# The Circumpolar Health Movement Comes Full Circle

August 2012
Neil Murphy
Southcentral Foundation

### Objectives

- Explore the past course of the circumpolar health movement
- Evaluate progress to date
- Make recommendations for fututre



#### Thanks

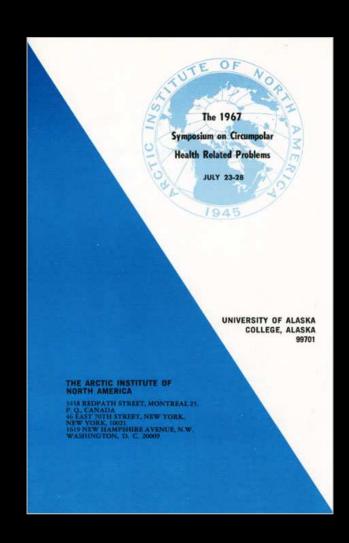
- C. Earl Albrecht Archives
- Frank Pauls Archives
- University of Alaska, Anchorage

### Thanks to...

- First Nations People
- Organizers of the IUCH15

### Where were you in 1967?

- If you were in Fairbanks, July 23-26....
- You would have probably been at....
- The Symposium on Circumpolar Health Related Problems



### What might have gotten you there

- First International Polar Year 1881-1884
  - 14 research stations established, 12 in the Arctic
    - US established research station at Point Barrow
- Second IPY 1932-1933
- Third IPY 1957-58

### Forces in parallel with IPY

 Nordic Council appointed Committee for Arctic Medical Research same year

 Nordic Council for Arctic Medical Research Report

### World Health Organization

- August 28, 1962 WHO Conference on Medicine and Public Health in the Arctic and Antarctic
- Involved with future Circumpolar Health Symposia
- J.A. Hildes, (Canada) E. M. Scott, A.B. Coylar (USA)

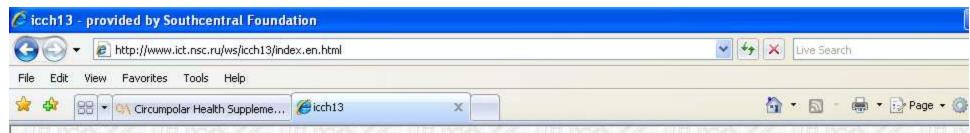
#### Writers embellishment

 Neil Murphy's Circumpolar Health Rules to Live By

### Neil Murphy's Circumpolar Health Rules to Live By

Rule No. 1

Don't go into Circumpolar Health for the money



#### Welcome:



Dear Colleagues,

I have the pleasure to invite you to the International Congress on Circumpolar Health – 13 (ICCH 13). The Congress will be It Novosibirsk - one of the greatest scientific, cultural and industrial centers of Russia. The Mission of the Congress is to 1) strength international professional ties between the medical scientists, health care specialists, health administrators, and indigenous peoples Far North; 2) enrich the knowledge in the circumpolar health sciences and up to date scientific technologies, and; 3) develop cooperative projects. The theme for the ICCH 13 is "The North – The Peace Zone".

The ICCH 13 will serve as the gateway event for the 2007 – 2008 International Polar Year. "What is the International Polar Year 2007-2008?" At its most fundamental level, IPY 2007-2008 is envisioned to be an intense, coordinated campaign of observations, research, and analysis that will be multidisciplinary in scope and international in participation. IPY 2007-2008 will prea framework and impetus to undertake projects that normally could not be achieved by any single nation. It allows us to think by traditional borders — whether national borders or disciplinary constraints — toward a new level of integrated, cooperative science.

Take advantage of this event, to see the unique places on the Earth – Lake Baikal, Altai, and Lake Teletskoe; to cruise the great Siberian Rivers – the Ob, Yo and Lena; to visit the Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre of world reputation, numerous museums, botanic gardens and the zoo with exclusive collections of and animals.

I look forward to meeting you in Novosibirsk in June of 2006! Warm regards,

Co-chairman of the ICCH 13, President of SB RAMS, Valeri Trufakin



Dear Friends,

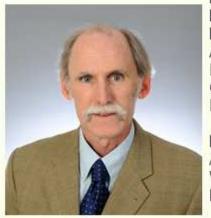
Welcome to the 13th International Congress on Circumpolar Health. Please join me as we form the human Gateway to the International Polar Year, here in The North - The Peace Zone.

The international community has looked forward to returning to Novosibirsk since our last meeting here in 1974. Many things changed since our last visit en masse to Novosibirsk 32 years ago. As we prepare for the International Polar Year, the ICCH 13 not come at a more influential juncture.

Our research focus has changed from simply describing elements of high latitude regions to in depth analyses of the many treclimate change and their effect on the human condition. When coupled with the many effects of social and cultural transition, the in has been vast.

To that end, the International Union for Circumpolar Health has raised human health to one of the major areas of study for the firs in an International Polar Year. Our main focus has been through the Arctic Human Health Initiative, among our many other preparations to maximiz in Epidemiology and Executive Vice President, Statens Serum Institut

international handbook on AIDS, and editorial board several scientific journals. He has e.g. been chairmai Mads Melbye, MD, DMSc, Professor Medical Research Council's coordinating body (NOS vice-chairman of the Danish Medical Research Cour is presently e.g. chairman of the Danish Health Insura chairman of the Ministry of Science, Technology and committee on Registry Research (KOR), and vice-ch Scientific Councillors, International Agency for Resea (IARC), Lyon, France, and member of the Swedish N Science's infrastructure committee. He is a member committees advising Government on issues relating Science.



