

Email: mratelle@uwaterloo.ca Phone: 519-888-4567 ext.30365 Facebook: BiomonitoringNT Twitter: NTBiomonitoring

## **Human Biomonitoring Project**

### Newsletter-Sahtú Spring (May 2017)

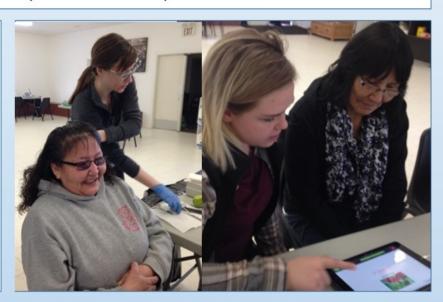
#### Reminder on the project!

A project is happening within the Dehcho, Sahtú and Hay River regions to investigate the levels of contaminant exposure among participating communities. Dr. Brian Laird and his team collected **human hair, urine and blood** to measure contaminants and nutrients. This work will provide knowledge on the contaminant baseline in the community and will also promote the use of country foods in order to improve nutrition.

# What was done in the last few months in the Sahtú?

- We were present at the Sahtú
   Environmental Research and Monitoring

  Forum meeting, in Tulit'a, on February
  7-9, to consult people.
- We implemented the sampling component in **Deline**, on February 13 to 16, where we invited people to provide hair and/or blood and/or urine.
- We also consulted leaders in Fort Good Hope on February 18-22.



### How did the sampling component happened in Deline?

- A terminology workshop was organized with the help of the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board, in Deline, in order to refine knowledge translation and communication.
- We spent 8 days in the community, where we unpacked 22 boxes of equipment in the Cultural Center.
- Gina Bayha was the nurse working with us to collect the blood along with 2 local coordinators who were hired to support the project and recruit participants: <u>Ruby Beyonnie</u> and <u>Dora Blondin</u>.
- In total, 75 participants accepted to provide samples and complete the questionnaires.
- **Thank you** to all the participants, the SRRB, the DRRC, the Deline Government, the SSI, Grey Goose Hotel and each of you who helped us and make our visit a pleasant one (e.g. ice fishing).



### What are the next steps?

- Confirm with Tulit'a and Fort Good Hope if they are interested in participating during the fall 2017.
- Bring back results to Deline participants and leaders (estimated to be around January 2018)