DARE TO DREAM:

PROMOTING INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S INTEREST IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS THROUGH BOOK COLLECTIONS

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Introduction – Our Setting

- Population of Canada: 36 million
- Indigenous people of Canada = 4.3% of population
- 31.6% of Indigenous people live in Ontario & Quebec
- Density = 14 people per square mile
Introduction: Indigenous Communities

- 62.6% of adults in Indigenous communities have at least one chronic health condition.
- Rate of diabetes in adults over 25 years old is twice the non-Indigenous average.
- Substance abuse, mental health problems including suicide, tuberculosis and STI are serious health issues.
- Close to 40% of adults in Indigenous communities have less than a high school education.
- Poor housing conditions including overcrowding.
- Over 100 Indigenous communities in Canada do not have safe drinking water.
The Mini-Med School: at the end of the road, next destination by boat!
Photo: GISA (Groupe d’intérêt en santé autochtone)
Mosaic – Community Service Project

"When I grow up I want to be a doctor"

Aboriginal Canadians are 4.3% of the Canadian population, but less than 1% are doctors.

Help us inspire Aboriginal children to dream of careers in the health professions.

Donate today to help us bring hundreds of children’s books to Ontario’s First Nation Communities.

Visit the hospitality booth or our donations page at http://bit.ly/mosaic16books4kids
Book selection

- Indigenous content difficult to find
- French Canadian non-fiction for children rare
- Campbell & Tan: Juvenile Health Fiction Checklist and Bibliography - very helpful
Book Selection

WHAT'S UP WITH ELLA? MEDIKIDZ EXPLAIN TYPE 1 DIABETES

FOOD IS MEDICINE

EAT, RUN, AND LIVE HEALTHY

NATIVE AMERICAN GARDENING

LIVING SAFE, PLAYING SAFE

By Karen Olson / Illustrations by Leonard George Jr.
Quebec recipient communities

- MiniMed travels by chartered bus
- 10 schools in 7 communities
- 436 books delivered in 3 years
- 131 books to be delivered in June 2017
- No public libraries in any of the communities
Ontario recipient communities
Challenges

- **Transportation**
  - Distance
  - Costs
  - Road conditions – or no roads
  - Weather

- **Communication**
  - Unresponsive
  - Difficulty determining who to liaise with
  - Infrastructure: Broadband internet not available in many remote communities
Feedback from the communities
Conclusion

Nancy Cooper on behalf of Club Amick and all the Ontario recipient schools:

“A great big MEEGWETCH for making this all happen!”


Club Amick. https://www.clubamick.ca/