Neil J. Murphy, MD

In the circumpolar world Neil J. Murphy, M.D. is a pas International Union for Circumpolar Health; Co-Chair International Congress on Circumpolar Health, past F American Society for Circumpolar Health; Editor of the Proceedings, a former Scientific Editor for the Interna Circumpolar Health, and is currently the Treasurer of Foundation (formerly known as the Albrecht Milan Fo

In the Fairbanks area, Dr. Murphy is a graduate of the Alaska at Fairbanks. He subsequently attended the I Washington - WAMI Medical School Program - when based in Fairbanks

In the arena of Indian Health, Dr. Murphy works clinical Southcentral Foundation Department of OB/GYN at t Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage, Alaska. At Al he had worked as a Board Certified Family Physicia Health Service in Bethel and Sitka, Alaska since 198 was the national OB / GYN Chief Clinical Consultant Health Service from 2000-2008.

In the research arena he has presented at the ICCHs interests which include: history of circumpolar health, intolerance in Alaska Native People, and the impact papilloma virus vaccine.

### Neil Murphy's Circumpolar Health Rules to Live By

• Rule No. 4

 What is the most important function at a International Circumpolar Health Congress?

### What is the most important function in circumpolar health?

- Perform research to develop coherent policies to improve circumpolar health
- Attend all the plenary sessions
- Attend all the breakout sessions
- Attend all breaks and meals
- Other duties as assigned

#### About Dr. John Arthur Hildes (1918-1984)



Tr. Jack Hildes was born on January 22, 1918 in Toronto, Canada. He received his medical degree at the University of Toronto. From 1941 to 1946 he served in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, serving in Burma and Singapore, and rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After the war he pursued postgraduate studies in Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology and Physiology in England as well as Canada. He received his MRCP degree in England in 1948, and his Fellowship in the Royal College of Physicians of Canada in 1949.

In the 1950s and 60s he engaged in physiology research, particularly with regard to cold adaptation. He assumed a provincial leadership role in the early 1950s, when an outbreak of polio assumed epidemic proportions. He had an active practice in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology at the University of Manitoba, becoming full professor in 1966.

His work in cold physiology after the war led him to undertake numerous trips to the arctic regions of Canada as well as other circumpolar arctic regions. He developed a deep understanding of the medical needs of arctic peoples, and the challenges that face health care workers in remote regions. In 1970 he formed the Northern Medical Unit within the University of Manitoba. The Unit now bears his name, and continues its mission based on his founding principles of health care service delivery, teaching and research. He was an early advocate for the empowerment of aboriginal people in health and health care issues.

Dr. Hildes served as a consultant, researcher, teacher, clinician and friend to aboriginal

### International Biologic Programme

- Human Adaptability Section
- 1964 1974\*
- Biology of Arctic peoples
- Fred Milan, coordinator
- Human Research Physiologist, Arctic Aeromedical Laboratory (USA)
- Legacy = still publishing in 1980

### **Seminal Leaders**

- C. Earl Albrecht (USA)
- Henrik Forsius (Finland)
- J. A. Hildes (Canada)
- Ole Wasz-Hockert (Finland)
- V.P. Kaznacheev (USSR)
- Fred Milan (USA)
- Otto Schaefer (Canada)

# Who Started the movement? Earl Albrecht, Ole Wasz Hockert, Fred Milan, Yuri Nikitkun, many others









## Nordic Council for Arctic Medical Research

- Established 1966
- Governmental support

Or NoSAMF

# Symposium on Circumpolar Health Related Problems





# 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health (sic)

- The first to organize the series of symposia was C. Earl Albrecht
- Had been the Commissioner of Health for the Territory of Alaska (later State of AK)
- University of Alaska, Fairbanks
- Arctic Institute of North America
- A.B. Coylar

# 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health (sic)

- 100 scientists
- Canada, Denmark, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, USA, USSR
- Land and People
- Pulmonary disease, viral disease, environmental stress, contaminants....
- ....and a look to the future

# 1st International Symposium on Circumpolar Health (sic)

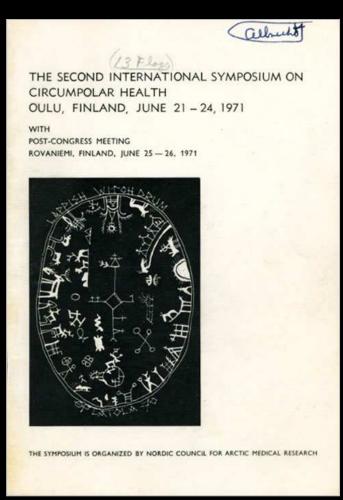
- a.k.a.: Symposium on Circumpolar Health Related Problems
- July 23-26, 1967
- 39 articles in first volume
- 8 in second volume (? procrastinators?)
- 229 pages + 52 pages

