



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

*Your health and  
safety... our priority.*

*Votre santé et votre  
sécurité... notre priorité.*

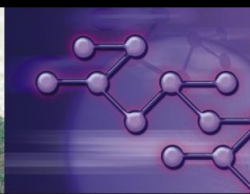
# Contaminated Sites Division

## Involving Aboriginal Peoples



Canada 

# PARTICIPANTS' OBJECTIVES

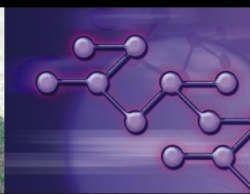


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Training Objectives

1. discuss benefits of involving Aboriginal Peoples in contaminated sites management
2. increase understanding of Aboriginal demographics, culture and community
3. identify opportunities to involve Aboriginal Peoples in the contaminated sites management process
4. understand how to involve and communicate effectively with Aboriginal Peoples

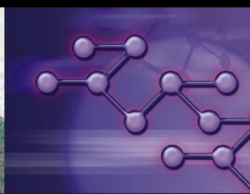


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Training Overview

1. Aboriginal Involvement Drivers
2. Benefits of Involving Aboriginal Peoples
3. Background – Aboriginal Socio-Economic Data
4. Aboriginal Social / Cultural Practices
5. What is Public Involvement?
6. Site Management Process: Opportunities for Involving Aboriginal Peoples
7. Strategies for Involving Aboriginal Peoples

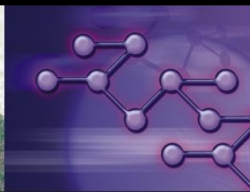


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Aboriginal Involvement Drivers

- improved decision-making and project outcomes
- public involvement is required for regulatory processes
- “Honour of the Crown”
- court cases have supported the “duty to consult” and public involvement when Aboriginal Peoples impacted:
  - Mikisew Cree First Nation v. Canada (2005)
  - Taku River Tlingit First Nation v. British Columbia (2004)
  - Haida v. British Columbia (2004)
- FCSAP reporting requirements

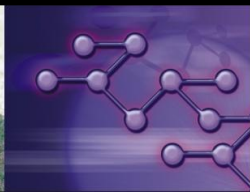


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Benefits of Involving Aboriginal Peoples

- leads to better projects and outcomes
- builds community capacity
- reduces fear, anxiety in community
- establishes trust and credibility
- provides better understanding of the site and challenge(s)

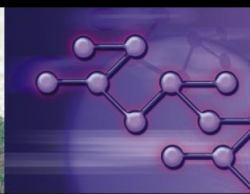


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Benefits of Involving Aboriginal Peoples

- traditional knowledge may offer answers to unknowns
- provides long-term understanding / support of project in community
- provides strong foundation for addressing any unforeseen, future problems
- meets regulatory requirements; eases regulatory process



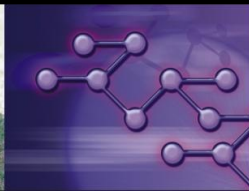
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# CHALLENGES

What are some of the challenges with involving Aboriginal Peoples in the contaminated site management process?



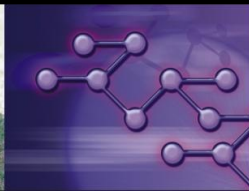
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Involving Aboriginal Peoples: Challenges

- mistrust
- socio-cultural differences
- political environment
- understanding of site process
- capacity / ability to participate
- identifying the appropriate person(s) / groups
- communication

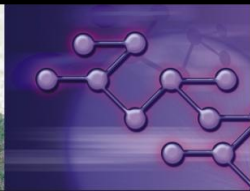


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Background

- three groups of Aboriginal Peoples are recognized in Canada
  - Indians (First Nations)
  - Métis people
  - Inuit
- each of the three groups, and members within each group, has unique heritages, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs

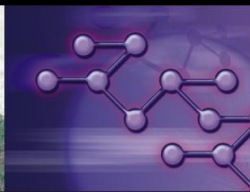


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Background: Socio-Economic Data

- over 1.3 million people self-identified as Aboriginal
- population is young
- 11 language groups; 100's of languages and dialects
- lower formal education levels
- lower formal employment rates
- mobility factors
- many Aboriginal businesses / joint ventures
- Aboriginal People – Aboriginal Groups – Aboriginal Government

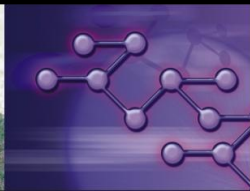


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Aboriginal Social / Cultural Practices

- cultural practices are diverse – no ‘one-size fits all’
- culture is not simply a matter of customs or traditions
- online resources:
  - [www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/index_e.html)
  - [www.afn.ca](http://www.afn.ca)
  - [www.itk.ca](http://www.itk.ca)
  - [www.metisnation.ca](http://www.metisnation.ca)
  - [www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/community](http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/community)

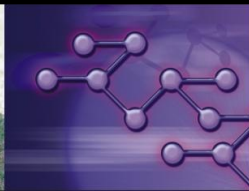


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Aboriginal Social / Cultural Practices

- many traditional economies still thrive
  - fishing, hunting, trapping, guiding
- rooted in deep respect for the land and the environment
- family/community are very important
  - affects information sharing and decision-making
- 'know what's in the baggage you carry'

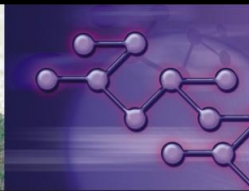


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Aboriginal Social / Cultural Practices

- traditional knowledge at centre of Aboriginal culture
  - considers individuals and populations
  - oral vs. written
  - accuracy - repeat same message exactly
  - repetition - hear same story many times
  - no right or wrong - provides information you need to get to an answer but not always the answer or decision
  - it's not just information but how decisions are made -  
**include everyone, leave no one behind**



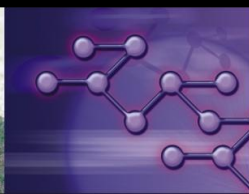
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Aboriginal Social / Cultural Practices

- use of traditional knowledge – similarities to western science
  - holistic = cumulative effects, inter-disciplinary
  - verifiable, repeatable, peer – reviewed
  - experts – require specialized education, have their own language, requires context
  - contradictions exist, knowledge evolves
  - requires resources – money, time, people
  - access – intellectual property rights
  - includes past, present and future
  - includes micro and macro information
  - used for survival



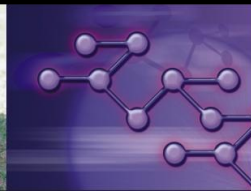
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Aboriginal Social / Cultural Practices

- role of elders
- community members' roles
- community benefits
- time
- value of listening
- political structure
- discussions are open forums for all issues
- past grievances add to distrust
- expectation of consultation

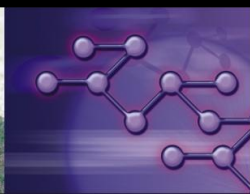


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# What Is Public Involvement?

