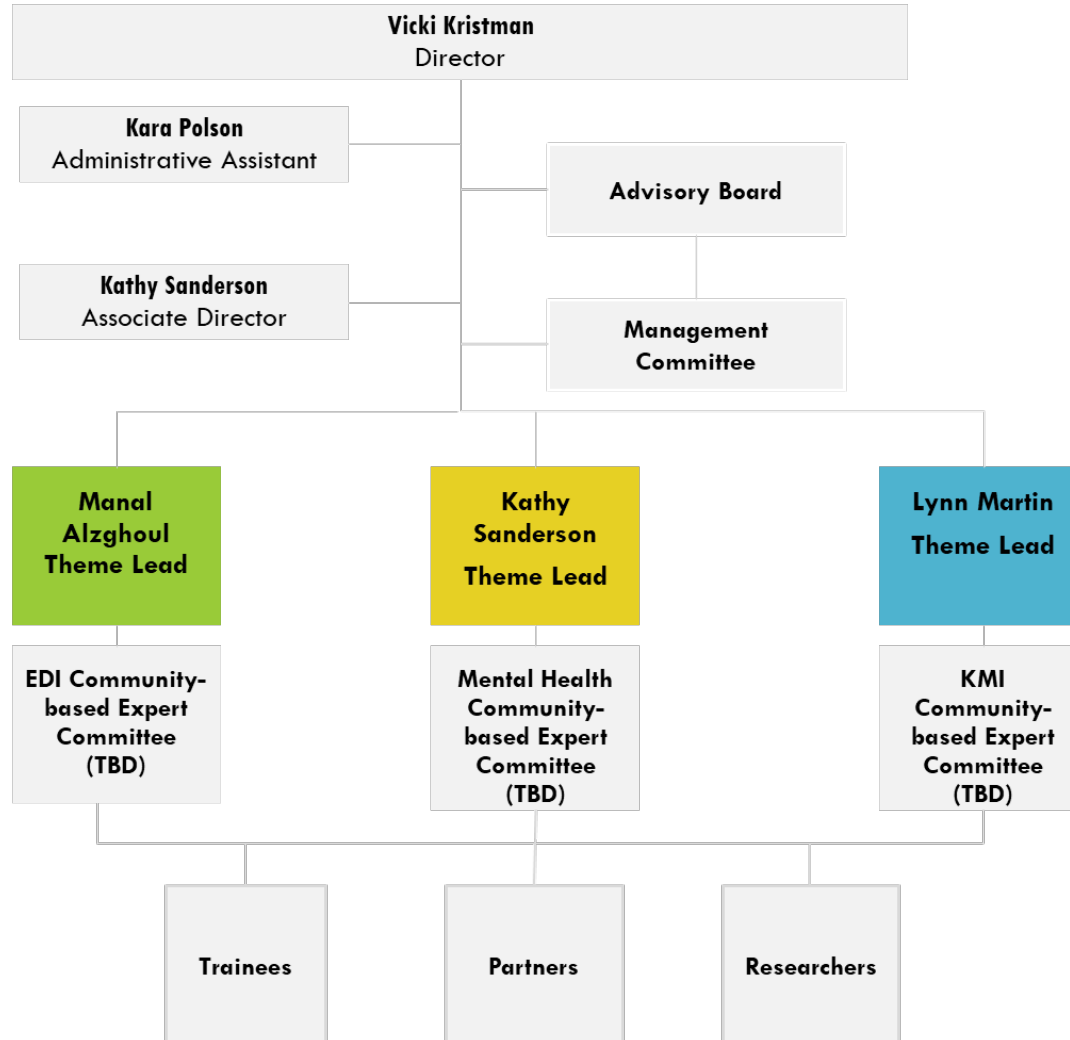


(Loisel et al, J Occup Rehabil, 2005)

Advisory Board

- Healthcare system
 - Joel Andersen (occupational physician)
 - Pierre Côté (chiropractor and CRC in Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation)
- Worker system
 - Steve Mantis (ONIWG, TBDIWSG)
 - Jules Tupker (retired CUPE Union head, community advocate)
- Legislative and insurance system
 - Margaret Cernigoj (MLTSD)
 - Matthew Mayer (WSIB)
- Workplace system
 - Amy Kembel (Synergy North)
 - Vacant
- Batia Stolar, Chair and Associate VP Research & Grad Studies, LU

EPID@Work Organization



Strategic Plan 2021-2025

- Establish a seed grant program to build capacity and collaboration
- Create 3 community-based Expert Committees
- Continue EPIDTalks speaker series
- Create informal student-stakeholder engagement opportunities
- Enhance networking to develop partnerships
- Provide community training on knowledge mobilization, research methods, partnership development