### Agreed to meet again in 3-4 years

- Nordic Council for Arctic Medical Research (est.)
- Russian Academy of Medical Sciences –
   Siberian Branch (est.)
- Future American Society of Circumpolar Health
- Future Canadian Society of Circumpolar Health

# 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- Oulu, Finland
- June 21 -24, 1971
- Ole Wasz-Hockert, Henrik Forsius, Jorma Hirvonen
- Increased participation
- 8 Soviet scientists



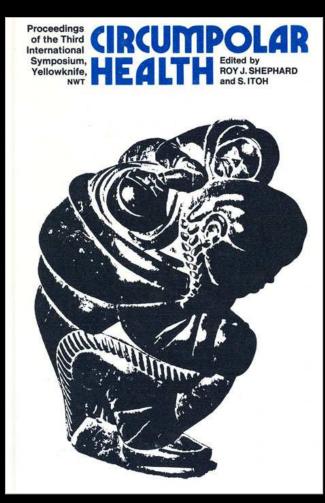
# 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- 32 articles
- 250 pages
- Geography
- Environment
- Community planning
- Public health
- Effects of cold
- Infectious disease

Acta socio-medica Scandinavica OULU, FINLAND, JUNE 21 - 24, 1971 Supplement 6. 1972

# 3<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- Yellowknife, Northwest Territory, Canada
- July 8 -11, 1974
- 99 articles,664 pages
- Otto Schaefer, Walter MacKenzie, J.A. Hildes
- First to feature Nutrition aspects of all topics
- Cardiovascular disease

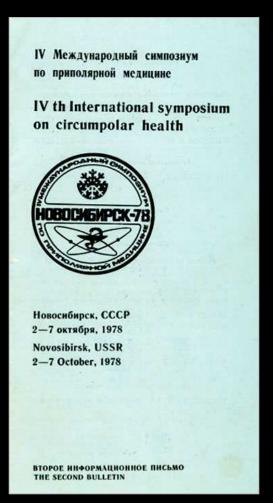


4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health



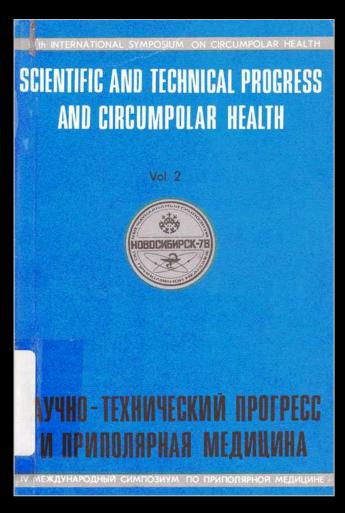
# 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- Novosibirsk, Siberia
- October 2 -7, 1978
- V.P. Kaznacheev, V.I. Turchinsky
- WHO Sponsored
- Ole Wasz- Hockert visited several visits



# 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- 237 abstracts
- English and Russian
- Native and Newcomer
- Medical peculiarities of the North
- Medical-Sanitary insurance of the population



### Seminar Leaders



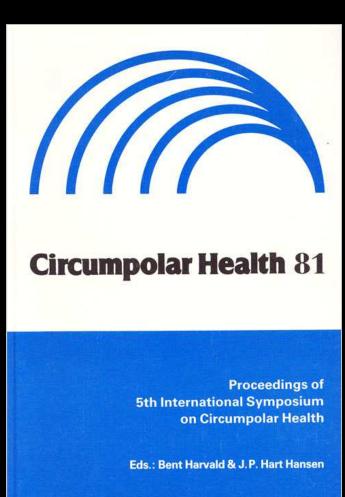






# 5th International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- Copenhagen, Denmark
- August 9 -13, 1981
- 158 articles
- 632 pages
- Bent Harvald, Jens Peder Hart Hansen
- What comes after government sponsorship?



# 6th International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

- Anchorage, Alaska
- May 13 -18, 1984
- 106 articles
- 450 pages
- Fred Milan, Helen Beirne, E. M. Scott
- APHA produced the National Arctic Human Health Policy

**CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH 84** 

Proceedings of the Sixth International Symposium on Circumpolar Health

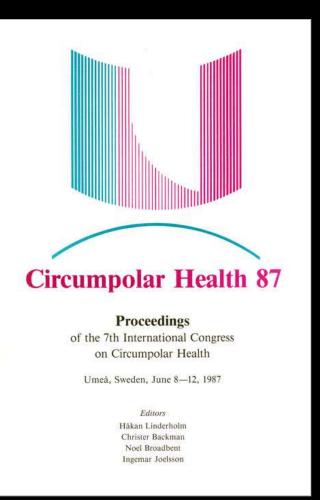
> Edited By Robert Fortuine

## International Union for Circumpolar Health

- Formation announced 1982
- Stockholm, March 1986
- Constitution signed
- President: Bent Harvald (Denmark)
- Vice President: Brian Postl (Canada)
- Treasurer and Secretary General: Ted Mala

# 7th International Congress on Circumpolar Health

- Umea, Sweden
- June 8 -12, 1987
- 178 articles, 704 pp
- Hakan Linderholm, Christer Backman
- The first General Assembly of the Union of Circumpolar Health