- level of participation by the public or the extent to which the public is actively involved in understanding, assessing or resolving issues of public concern
- a wide range of activities that can be used to engage Canadians in government decision making processes
- a progression that starts with outreach to build awareness and interest
  - it evolves to information exchange, through to discussions and recommendations to partnership and decision-making

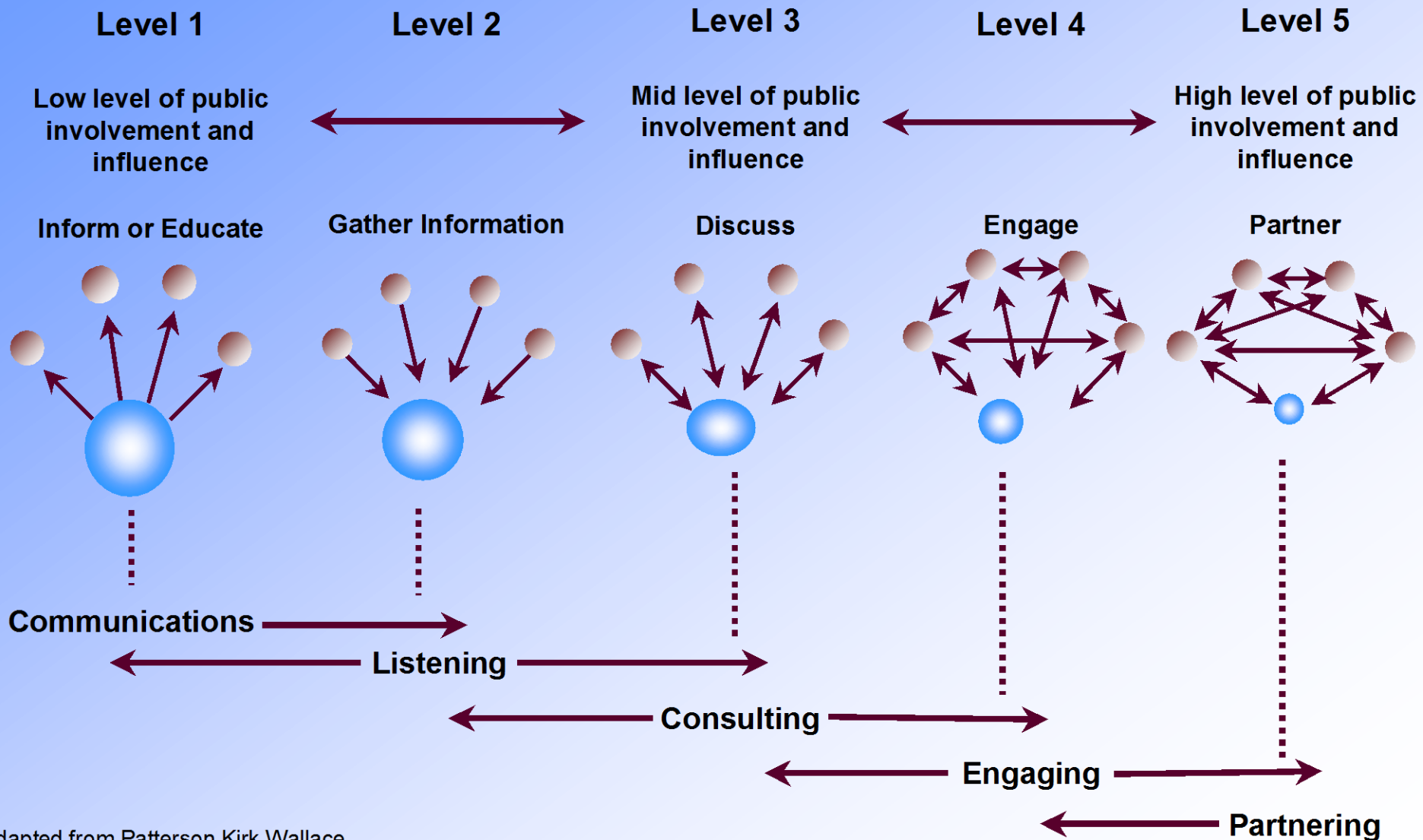


Health  
Canada

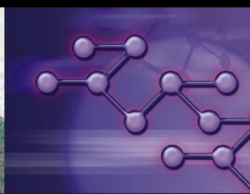
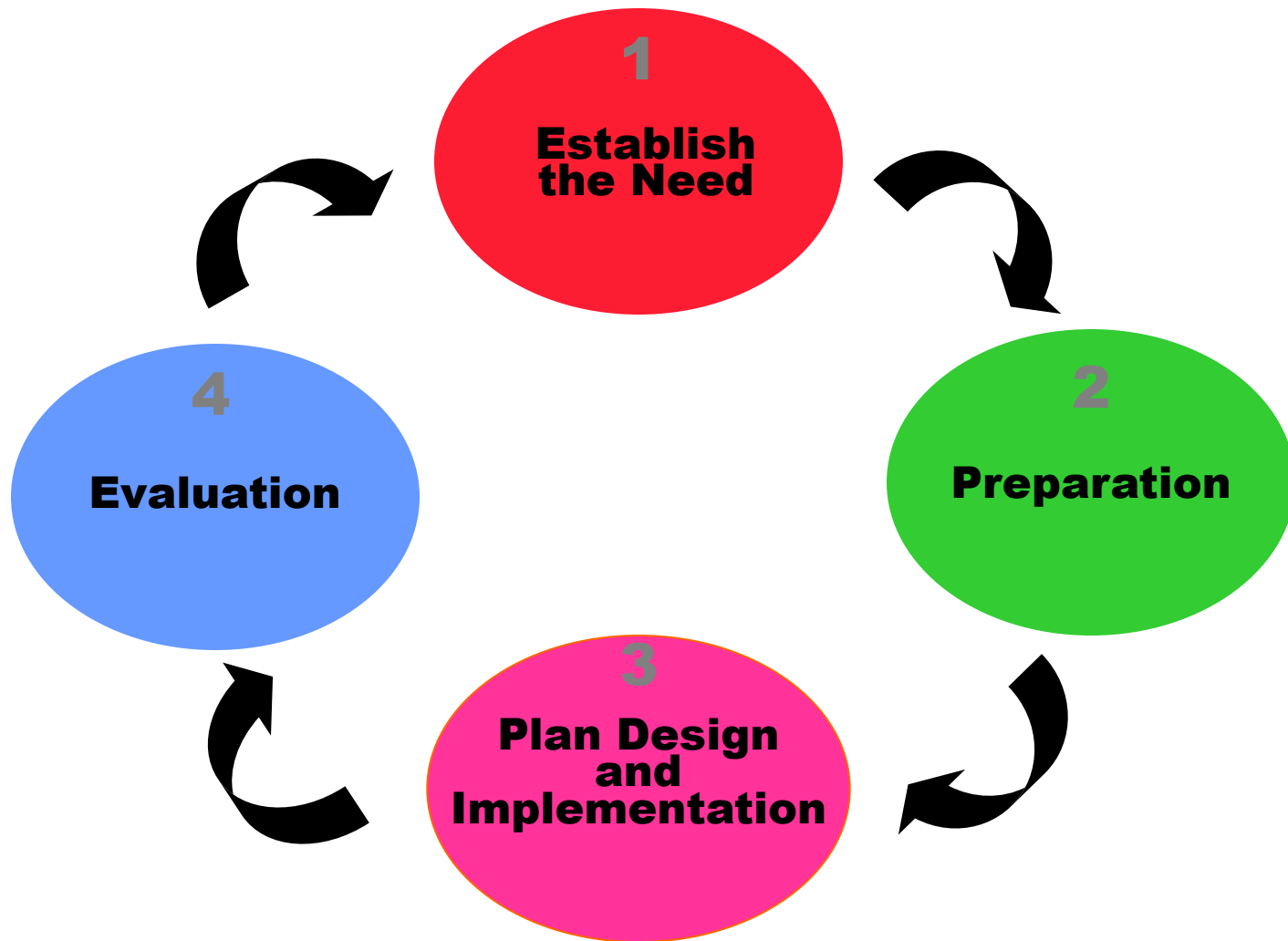
Santé  
Canada

