

# Family, Friends and Support Networks of People Living with HIV: Insights into knowledge acquisition and personal well being

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# Presenter Disclosures

“nothing to disclose.”



# Overview:

- Personal Introduction
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  - Introduction
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  - Thank you
- 




# Personal Introduction:

- Grew up between the Stellat'en and Nadleh Whut'en First Nations in small community now known as Fraser Lake
- Moved to Prince George in 2004 to pursue my studies
  - Have always held an interest in Health and have always looked for ways to include it in my learning
- I consider myself a non-Indigenous learner and ally
- I genuinely feel that health care provision can be improved with a greater understanding of how people feel when they are interacting with it



# Theoretical Framework:

- ▶ Cultural Sledding
  - ▶ Emphasizes the importance of individuality but how those individuals can move the topic forward
  - ▶ How it takes a team effort to work through a topic
  - ▶ Connects to my own history
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# Introduction:

- ▶ Literature about the experiences of family, friends and those forming support networks for people living with HIV in Northern communities has not advanced since the 1980's.
- ▶ The goal of this study is to better understand those supporting people living with HIVs:
  - ▶ Learning processes
  - ▶ Programs
  - ▶ Personal well being



# Methodology:

- ▶ Qualitative Methodology
  - ▶ I am not as interested in numbers, I would rather hear experiences
  - ▶ It is very flexible, allowing for a variety of methods under one umbrella as well as shifting to accommodate a project
- ▶ Indigenized Methodology
  - ▶ I am a Non-Aboriginal Learner and Ally focusing on working within an Indigenized methodology
  - ▶ It allows for a different way of viewing relationships
- ▶ Narrative Inquiry
  - ▶ The best way to hear peoples voices
  - ▶ Narratives have a long history within First Nations culture






# Methods:

- ▶ Data was collected through qualitative interviews.
  - ▶ Stakeholders (n=4) were interviewed to ensure the questions were appropriate, informed and pertinent to the research goals.
  - ▶ Qualitative interviews were then completed with individuals forming support networks for people living with HIV (n=5).



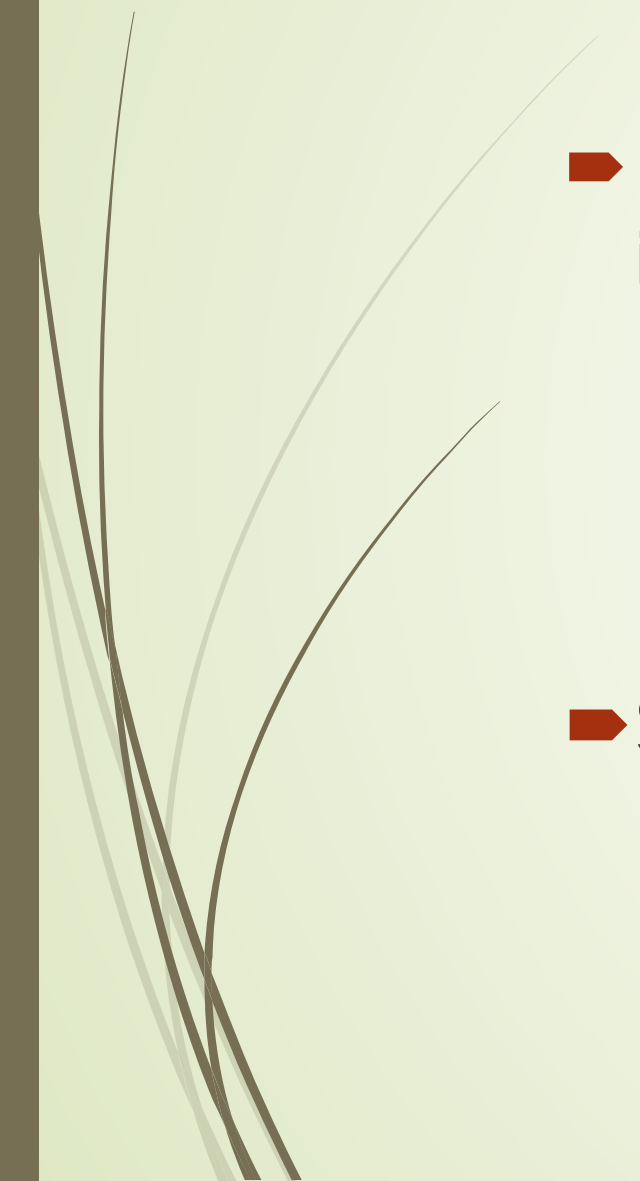


# Methods Continued:

- ▶ Interviews were transcribed verbatim and cleaned for identifying information.
  - ▶ Data is being analyzed using Thematic analysis to draw out overarching themes.
  - ▶ Additionally, Narrative analysis is being used to weave together a cohesive story of care givers experiences in not only caring for individuals with HIV, but also caring for their own well being.
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# Preliminary Results:

