

12. *Determinants of Human Health and Health Impact Assessment.* Speaker: Carolyn Dunn

In assessing projects, what health factors need to be considered?

- Income and social status
- Education and childhood development
- Employment opportunities
- Impacts on traditional food uses/sources
- Traditional lifestyle and knowledge indicators
- Previous impacts of health (historical context of an area)
- Air quality effects, if any
- Environmental impacts/effects
- Communities desire for the project
- Employment and working conditions
- Anxiety – reduce stress by simplifying YESAA
- Health of a community as a whole
- Community planning
- How people are connected with each other
- Family relationships, social support
- Health factors appropriate to the project
- Health services and increase in disease
- Negative effects on individuals well being
- Crime
- Substance abuse base line
- Health Canada indicators for the Yukon need to be revisited; e.g. Elders who live a long time but are not well educated by HC standards
- Non-data sources of information and how these can be balanced with numerical data – appropriate for FN communities (traditional vs. scientific data)
- Culture and language
- Community values, spiritual, emotional and physical
- Contaminants
- Cumulative Effects
- Proper reclamation to prevent impact on future generations
- Trust establishment
- Ongoing surveys/talk to communities
- Long term effects on women and families
- Training to include capacity building
- Elders worry about change – need to figure out how to capture this psychological factor
- Acknowledgement of FN's self-government powers
- Listen to FN needs and wants
- Respect family circles – Elders, children, adults
- Appropriate funding
- All segments of Yukon's history has greatly impacted people's health; i.e. Residential schools, Alaska Highway, National Parks, etc.
- Communities know best about their health and what is best for them (acknowledgement of local knowledge)
- Change programs to meet the needs of the people
- Health affects our whole being, (housing, land, air, culture, traditions, etc.)
- First Nation governments should be made accountable to ensure funding is used appropriately
- Prepare communities for sustainable health as projects wind down