# *Health Canada*

## *Public Involvement Continuum*



# Public Involvement Cycle

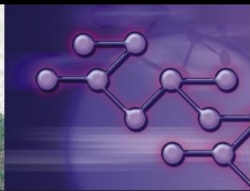


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Benefits of Public Involvement

- produces better projects
- may lead to less costly options
- increases stakeholder trust and understanding
- improves decision-making
- reduces conflict
- provides forum to manage conflict
- helps meet legal obligations
- improves stakeholder relationships
- creates real and lasting change

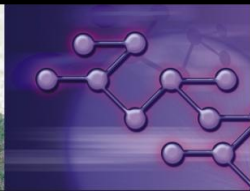


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Site Management Process: Opportunities

- Aboriginal Peoples can play a significant role in:
  - Site Identification
  - Site Assessment
  - Quantitative Human & Ecological Risk Assessment
  - Risk Management / Site Remediation
  - Monitoring



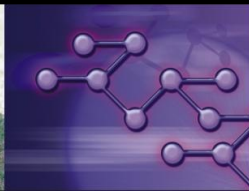
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Site Identification

- Aboriginal Peoples can assist with:
  - identifying historical sites
  - prioritizing sites in an inventory



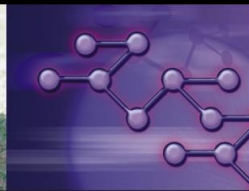
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Site Assessment ( Phase I )

- Aboriginal Peoples can assist with:
  - historical review
    - local records
    - oral histories
    - photos
    - maps
  - establishing a baseline
    - historical conditions - oral history & traditional knowledge
    - present conditions
    - changing conditions (climate, permafrost)



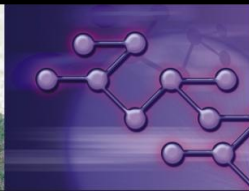
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Site Assessment ( Phase II )

- Aboriginal Peoples can assist with:

- site history
- site characteristics
- buried landfills
- conduct sampling

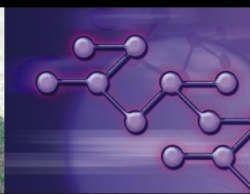


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Risk Assessment – Human Health

- Aboriginal Peoples can assist with:
  - problem formulation
  - exposure assessment - historical and current risk scenarios
    - dietary consumption / seasonal variation
    - types and parts of animals
    - living / working conditions and land use
  - risk characterization
    - historical and current epidemiology
    - what is “safe” or “acceptable”
- Assembly of First Nations is developing First Nations Health Risk Assessment Framework



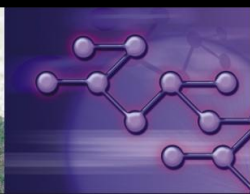
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Risk Assessment – Ecological

- Aboriginal Peoples can assist with:
  - select valued environmental components, chemicals of concern and pathways
  - where and when to collect samples
  - collecting samples
  - animal health
    - observations
    - determinants

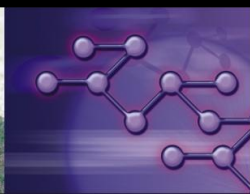


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Risk Management / Site Remediation

- Aboriginal Peoples can assist with development and implementation of remediation / risk management strategies, as well as monitoring
- when developing strategies, Aboriginal Peoples:
  - should be used in all aspects of strategy
  - can act as informal monitors and communicators
  - provide long-term knowledge of the site

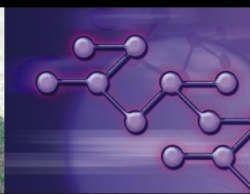


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Risk Management/Site Remediation-Development

- Aboriginal Peoples can help identify:
  - components of concern
  - land use objectives
  - issues/criteria for evaluating options
  - options for meeting objectives
  - preferred and acceptable options
- a true understanding of the project eases the regulatory review process

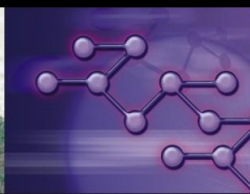


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Risk Management/Site Remediation-Implementation

- heavy equipment operators
- cooks and support
- project management
- administration
- health and safety
- communications and facilitation

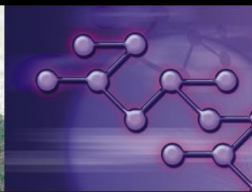


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Monitoring

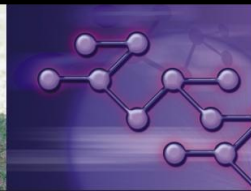


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Monitoring

- short term monitoring of remediation activities
- long term monitoring for impact on the environment
- continuity through using Aboriginal Peoples

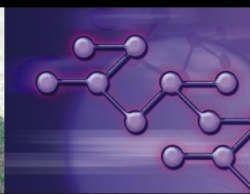


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Economic Opportunities for Aboriginal Peoples

- many Aboriginal-owned and operated companies exist
- Joint Ventures maximize input at the beginning
- Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Peoples (PSAB) – promotes use of Aboriginal companies
  - [www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/saea-psab/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/saea-psab/index_e.html)
- land claims have socio-economic and procurement provisions

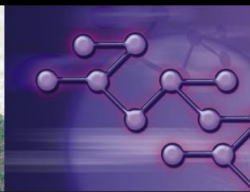


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## KEYS TO SUCCESS

What are some of the “Keys to Success” for involving Aboriginal Peoples?



