March 31, 2015 was officially the last day of data collection with our four First Nations community partners. We very much appreciate the assistance, acceptance, hard work, and dedication of the community leads, facilitators, and community members who allowed the project to work with them to help improve end-of-life care.

The research team and communities are currently compiling the learnings from initiatives completed in all four communities to begin building the EOLFN Workbook. When completed, the workbook will allow other First Nations to duplicate successful promising practices that emerged from the communities to create and/or enhance palliative care programs in First Nations communities.

Naotkamegwanning is currently in process of wrapping up a pilot project funded by the Northwest LHIN (November 1, 2014 - August 30, 2015). The pilot project will document and evaluation the implementation of their local palliative care program as an emerging promising practice. Outcomes measured are cost, patient and family satisfaction and hospital days.

The conceptual model guiding our research, “The Process of Palliative Care Program Development” in First Nations communities, is now available on the EOLFN website. New to the tree model diagram is the Sequential Phases of Capacity Development that guide palliative care program development in First Nations communities.

A Downloadable, printable model is available on the EOLFN website www.eolfn.lakeheadu.ca

Please watch your email in the fall for the announcement of the next EOLFN Alliance Team Meeting.
New to the EOLFN Website!!!

Advanced Care Planning for First Nations peoples tools and resources:

- **Advance Care Planning** Brochure
- **Substitute Decision Maker** Brochure
- Poster “*Why Advance Care Plan?*”
- **Advance Care Planning for First Nations Peoples** presentation and facilitators guide
- Advance Care Planning video “*The Time is Now ... Advance Care Planning with First Nations People*” (coming soon)

Plus, check out these two important and valuable reports created by our project team for use by health care decision makers:

- **A Framework to Guide Policy and Program Development for Palliative Care in First Nations Communities** provides an integrated approach to addressing the gaps in palliative care services in First Nations communities. It is based on the findings of the EOLFN research, and articulates a 10 point policy framework for palliative care in First Nations communities. Implementation of this framework would require collaboration & partnership between federal, provincial and First Nations health services.

- **Recommendations to Improve Quality and Access to End-of-Life Care in First Nations Communities** report proposes recommendations to advance the Pan Canadian Strategy for palliative care to adequately and equitably meet the need of First Nations people. This document was prepared at the request of federal MP Charlie Angus's office and focuses on the federal government’s role.

We offer these documents to stimulate discussion and as resources to anyone who would find them useful.

Feel free to distribute these documents to anyone who might be interested.

www.eolfn.lakeheadu.ca
Upcoming Dissemination Activities:

Two presentations at the *Manitoba Provincial Hospice Palliative Care Association Conference*, September 17-18th, Winnipeg, Manitoba:

- The Power to Choose: Peguis First Nation’s Experience in Developing their Community Palliative Care Program [workshop presentation]
- Culturally Appropriate Advance Care Planning Resources for First Nations Community Members [poster presentation]

Five workshop presentations at the *Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Conference*, October 29 - November 1, 2015, Ottawa, Ontario:

- Culturally Appropriate Advanced Care Planning Resources for First Nations Community Members: Resources and strategies
- Program Development Guidelines and Resources for Developing Palliative Care Programs in First Nations Communities
- Engaging stakeholders in Journey Mapping: Creating and Implementing a Palliative Care Pathway for Clients living in Naotkamegwanning First Nation
- Conducting Participatory Action Research with First Nations Communities: Lessons Learned from a 5 year CIHR Study
- Developing and Implementing the Six Nations Palliative Care Shared Care Outreach Team: Lessons Learned

One challenge panel invited by *CHPCA* “Addressing the Gaps in Palliative Care Services in First Nations Communities”

Two oral presentations at the *2015 International Home Care Summit*, November 8 to November 10, Ottawa, Ontario

- Culturally Appropriate Advanced Care Planning Resources for First Nation Community Members
- Recommendations to Improve Quality and Access to Palliative Care in First Nations Communities

*Please come visit us if you attend any of these conferences, we would love to put faces to names.*
First Nations Community Wrap Up Events:

Peguis First Nation and Six Nations of the Grand River Territory held their community project wrap up events this spring. Along with a brief presentation of what was accomplished during the 5 year project, the communities were thanked by the project and presented with a framed plaque acknowledging their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the project and improving end-of-life care in their respective communities.

Wrap up events for Fort William First Nation and Naotkamegwanning are currently in the final planning stages and scheduled to happen this summer.

Congratulations!!!

Mary Lou Kelley was presented the prestigious Richard R. Walker Visionary Award by Hospice Palliative Care Ontario on April 20, 2015. This award, only given once previously by HPCO, recognizes an individual who has made a significant and exceptional contribution to advance the hospice palliative care movement in Ontario.

(L to R: Marg Poling, Mary Lou Kelley)

EOLFN research team members, Kimberly Ramsbottom, Verna Fruch, Jill Marcella, and Holly Prince were recognized for their poster presentation, entitled “Culturally appropriate Advance Care Planning Resources for First Nations Community Members.”

(L to R: HPCO Rep, Verna Fruch, HPCO award presenter, Kimberly Ramsbottom, Holly Prince)

We are pleased to announce that EOLFN graduate student, Jessica Koski, has successfully defended her thesis proposal. Jessica’s Master of Health Science thesis, Lakehead University, focuses on evaluating the Journey Mapping process with Naotkamegwanning First Nation. Please join us in congratulating, Jessica!!

Have a Safe and Happy Summer !!!