The Aboriginal, Rural and Remote Health Group (ARRHG) is an interprofessional, student-led initiative whose mission is to raise awareness of and promote an interdisciplinary approach to Aboriginal, rural and remote health issues. Through the Student Council on Representative Admissions (SCRA), the group also seeks to raise awareness about careers in the health sciences among youth in Aboriginal, rural and underserved communities. The group’s approach is through professional/educational opportunities through experiential learning, outreach and peer education.

**Past Initiatives 2008-2012:**

**Community Trips:** Students have travelled to La Ronge, Stony Rapids, Fort Qu’Appelle and Regina to learn about healthcare services and initiatives related to Aboriginal, rural and remote health. These trips focus on experiential learning and cultural education.

**Guest Speakers:**
- Roselena and Phyllis Smith spoke about the empowerment of their community of Pinehouse.
- Charlene Hellson performed “Unpacking the Backpack”.
- Dr. Vernon Hoeppner presented his work on Tuberculosis Control.
- Al Brabant spoke about All Nations Healing Hospital in Fort Qu’Appelle.

**Video Viewings:**
- “Water” from *The Sharing Circle*, followed by a discussion with elders Walter and Maria Linklater.
- *Completing The Circle*, on end-of-life care with Aboriginal families, followed by a discussion with Dr. Angelina Baydala and Ron Thompson.
- *Stolen Sisters*, a documentary on violence against Indigenous women.

**Interprofessional Problem Based Learning:**
- ARRHG has developed two student-led IPBL series focusing on zoonotic diseases, Food Safety and the One Health model.

**Future Directions:**

**Cree Talking Circles:** An opportunity for students to participate in drop-in Cree language lessons, with a focus on casual conversation, medical vocabulary and cultural education.

**Traditional Healing:** We hope to offer an educational introduction to the diversity of Traditional Healing practices among the Aboriginal peoples of Saskatchewan.

**Guest Speakers, Spring 2013:**
- Dr. Cornelia Wieman, MD, FRCPC, Canada’s first Aboriginal female psychiatrist: “Delivering Mental Health services to Aboriginal Peoples”.
- Hon. Randy Weekes, Saskatchewan’s Minister of Rural and Remote Health, speaking on Collaborative Emergency Centers.
- Dr. Alika Lafontaine, MD, FRCPC, an Indigenous anesthetist working in Northern Alberta.

**Contact Us**

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Facebook: Aboriginal Rural and Remote Health Group – UofS

Membership: Is open at all times. We welcome students, faculty, staff and healthcare professionals in all fields.