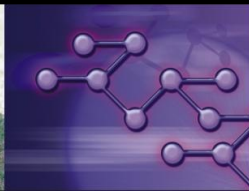
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Involving Aboriginal Peoples: Strategies

- Aboriginal Peoples / communities value face-to-face interaction
- community gatherings (e.g. public forums, meetings) preferred method of public involvement
- go to the communities

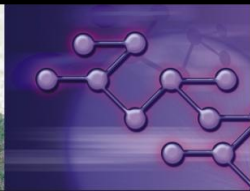


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: Before

- **STEP ONE** - talk with key community messengers beforehand
- know the previous studies and activities done in the area
- invite key messengers to participate in public involvement planning / activities
- allow communities to state at the onset their preferred mechanism / method for participation
- talk with other parties that may have information or interest

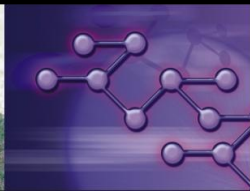


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: Before

- timing is everything!
- check:
  - prime hunting seasons
  - cultural or community events schedule
  - other community priorities
- choose (for public forums or events):
  - time and location as suggested by community contacts
  - break-up or freeze-up times
  - on-the-land locations



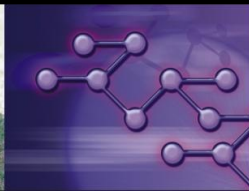
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



## Keys to Success: Before

- meet with key messengers beforehand, involve them in planning of public event
- determine local customs ceremonial practices and use in event before meeting begins
- introduce yourself to elders individually
- provide a meal or snack first before presentation
- meet with interpreters in advance of meeting

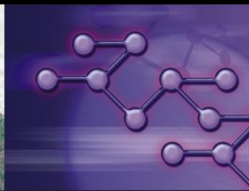


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: During

- avoid theatre-style seating
- set up information stations around room, spread out resource people
- take many breaks
- offer to record (video and/or audio) event for the community to have
- dress appropriately – casual
- take your time to be in the community
- offer to visit schools

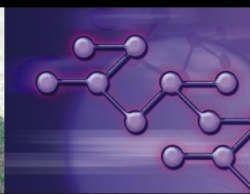


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: During

- provide objective of presentation – put in context with other community issues and priorities
- keep presentation simple
- offer summary presentations, then detailed presentations
- avoid acronyms, detailed graphs
- last slide – use two or three key messages

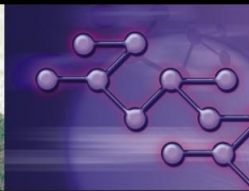


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: During

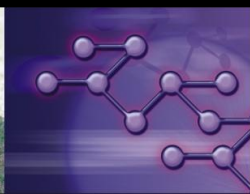
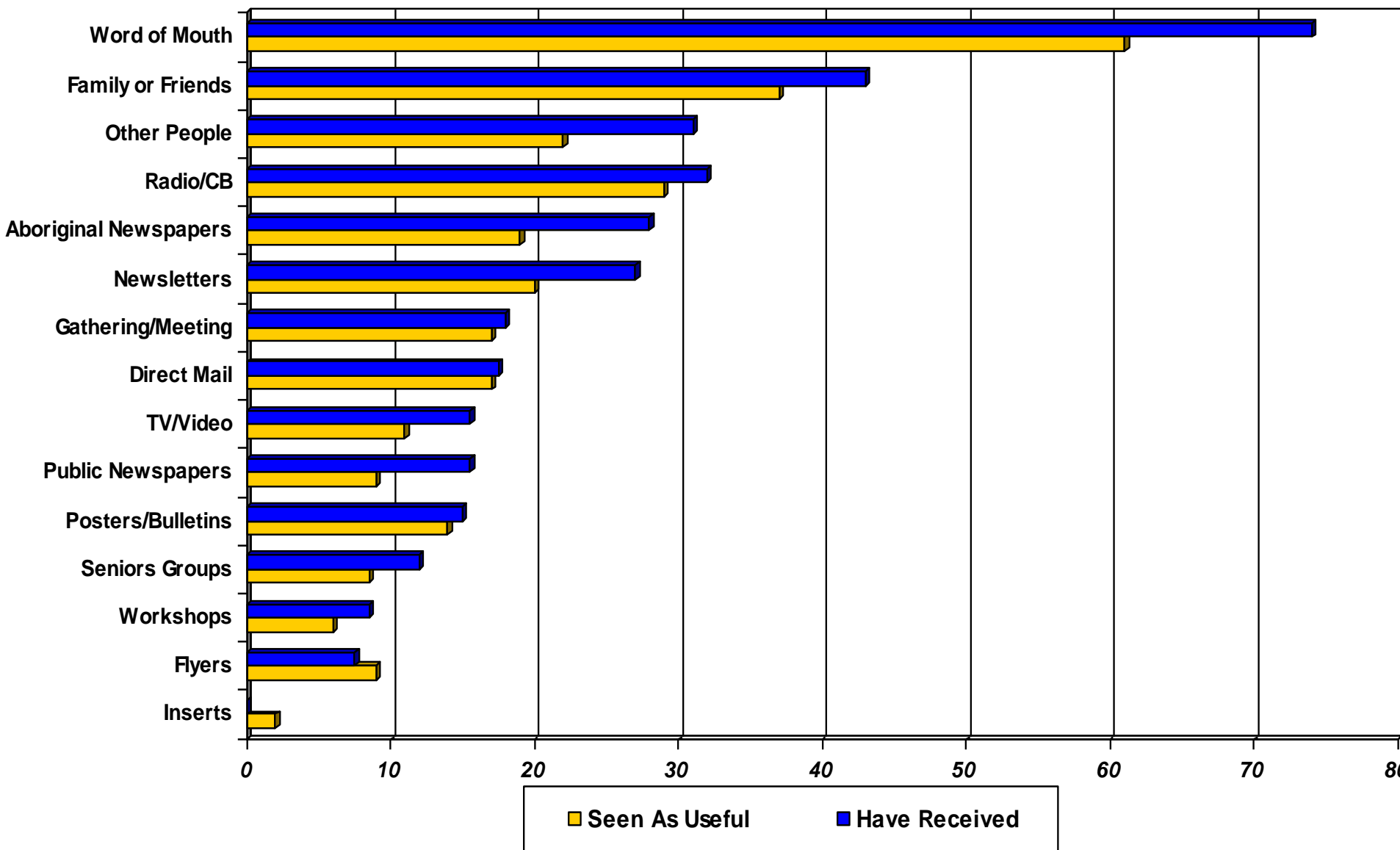
- provide site tours as complement to presentation



