



## Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada

June 2, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

The vision of the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada (IPAC) has embedded in it our belief that we need more First Nations, Inuit and Métis physicians and this belief is shared by many others which is evident by the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative.

One of the difficulties in health human resource planning is the lack of current and accurate information about Indigenous health professionals to serve as a baseline for both planning and evaluation purposes. The last recalled “counting” of Indigenous physicians occurred in the mid-1990’s, and is the basis of the oft-quoted number of 150 – 200 Indigenous doctors currently in Canada. The truth is we don’t really know, but we recognize the importance of obtaining this information. It is our intent to collect this information in a way that respects the rights of those we represent, such as rights of confidentiality, ownership and privacy.

IPAC has developed the **Health Human Resource Data Collection Form** which is a development of data collection, storage, analysis and sharing of collected information guided by the principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) and policies developed to be utilized for the data collection.

The IPAC Board of Directors has approved the attached policies and data collection form for dissemination to its members, partners and contacts in hopes that forwarding to a large audience will bring a large number of responses therefore receiving a close resemblance to the actual number of Indigenous Physicians, Residents and Students in Canada.

In May 2009 IPAC disseminated the Data Collection Survey and supporting documents to its members, partners and contacts and is continuing to solicit the data with a second call for information.

Please review the attached policies, complete the data collection form which is provided to you in a PDF fill-able form. The form can be submitted via email to [info@ipac-amic.org](mailto:info@ipac-amic.org) or faxed to (204)-221-4849. Additional information is available on line at [www.ipac-amic.org](http://www.ipac-amic.org).

Should you have any questions in regards to the policies, the process or on completing the form please do not hesitate to contact the IPAC office at (204) 219-0099.

Regards,

Kandice Léonard  
Executive Director

Improving Indigenous Health Status

[www.ipac-amic.org](http://www.ipac-amic.org)

to the Highest Attainable Level.