



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

Centre for
Education and Research
on Aging & Health



DELIVERING CULTURALLY SAFER LEAP EDUCATION FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

FACILITATOR COMPANION TOOL

CONTACT

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DELIVERING CULTURALLY SAFER LEAP EDUCATION FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES



In 2017, the Centre for Education and Research on Aging & Health, Lakehead University, received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care to provide culturally relevant palliative care education to Indigenous communities in Ontario that have indicated an interest in the Pallium Canada's Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative Care (LEAP) Core training.

LEAP is designed to teach participants the essential, basic competencies of the palliative care approach. It is a tool to develop teamwork, promote inter-professional collaboration and provide mentorship. The target audience are registered healthcare professionals (including physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, occupational therapists, and physiotherapists). The in-person LEAP Core course is accredited by the Canadian College of Family Physicians of Canada for 28 certified group learning credits and is accepted for continuing education by all the other health discipline's professional colleges (Pallium Canada, 2023).

Pallium Canada. (2023). *LEAP Core*. <https://www.pallium.ca/course/leap-core/>

ENHANCEMENT PROCESS

As part of the delivery of LEAP workshops, the curriculum was reviewed for cultural and contextual relevance in the delivery to Indigenous communities. A curriculum advisory committee was established, comprised of Elders, certified LEAP facilitators, and Indigenous and non-Indigenous health and social care providers to review the content and guide the process. Several facilitator delivery recommendations and curriculum enhancements were suggested to increase the cultural relevancy of the LEAP Core curriculum. The enhancements acknowledge the cultural diversity of Indigenous communities' experiences, knowledge, and teachings regarding dying and death. As a result, the process of delivering the training is not grounded in any one community's particular local traditions, values, and beliefs. The workshop is grounded in the teachings of the Indigenous Wellness Framework that focus on health and balance and combines it with the wholistic focus of palliative care. The enhancements do not interfere with the Group Learning accreditation certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

The Facilitator Companion Tool was developed to accompany the LEAP curriculum and incorporates the process for training certified LEAP facilitators to deliver culturally safer education. With funding from Indigenous Services Canada, Ontario, a secondary review of the 2021 LEAP Core curriculum occurred in 2022 to address any new updates or content changes.

ENHANCED EDUCATION DELIVERY

RESOURCES & MATERIALS

For the workshops, each participant will receive:

- The latest edition of the LEAP Core curriculum (hard copy and electronic format) and a Pallium Palliative Pocketbook (electronic copy)
- CERAH, Lakehead University enhancement material (supplementary content and local resources in hard copy and electronic format)
- Additional Indigenous resources, including Canadian Virtual Hospice Indigenous Voices: Stories of Serious Illness and Grief vignettes and free online resources and support.

PRE-WORKSHOP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PLANNING

Before the workshop is delivered the CERAH, Lakehead University education team meets with the community or organization lead(s). This engagement focuses on introducing the education team to the community(ies) as well as situating the training within the context of the larger goal of enhancing capacity. These meetings provide the community(ies) with the opportunity to discuss values, cultural and spiritual beliefs and practices, and educational needs as well as any additional resources, tools, and strategies that could be used to tailor the education to respond to unique community needs.

FACILITATION TEAM

Each workshop includes a local Elder/Knowledge Carrier as part of the facilitation team, who is knowledgeable about the traditional ceremonies, history, and needs of the area. They can provide teachings throughout the two days and additionally offer support to participants as they engage in the education. The Elder/Knowledge Carrier provides an opening and closing to each day of education. The Elder's/Knowledge Carrier's participation is recognized through financial compensation and local/traditional gifting practices.

When delivering LEAP to Indigenous communities, the education team consists of three certified LEAP facilitators, a physician, a nurse, and a social worker. At least one team member will be Indigenous and will be the lead facilitator. This person will be responsible for opening and closing each session, supporting the Elder throughout the session (i.e., assisting with ceremonies) and leading the first module. In addition to the three facilitators, a Knowledge Broker is also a part of the education team. The Knowledge Broker coordinates all aspects of the education, including planning and organizing the delivery of the education and assisting with the evaluation of the workshop by collecting and analyzing data.

If your community or organization would like to schedule a workshop, or receive more information about this training, please contact CERAH, Lakehead University at
(807) 343-8010 ex: 7271 or cerah@lakeheadu.ca

ADDITIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' HEALTH & AGING RESOURCES

NEW & UPDATED CURRICULA AND RESOURCES OFFERED BY THE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH ON AGING & HEALTH, LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY



**Palliative Care for Front-line Workers
in Indigenous Communities**



**Walking Alongside Indigenous
Peoples who are Seriously Ill:
Education for Community Caregivers**



**Preparing for the Journey: Caring for
Indigenous Peoples who are
Seriously Ill**



**Delivering Culturally Safer LEAP
Education for Indigenous
Communities**

These curricula and resources aim to promote the wholistic health and wellbeing of Indigenous communities by contributing to the development of comprehensive palliative care services in Indigenous communities.

For more information on education, resources, and training offered by CERAH that supports Indigenous Peoples' Health & Aging, visit www.cerah.lakeheadu.ca/resources/indigenous-health



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