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada





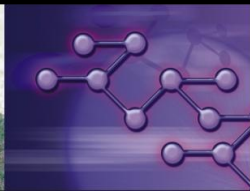
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



## Keys to Success: During

- avoid technical terminology
- allow time to absorb information, consult with others, make decisions
  - silence in meetings does not mean understanding and / or acceptance
- special consideration should be given to age and gender of participants and presenters

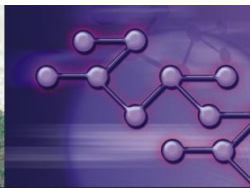


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



New Yorker, March 21, 1988 p. 46

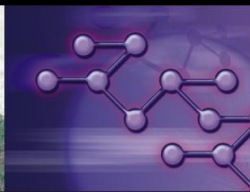


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: During

- acknowledge uncertainties
- be prepared to answer non-related questions
- important to assure continuity in the people providing information to Aboriginal communities
- document all your efforts and responses and those of Aboriginal groups

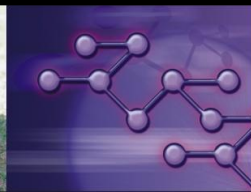


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Keys to Success: During

- interpretation:
  - use interpreters who:
    - know the terminologies
    - are trusted by the community
  - provide presentations ahead of time
  - meet with interpreters prior to meeting
  - use two interpreters per language or take many breaks



Health  
Canada

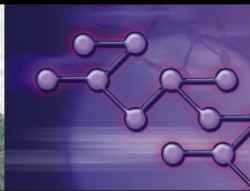
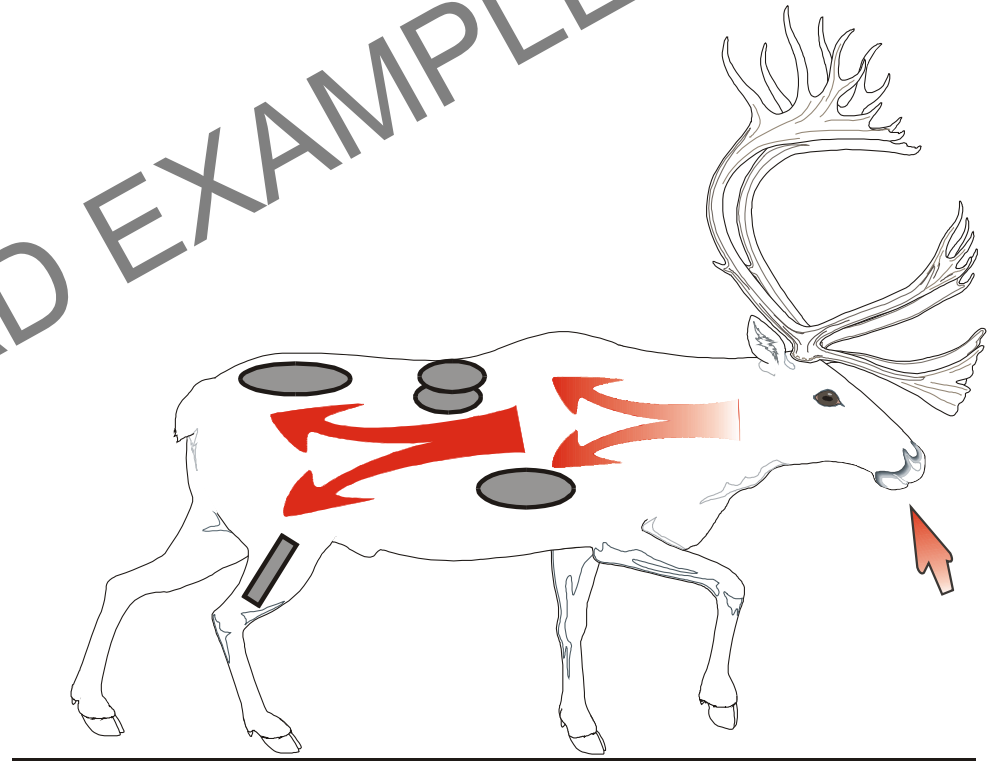
Santé  
Canada



## Keys to Success: During

- use visual aids
  - maps
  - photos
  - models
- be accurate

BAD EXAMPLE



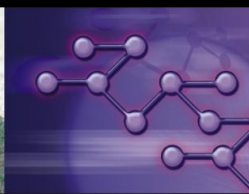
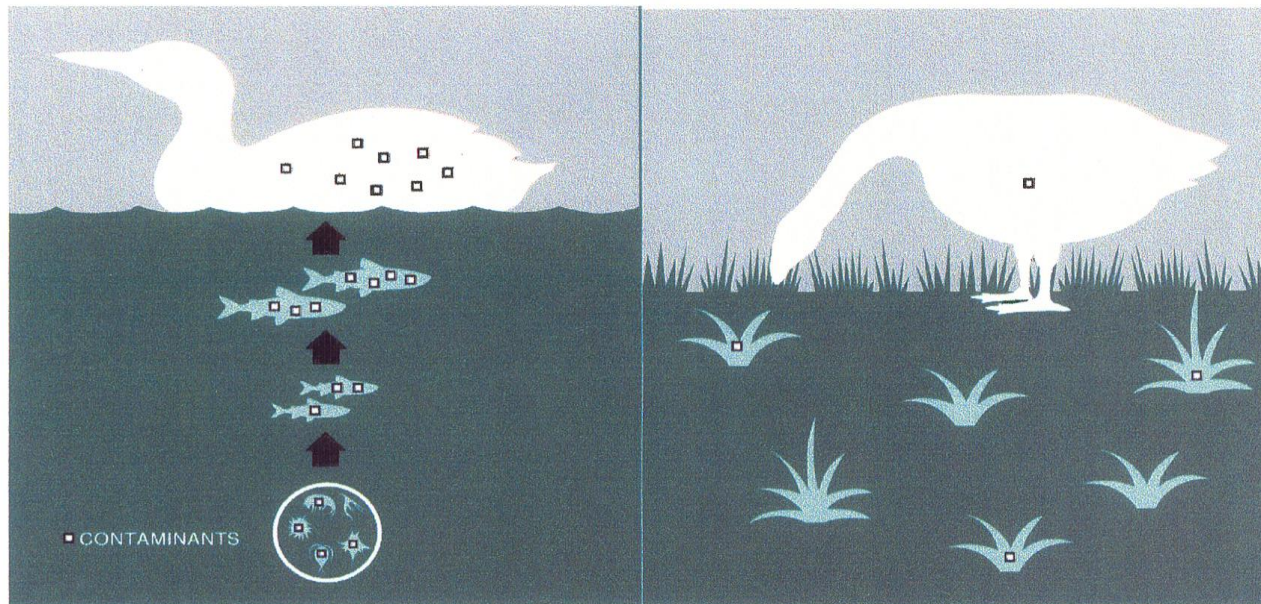
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