#### Robert Fortuine, Earl Albrecht, Ole Wasz Hockert, Ray Dieter, Tom Nighswander





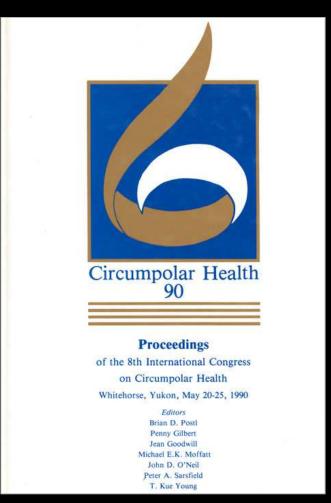




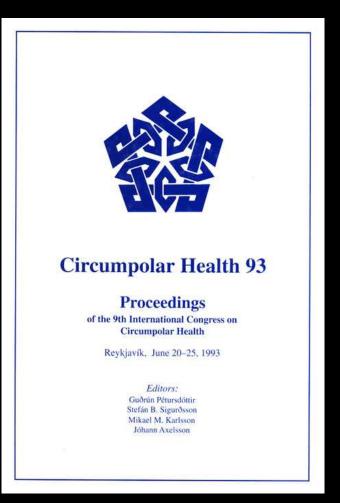
### **Maturation Process**

- J.A. Hildes: Researcher, mentor
- Died 1984
- Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health
- Donner Foundation Grant
- Medals struck
- First awarded in Umea, 1987
- Outstanding representative from each
- Highest award in circumpolar health

- Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada
- May 20 -25, 1990
- 240 articles
- 777 pages
- Brian Postl, Doug Bell, Kue Young



- Reykjavik, Iceland
- June 20 25, 1993
- 194 articles
- 762 pages
- Johann Axelson, Gudrun Petursdottir
- Transfer of responsibility to Natives



- Anchorage, Alaska
- May 19 -24, 1996
- 148 articles
- 746 pages
- John Middaugh, Frank Pauls, Grace Egeland George Conway
- Internet use

#### Circumpolar Health 96



#### **Proceedings**

Of the
Tenth International Congress
on Circumpolar Health

May 19-24, 1996 · Anchorage, Alaska

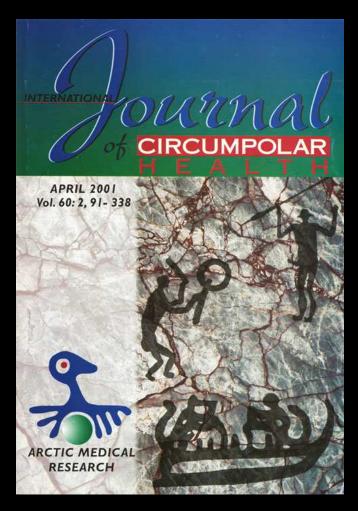
Editors

Robert Fortuine • George A. Conway Cynthia D. Schraer • Michael J. Dimino • Carl M. Hild Juli Braund-Allen

### End of Era: Government Funding

- 1996
- Nordic Council of Ministers
- Discontinue funding of NCAMR
- New strategies for other funding sources
- Partnerships

- Harstad, Norway
- June 5 -9, 2000
- 70 articles
- 522 pages
- Borge Ytterstad, Bendiks Norman
- 2 vol. of IJCH within one year of ICCH
- Internet registration



## Neil Murphy's Circumpolar Health Rules to Live By

• Rule No. 2

 Go to sessions outside your field of expertise

### **l**f.....

 Evaluation of Serum Procathepsin B and Cystatin B as Possible Biomarkers of Ovarian Cancer

or

 Genetic Polymorphisms in Carnitine Palmitoyltransferase 1A Gene are Associated with Variation in Body Composition and Fasting Lipid Traits in Yup'ik Eskimos

