Assessing Culturally Based Science Curriculum in Aboriginal Populations

Interim Report

• Revisions to the ethics proposal were submitted and approved by the McMaster Research Ethics Board and the Six Nations Ethics Committee.

• Approval for the project was given by the school board superintendent.

• Five classes at two elementary schools on Six Nations have been recruited.

• Training was provided to Let's Talk Science volunteers, on cultural sensitivity, and on delivering the water science workshop.

• A water science workshop was adapted to be culturally relevant to the community of Six Nations, by myself, and three students who are First Nations.

We have completed 3 in-class workshops (75 minutes each) and have two more scheduled for next week. The workshops are randomly allocated to be regular or the culturally adapted one. Students complete pre and post surveys evaluating their engagement and interest in STEM subjects, and their understanding of the science content within the workshop.