## Keys to Success: During

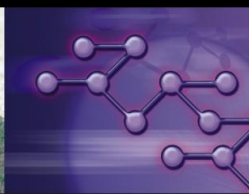
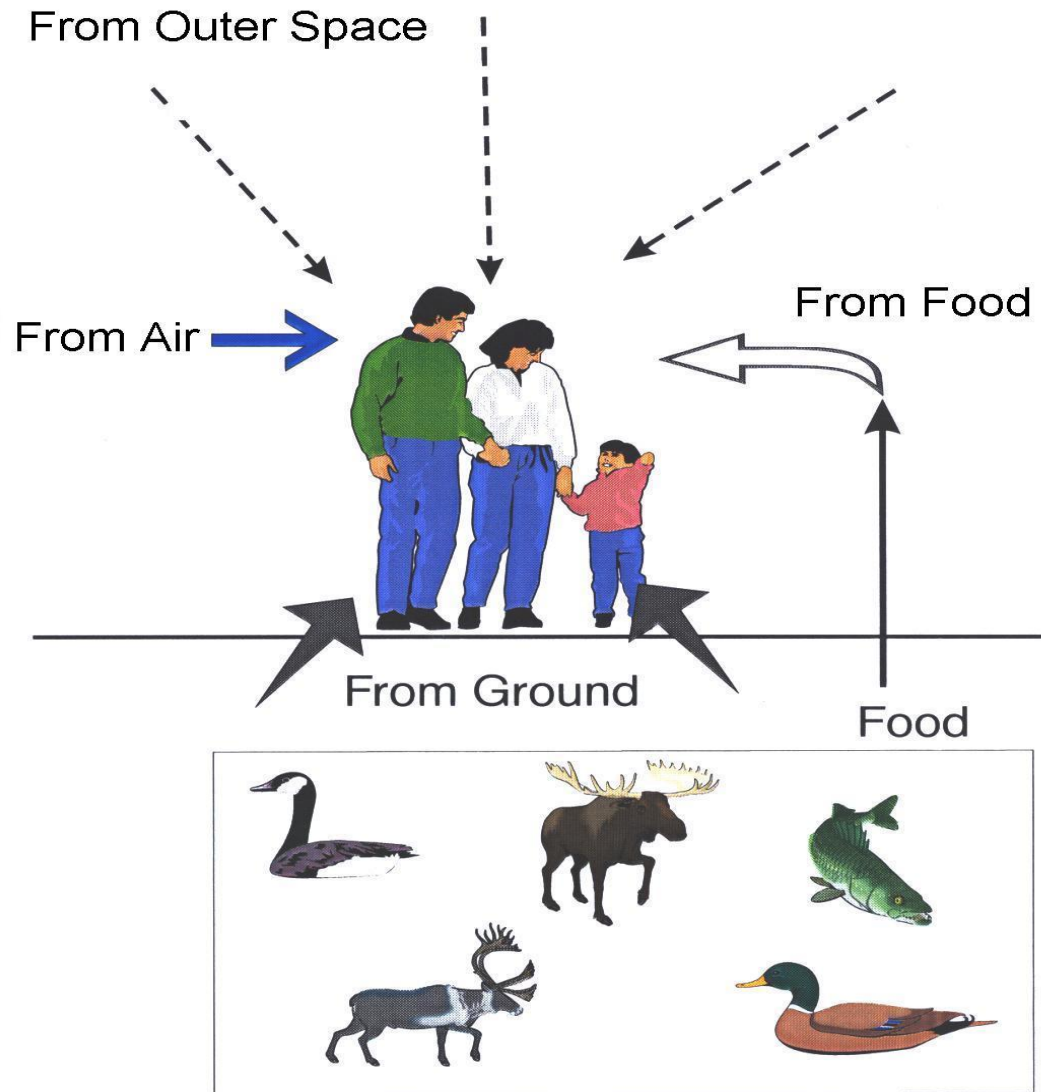
# Feeding Habits and Contaminant Levels



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

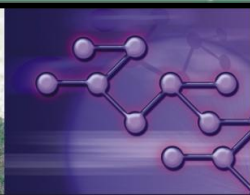
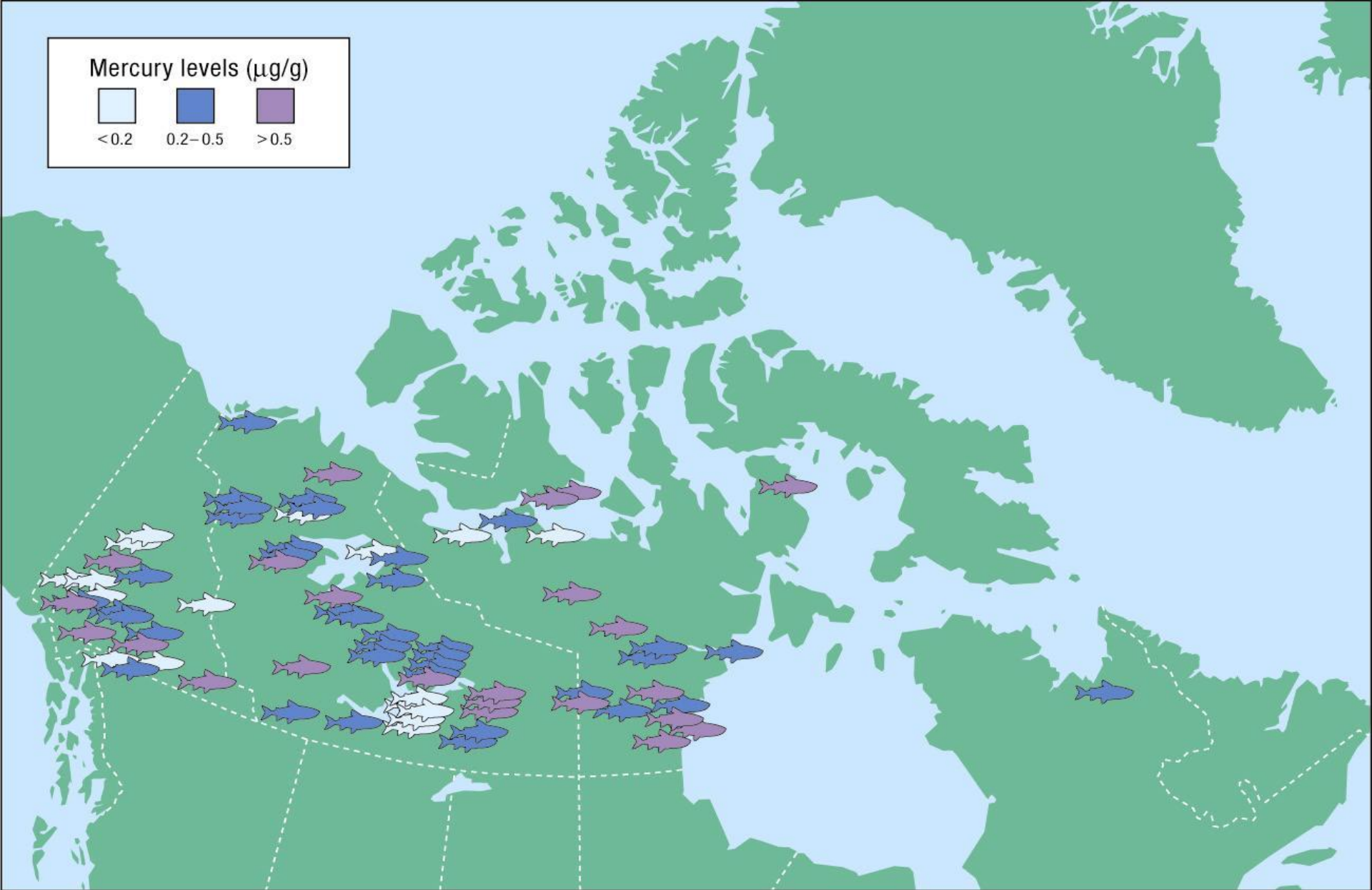
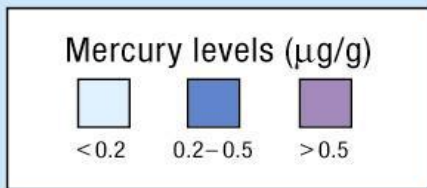
# Radiation Exposure in the Environment