- Understanding that the complications of HIV involve:
    - Nutrition,
    - Mental health, and
    - Quality of life can be difficult
  - Supporters are often HIV positive themselves
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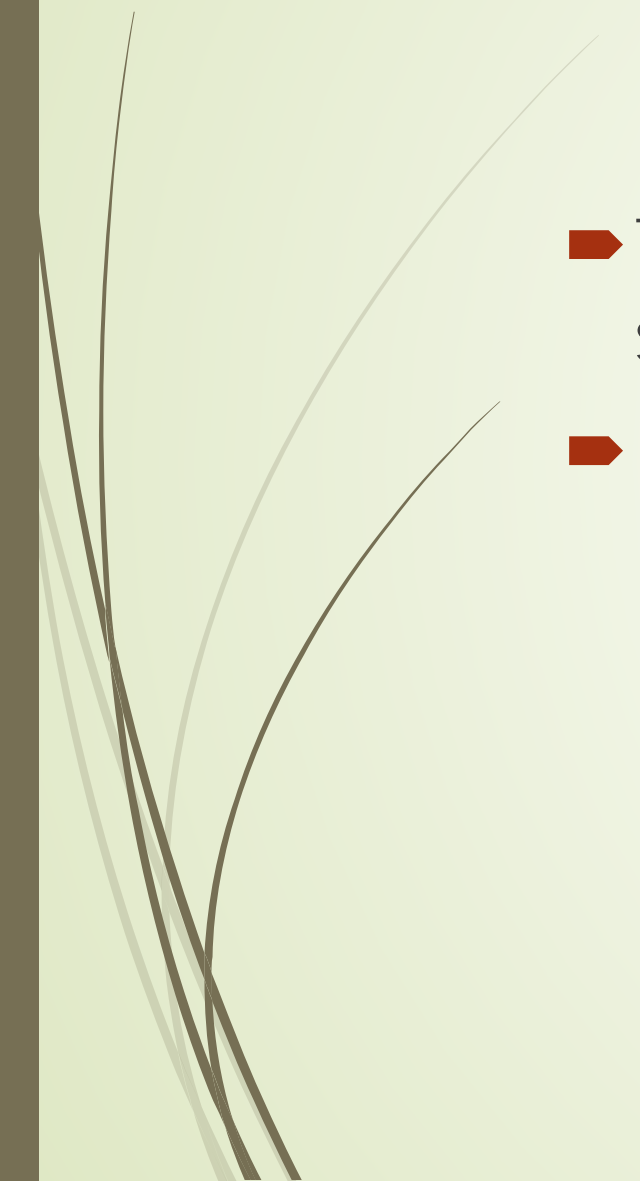
## Preliminary Results Continued :

“ probably just in the last 8-10 years maybe, maybe then and I umm, cause its been about 20-25 years ”

(Interview with Jean, 2018)



## Preliminary Results Continued :

- ▶ They struggle to recognize the need for support for themselves
  - ▶ Find it difficult to learn what kind of support networks they have access too (Roger, Migliardi, & Mignone, 2012).
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## Preliminary Results Continued :

“ They didn’t tell me that I actually had a health supplement that I could use through disability that I could use for HIV ”

(Interview with Tom, 2018)




## Preliminary Results Continued :

- It is difficult to understand scientific explanations of HIV and discouraging in initial attempts.
  - HIV is an all-encompassing disease and treatment can cause many complications.
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# Conclusion:

- ▶ Ongoing data collection will focus on the Knowledge acquisition and personal wellbeing of support networks for people living with HIV.
  - ▶ Thesis defense
  - ▶ The intention to create literature to give back to the community
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# References:

- ▶ Roger, K., Migliardi, P., & Mignone, J. (2012). HIV, Social Support, and Care Among Vulnerable Women. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 40(5), 487–500. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.20529>



# Thank you

➤ Questions?