# George Conway preserves Union

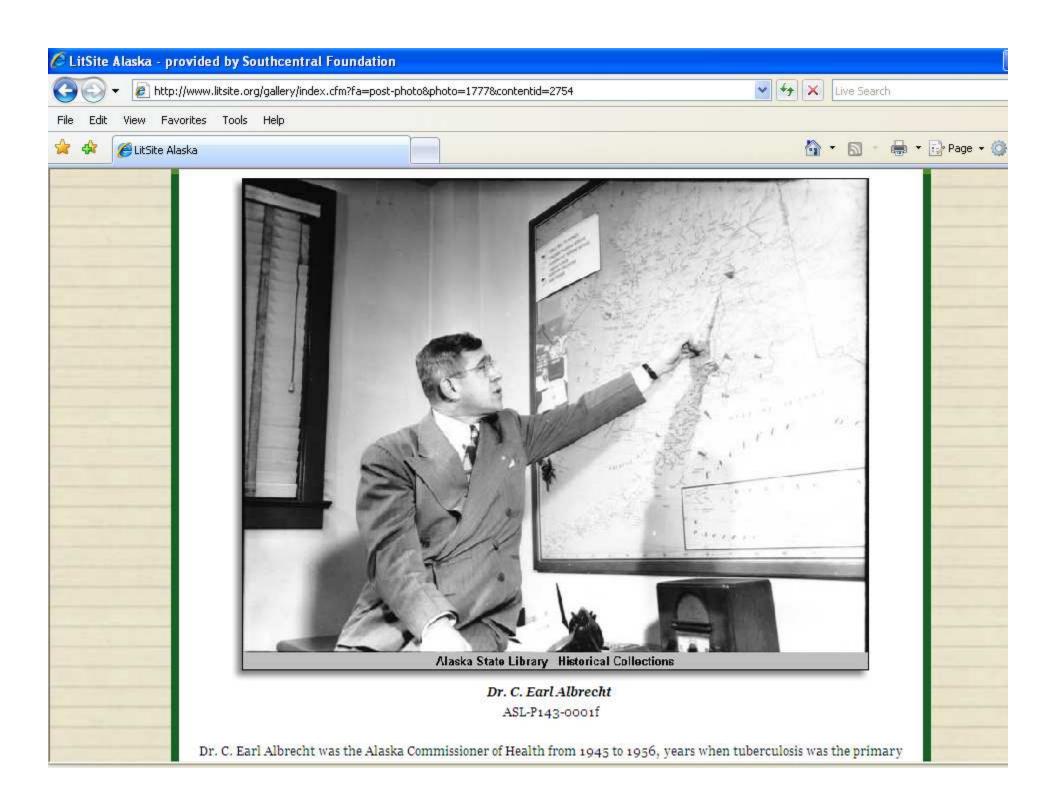


## Neil Murphy's Circumpolar Health Rules to Live By

• Rule No. 3

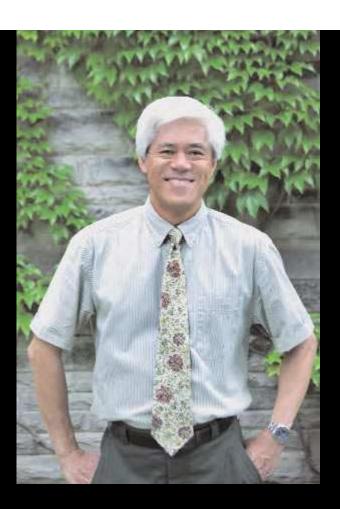
Be nice to everyone

(You will see them again, when you least suspect it)







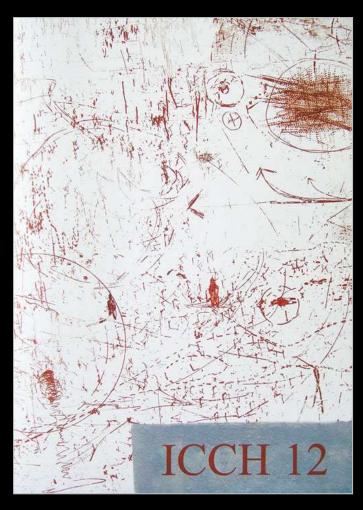


### Change in Academic Focus

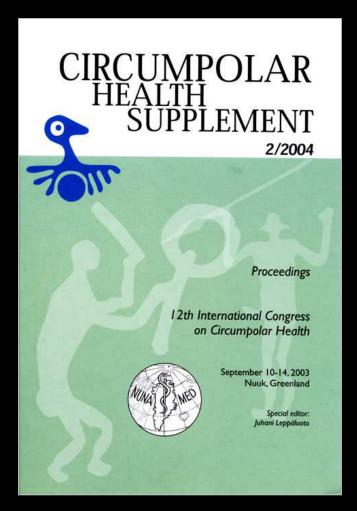
- Shift from biology to sociology
- Epidemiology of Indigenous peoples
- Health care delivery
- Physical effects on physiology and health

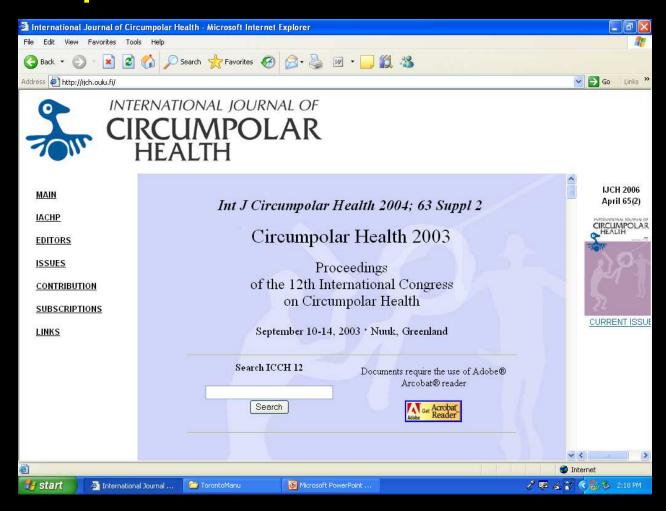
 Bjerregaard, Young, Curtis IJCH Circumpolar Health 2003:23-29

- Nuuk, Greenland
- September 10 -14,
   2003
- Thomas Steensgaard, Peter Bjerregaard, Anders Koch, Gert Mulvad



- 71 articles
- 413 pages
- Hard copy
- Online
- Published in International Journal of Circumpolar Health (2004; 63 Suppl 2)





- Retrospective studies 79% (35/71)
- Prospective elements 50.7% (36/71)
- Only 2 were true international collaboratives, e.g., Dudarev – contaminants Russia; Schnohr – Obesity Greenland

• (Murphy IJCH 2005 64(3): 269-280)

### ICCH12: Level of data

- Observational
- Level III 90%
- Case / control, cohort / interventional
- Level II 12.6%
- Randomized
- Level I 0%

### ICCH12: Trends

- More rapid dissemination of data
- More analytic documentation of study design
  - Objectives, Study Design, Methods, Results and Conclusions
- Wider dissemination



#### Hart Hansen Award

Dr. Jens Hart Hansen (1936-1998) sought to improve circumpolar health by mentoring emerging researchers and health workers. At every International Congress on Circumpolar Health, CSCH awards a Canadian an emerging circumpolar health researcher/worker fellowship from the Jens Peder Hart Hansen Memorial Fund. The purpose of this fellowship is to support emerging circumpolar health researchers/workers to encourage their continued efforts to improve circumpolar health. Similar awards are made by each adhering body of the International Union for Circumpolar Health.

Slideshow

More information on the life and times of Dr. Hansen can be found here [L.].

Canadian winners of this award include:

#### Circumpolar Events

ICCH 15 Fairbanks, Alaska

Starts: August 5, 2012 Ends: August 11, 2012

Location: Fairbanks, Alaska

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### Mentoring

- Jens Peder Hart Hansen: simple, persuasive mentoring methods
- Award started at ICCH12
- Each Adhering Body nominates
- Emerging health care workers
- Privately funded
- Alaska Community Foundation

# International Journal of Circumpolar Health

1972-1983: Nordic Council for Arctic
 Medical Research Report - 36 volumes

 1984-1996: Arctic Medical Research volumes 37-55

 1997: International Journal of Circumpolar Health - Volume 56





#### INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF

### CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH



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#### Latest Articles:



The role of Indigenous knowledge in environmental health risk management in Yukon, Canada

by Katelyn A. Friendship and Chris M. Furgal (Published: 27 July 2012)

A decade of research in Inuit children, youth, and maternal health in Canada: areas of concentrations and scarcities

by Amanda J. Sheppard and Ross Hetherington (Published: 26 July 2012)

Frequent use of primary health care service in Greenland: an opportunity for undiagnosed disease case-finding

by Michael Lynge Pedersen et al. (Published: 24 July 2012)





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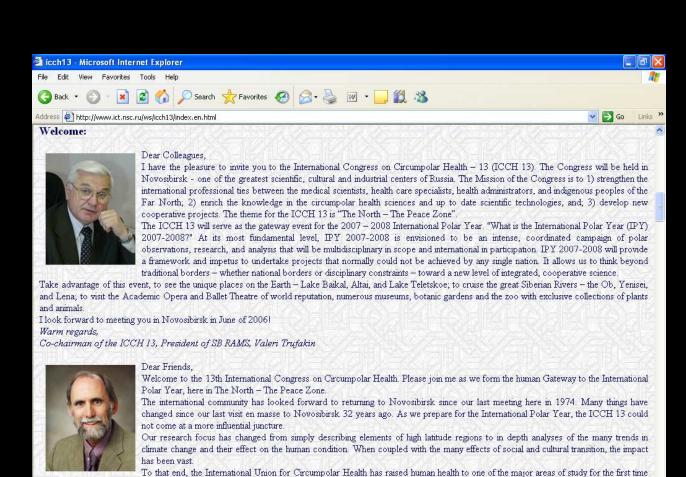
# International Journal of Circumpolar Health

- Financial considerations
- Peer review
- Large volumes of the past
- International Association of Circumpolar Health Publishers
- University cooperatives: UAA, Manitoba
- Citation Index candidate

### ICCH13



### ICCH13



TorontoManu

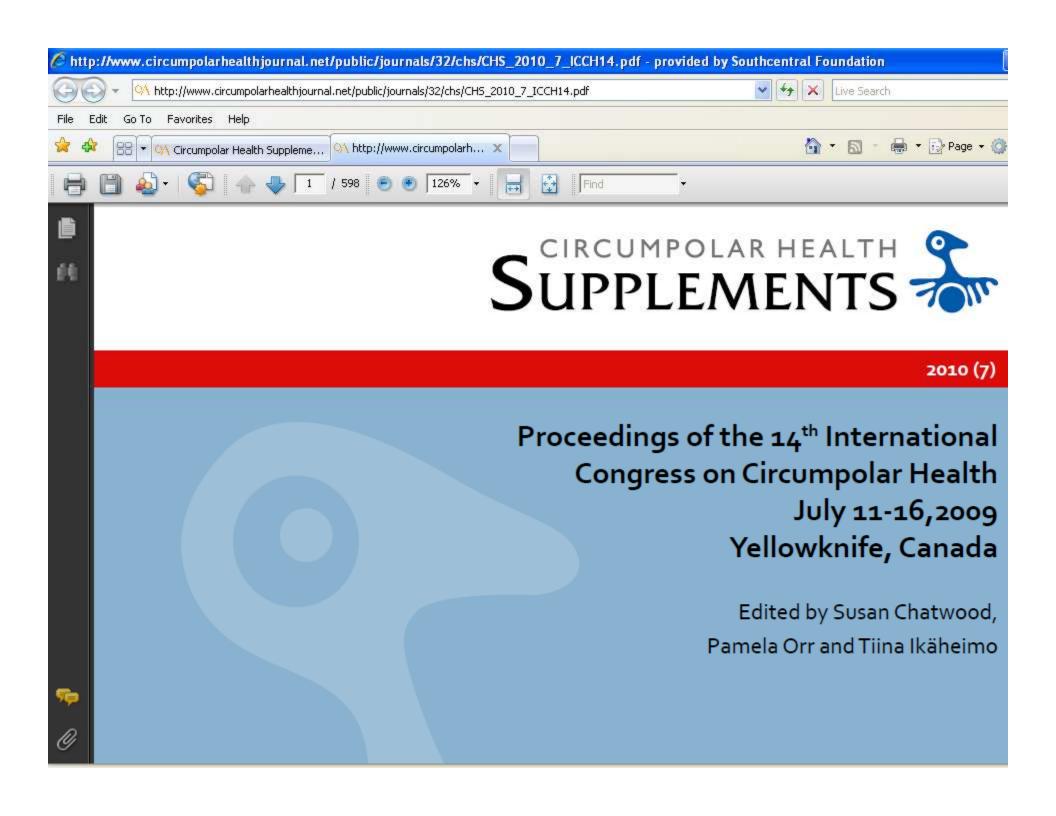
in an International Polar Year. Our main focus has been through the Arctic Human Health Initiative, among our many other preparations to maximize the

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## Rounding the corner

- Indexed manuscripts
- Rapid dissemination
- Online publication within 1 year
- Study design
- Economy of scale
- Peer Review







## Pam Orr breaks glass ceiling





#### The Arctic Council and other **Circumpolar Health Relationships 2012** Arctic Research Commission US Arctic Research **US** Representative **Policy** Department of State Arctic Goals and Office of Ocean & Polar Affairs Council Objectives Interagency Arctic Research **Policy Committee** Arctic Arctic Country Representatives, Foreign Ministers, Senior Arctic Officials, Permanent Research Plan Participants(Indigenous Peoples Organizations 2014-2018 Observers, (NGO's, Countries) **AMAP** SDWG Sustainable Development **Arctic Monitoring &** Assessment Program Working Group **HHAG AHHEG** Internationa Arctic Food & Mental Health Circumpola Human Diet & Health Care Climate Injuries Water Behavioral Inequities Nutrition Health Delivery Change Security Health Surveillanc Initiative ICCH15 **International Union for Circumpolar Health** International Conference on Circumpolar Health 15 **Working Groups** Fairbanks Alaska August 2012 Members Birth Defects & Genetics American Society for Circumpolar Health Infectious Diseases Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health Maternal & child Health International Network Danish/Greenlandic for Circumpolar Health **Arctic Health Policy** of Circumpolar Health Nordic Society for Circumpolar Health Indigenous Peoples Health Siberian Branch Russian Academy Medical Sciences Tobacco & Health Researchers (INCHR)

Food security

### Seeking to.....

- Increase international collaborative (s)
- Study design improvement: Interventional studies
- Increase speed and breadth of dissemination, e.g., 6 months
- International Network of Circumpolar Health Researchers
- Publish abstracts online realtime
- Stem onslaught of chronic diseases

### **IUCH**

- Formally established in 1981
- An international non-profit, non-governmental organization
- A union of all the circumpolar health societies across the Arctic
  - The American Society for Circumpolar Health
  - The Canadian Society for Circumpolar Health
  - The Nordic Society for Arctic Medicine
  - The Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences
  - The Danish/Greenlandic Society for Circumpolar Health



### The IUCH Council

- The Council consists of 13 members
  - -2 from each adhering body = 10
  - 2 elected by the General Assembly\* = 2
  - -1 from the Scientific Committee for = 1Antarctic Research (SCAR) 13

\* Ad Hoc members of the council A delegate from the WHO regional office for Europe may attend the council meetings as an observer

## **IUCH Objectives**

Promote international cooperation in circumpolar health

 Encourage & support research and exchange of scientific information

Promote education & public awareness



## **IUCH Objectives**

Provide means of communication with other scientific organizations

 Promote participation of indigenous peoples in circumpolar health

## **IUCH General Assembly**

- Chaired by the President of the IUCH
- Meets every 3 years during the ICCH meeting
- Consists of all registered members of the Congress



#### **IUCH General Assembly**

- Each member of the Assembly has 1 vote
- All decisions are by simple majority
  - If a tie, the chairman has the deciding vote
- Any information from the General Assembly is advisory to the IUCH Council

## **IUCH General Assembly**

#### Considers:

- The Council reports of activities
- Financial reports
- Proposals for budget
- Any resolutions brought to the floor

#### Elects:

2 delegates (Ad Hoc) to the Council



## **IUCH Strengths**

Elected representation from across the Arctic countries

- Working Groups
- Arctic Council observer status
- Information Sharing via the Congress & website
  - www.iuch.net

## **IUCH Strengths**

 Strong ties to the International Journal of Circumpolar Health

 Longstanding history of important work in the circumpolar region

Triennial Congress on Circumpolar Health

Then.....

Store Outside Your Door Initiative

Are you rich?

#### What the IUCH is not

It is not a research funding agency

(to become such would require a major retooling of personnel, funding etc....)