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

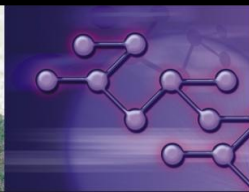
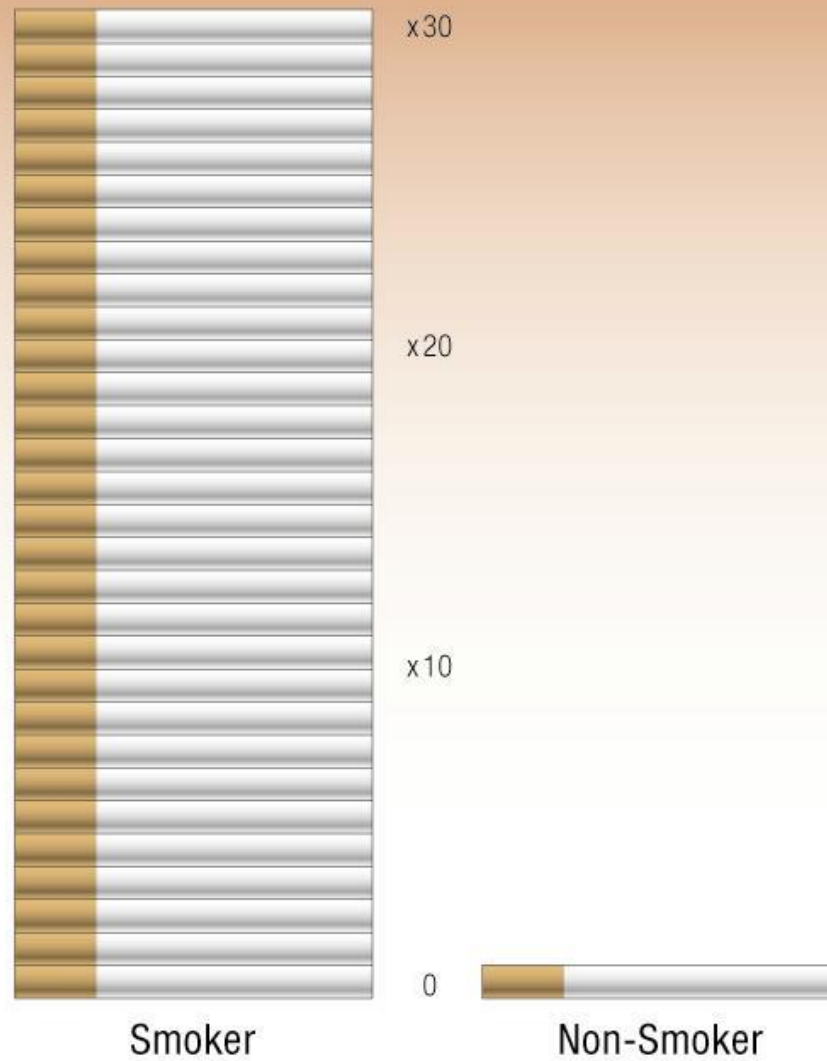




Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Cadmium Levels




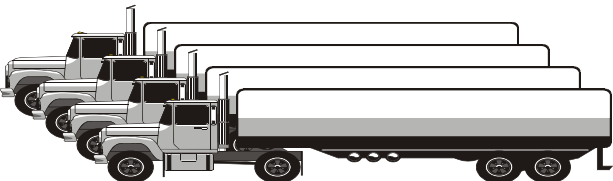
Health  
Canada

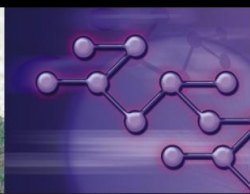
Santé  
Canada

- use analogies, especially when measuring concentrations

1 ppm =  in  (4 drops in a 55 gal drum of water)

1 ppb =  in  (1 drop in a tanker truck of water)

1 ppt =  in  (1 drop in 1000 tanker trucks of water)



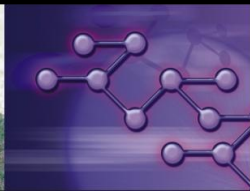
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