Importance to NWO

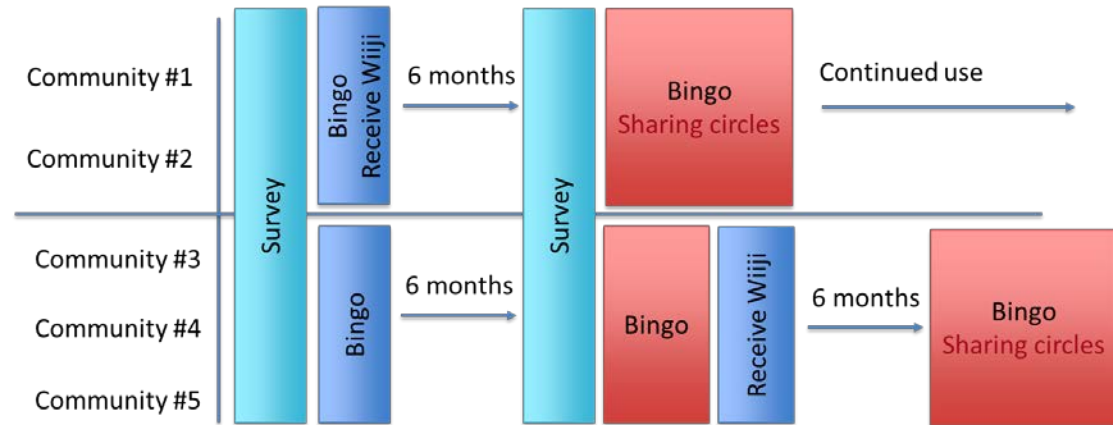
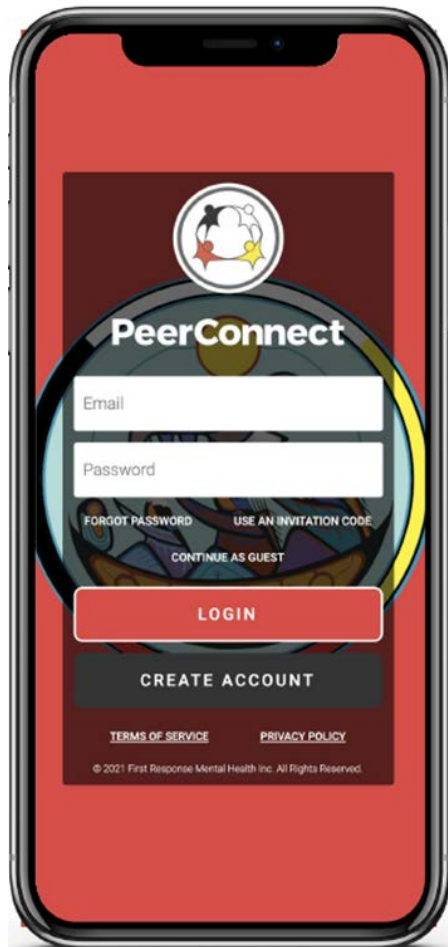
- NWO has a 60.4% labour participation rate
- NWO has longer disability durations post-injury
- NWO has a higher proportion of Indigenous people and people with mental health issues
- Provide educational and research opportunities for NWO stakeholders
- EPID@Work will provide high-quality research jobs in NWO

EPID@Work Research Institute

EXAMPLES OF CURRENT PROJECTS



Evaluation of the Wiiji



Nokiiwin
TRIBAL COUNCIL

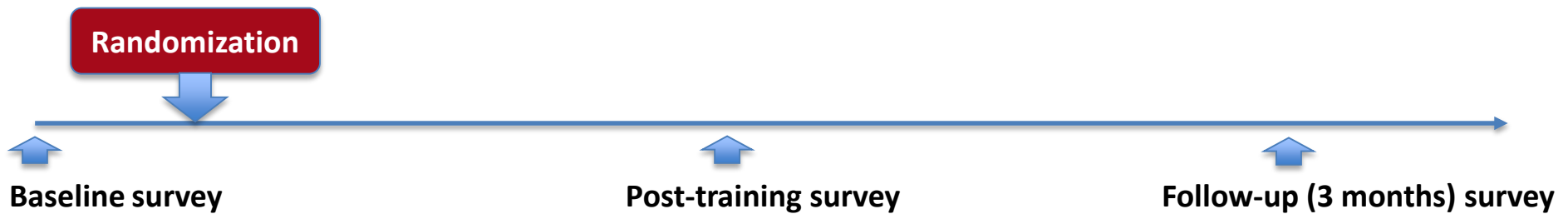
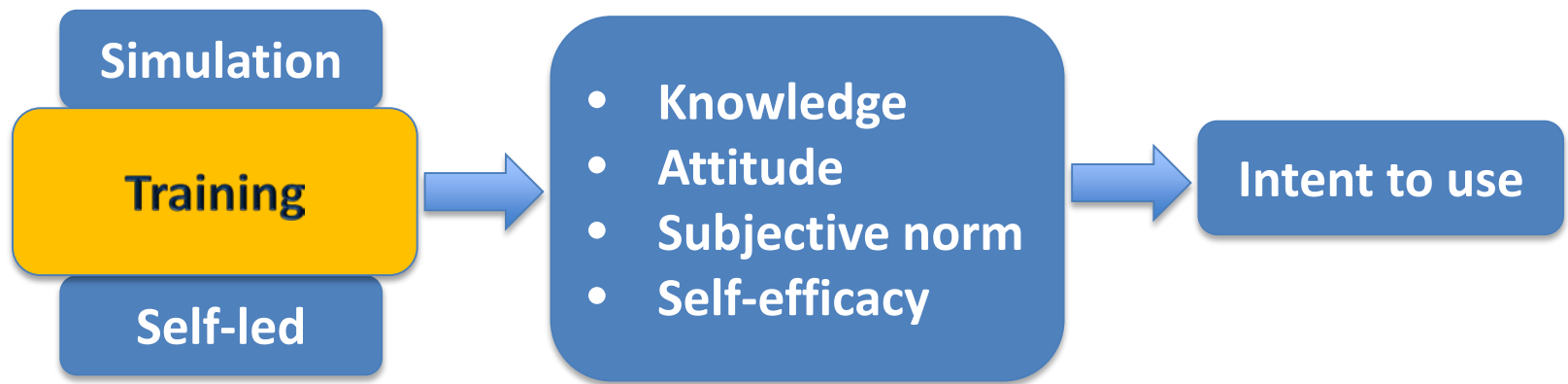

CIHR IRSC
Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

Yukon Educator Project

- **Question:** How has the COVID-19 pandemic and associated changes to the delivery of education impacted the health and well-being of educators in Yukon?
- **Objectives:** 1) Provide foundational insight into the mental, physical, and emotional effects; 2) Explore educators' experiences and perceptions navigating the pandemic; and 3) Provide educational stakeholders evidence to help inform decisions moving forward
- **Approach to Inquiry:** Grounded theory study with recruitment survey, semi-structured interviews, and development of schematic model.



The effect of Motivational Interviewing training on knowledge, self-efficacy, and future use by undergraduate nurses to support people with substance use: A comparison of two learning styles



Workplace factors, supervisor & worker characteristics, and accommodation factors associated with workers' compensation outcomes - An Ecologic Study



Aim

- association between factors and duration/incidence of lost-time claims - modifying effects of conditions for claim & industry sector
- association between non-participation and duration/incidence of lost-time claims to assess selection bias



result

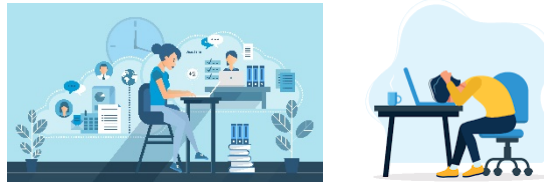
- access to healthcare support and supervisors' attitude makes a difference
- participating employers did not differ from non-participating employers

Virtual Work & Mental Health

**VIRTUAL
WORK
FROM
HOME**



**MENTAL
WELL-
BEING**



**Various
Exposure
Definitions
Various
Exposure
Frequencies**

**Conflicting
Evidence
Lack of
Frameworks**

**Lack of
Experimental
Design
Lack of Causal
Evidence
Methodology
concerns**



Evaluation of the WSN Safe Driving on Forest Roads Training Program



- The Ministry of Labour of Ontario and WSN: Logging workplace risk assessment (2017)
 - Top 10 risks identified
 - Distracted driving top risk for the sector
 - Transportation incidents
 - Shifting demographic
- Creation of WSN Safe Driving on Forest Roads Training Program
- Evaluation
 - Driving behaviors and knowledge followed pre, post, and 3-months after training



EPID@Work

Enhancing Prevention of Injury and Disability @ Work (EPID@Work) Research Institute

Exceptional. Unconventional.