It is not a program funding agency

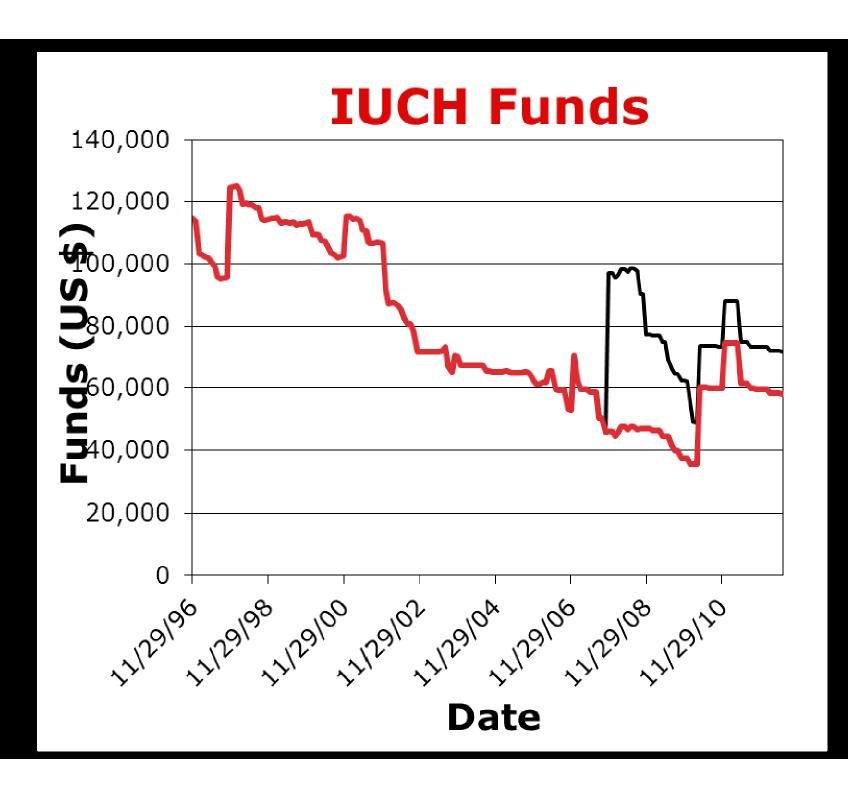
(to become such would require a major retooling of personnel, funding etc....)

Why not just spend all the IUCH money?

You will make it through your ICCH, but the next Congress Adhering body may have start out from zero and borrow money to pay for basics, e. g., awards, travel 'at large'

An intervening dry (funding) patch

Poor ICCH funding has sunk Adhering bodies in the past



#### The International Union for Circumpolar Health – an important actor in circumpolar health

The International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH) was established in 1981 as an international non-governmental organization, with members, adhering bodies and affiliates throughout the circumpolar regions to address a long-standing need for the exchange of scientific, medical and public health research data of concern to the circumpolar regions. The health and wellness of circumpolar peoples are the focus of the IUCH, the only organization (dedicated to health in the Arctic and Antarctic) which formally brings together members of the national circumpolar societies from all the Arctic countries. For more information, please visit www.tuch.net.

The objectives of the IUCH are to (1) promote international co-operation in circumpolar health; (2) encourage and support research and exchange of scientific information in the circumpolar health sciences; (3) promote education and public awareness of circumpolar health; (4) provide a means of communication with other scientific organizations; and (5) promote and encourage the participation of Indigenous peoples in circumpolar health affairs.

Key strengths of the IUCH include:

- Elected representatives from the national circumpolar societies from all the Arctic countries (the only circumpolar institution thus constituted).
- Focused working groups in a multitude of fields.

- Observer status on the Arctic Council (AC).
- The International Congress on Ctrcumpolar Health (ICCH) every 3 years.
- Strong ties to the International Journal of Circumpolar Health enabling IUCH working group members to publish findings, presented at the ICCH meetings.
- Information sharing via the IUCH website and the ICCH.
- Awards and scholarships.

Working groups (WGs) are comprised of individuals and institutions focused on specific health topics. They promote and encourage closer collaboration to improve the health of circumpolar populations through the exchange of practical experience and research data, and the eventual development of comparable systems and strategies for conducting surveillance, surveys and studies. The WGs are officially recognized by and report to the IUCH. Of the many WGs that have been created over the past 3 decades, 6 are currently active (Infectious Disease, Maternal and Child Health, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Birth Defects, Indigenous Peoples and Food Security) and numerous others are in the process of being reactivated. An example of some of the outstanding work that has been accomplished by IUCH WGs is the output of the Infectious Disease WG (IDWG). Founded in 2000, the IDWG established circumpolar surveillance of infectious diseases across all the Arctic

#### In the future...

- Become an individual paid membership organization versus Adhering Bodies?
  - This was discussed at the origin of the IUCH
- Merger of INCHR and IACHP to get a full vote on the IUCH Council?

International Association of Circumpolar Health Publishers 8 full members, 5 associate members

#### Has we come full circle, yet?

- Perhaps not quite yet.....
- Then how about ICCH 16 in Oulu, Finland in the June of 2015 ??

How about Nuuk in 2018?

See you here.....if you aren't too dizzy

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