National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

PEPH Webinar

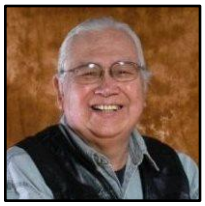
Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and Its Value for Environmental Health Sciences

June 22, 2015, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. EDT
Register at: http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/conference/peph_webinar/

Description: Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) is traditional knowledge and, like Western science, is based on the accumulation of observations. It entails a cumulative body of knowledge transmitted through generations, as well as beliefs about how people fit into ecosystems (Berkes 2000). TEK is holistic in outlook and adaptive by nature and has been gathered by generations of observers whose lives depend on it (Ohmagari and Berkes 1997). Tribal elders reintroduced it to promote a better understanding of the historic relationship between people and their environment. Interest in TEK is growing among investigators and federal funders since it represents valuable local knowledge with the potential to complement research that addresses tribal environmental health concerns and disparities. This webinar discusses TEK's value from the perspective of representatives of indigenous communities, and it provides an opportunity for thoughtful dialogue about traditional knowledge and how it should inform the research process. The webinar will include an overview of TEK, as well as presentations about (a) the development of Indigenous Health Indicators that reflect a holistic view of health held by tribal communities and (b) how TEK is used to understand the relationship between toxic exposures, health, and the environment in the Arctic.

An Overview of Tribal Ecological Knowledge
Mose Herne, M.S., M.P.H. (Mohawk)
Indian Health Service

Indigenous Health Indicators
Jamie Donatuto, Ph.D.
Larry Campbell (Swinomish)
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community



Using Tribal Ecological Knowledge to Understand Toxic Exposures, Health, and the Environment in the Arctic
Rosemary Ahtuangaruak (Inupiaq)
Alaska Wilderness League

PEPH Webinar Series
The Partnerships for Environmental Public Health (PEPH) program established the PEPH Webinar Series to promote interactions among PEPH grantees and to increase awareness of common issues and approaches. The webinars facilitate consideration of emerging issues. While the primary audience is grantees within the PEPH network, anyone interested in environmental public health is welcome to participate.

If you have any questions about this webinar, please contact Liam O'Fallon (ofallon@niehs.nih.gov, 919-541-7733).

Accommodations for Disabilities:
Individuals with disabilities who need accommodation to participate in this event should contact Liam O'Fallon (ofallon@niehs.nih.gov, 919-541-7733). TTY users should contact the Federal TTY Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Requests should be made at least 5 business days in advance of the event.