## Keys to Success: During

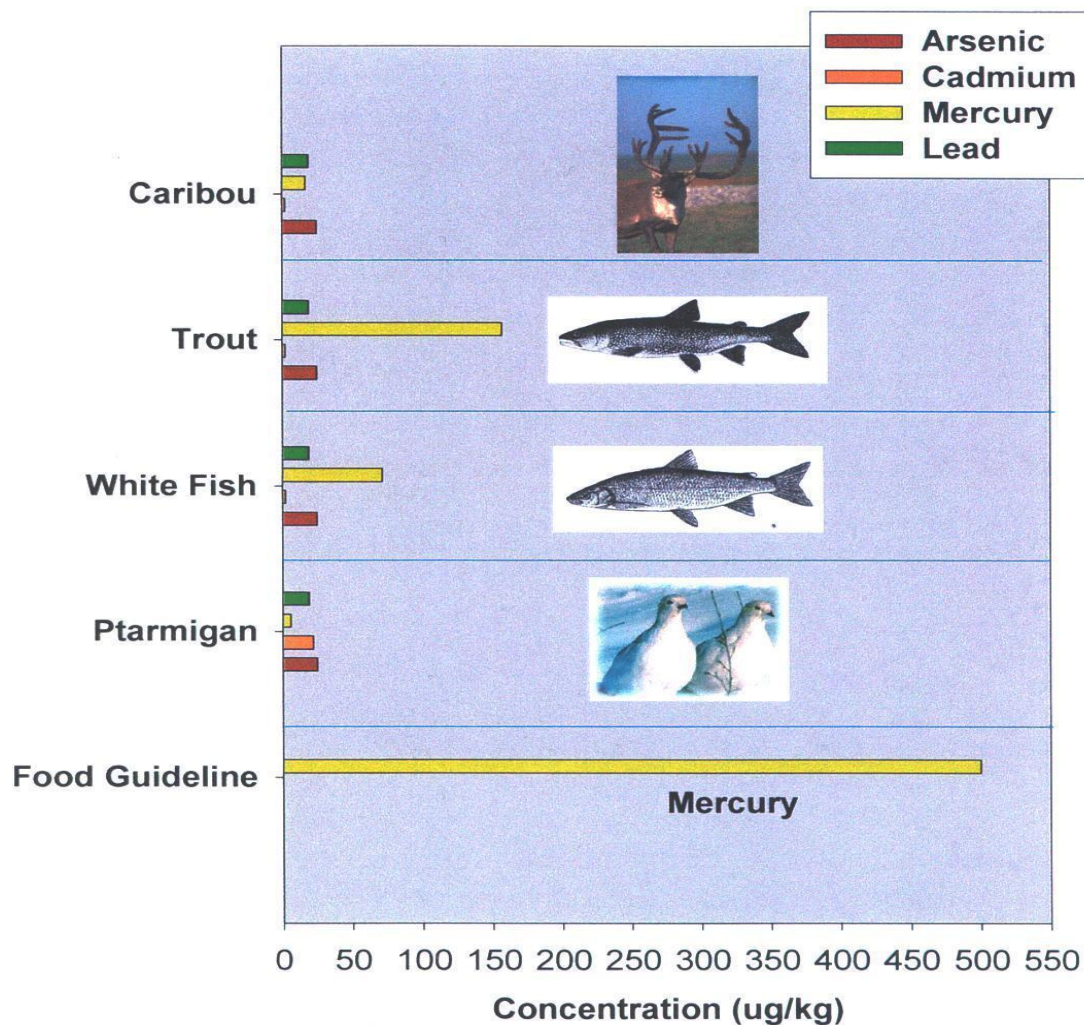
- when using graphs and charts, important to remember:
  - avoid multiple axes
  - avoid clutter
  - explain axes each time – keep similar from slide to slide
  - if you're not going to explain it, don't use it
  - show guidelines
  - use colours that are very distinct from one another



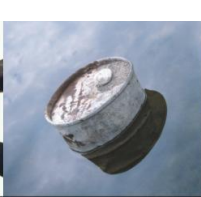
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Metals in Wildlife at Baker Lake



The concentrations of all metals are very low in all these foods.

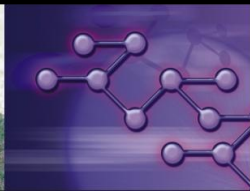


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: After

- don't jump on a plane!
- leave copies of photos / video behind
- send summary of comments heard to key community messengers
- spend time in the community afterwards

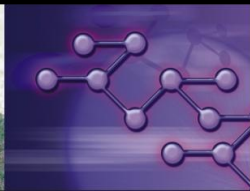


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

## Keys to Success: After

- allow enough time for Aboriginal groups to go back and consult with their constituents before moving ahead
- inform Aboriginal communities of decisions
- demonstrate the integration of Aboriginal views in final decision, if applicable
- evaluate Aboriginal involvement



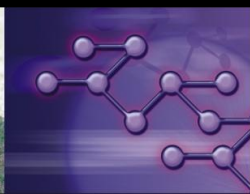
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Case Study

Review the case study and identify:

- key stakeholders
- opportunities for involving Aboriginal Peoples
- potential challenges
- strategies to overcome the identified challenges using the various 'keys to success'



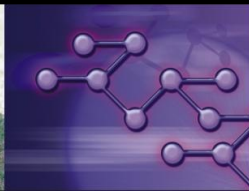
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Involving Aboriginal Peoples: Summary

- involving Aboriginal Peoples provides:
  - socio-economic opportunities
  - capacity building in communities
  - smoother regulatory processes

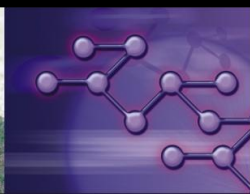


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Involving Aboriginal Peoples: Summary

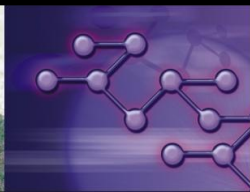
- involving Aboriginal Peoples leads to:
  - better projects
  - long-term understanding of project
  - greater trust in government and development activities



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# REVIEW OF CHALLENGES

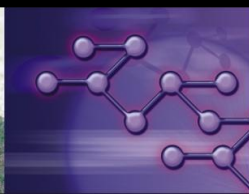


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Review of Training Objectives

1. discuss benefits of involving Aboriginal Peoples in contaminated sites management
2. increase understanding of Aboriginal demographics, culture and community
3. identify opportunities to involve Aboriginal Peoples in the contaminated sites management process
4. understand how to involve and communicate effectively with Aboriginal Peoples

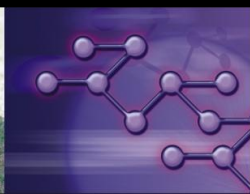


Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

# Acknowledgements

- Elders, leaders and community members
- Contaminants and Remediation Directorate (CARD) staff
- Northern Contaminants Program
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada



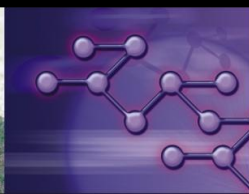
Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



## Public Involvement Contacts

REGION	NAME	TELEPHONE
Ottawa	Brenda Pichette	613-948-8506
Atlantic	Rosanne Leblanc	902-426-5397
Quebec	Annie-France Gravel	450-928-6182
Ontario / Nunavut	Lorraine Fung	416-954-3146
Manitoba / Saskatchewan	Loren Remillard	204-983-8780
Alberta / NWT	Tannis Topolnisky	780-442-7281
British Columbia / Yukon	Yota Hatziantoniou	604-666-3804



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada