



## First Nations (Alberta) Technical Services Advisory Group

*"Be a leader with integrity by cooperatively providing a safe sustainable future for First Nations through quality technical services."*



# Animals and Human Health Program A Component of Safe Communities



# Who I am?

- Program Awareness Specialist
  - Animals and Human Health Program
  - Water Public Awareness Campaign
  - Skills Link Program



# Animals and Human Health (AHH)

## Brief Program History

- Formerly the West Nile Virus Program (WNV). Why WNV?
- Focus on community events, schools, fairs and exhibits
- Focus of the program: educate and promote awareness





# Animals and Human Health

- Why focus on AHH?
  - Based on successes of the WNV campaign, requests from schools continued year to year
  - Hantavirus and dog bites have also been a health and safety concern
  - Based on the successes, the program progressed to include these topics



# How the Program Works

- Based on the West Nile Virus campaign, the best way to deliver information was through youth and community events
- 2 ways of the material being presented
  - Formal (powerpoint) and informal

# How the Program Works cont'd

- Most popular? – informal presentations
- We attend community events such as pow wow's, treaty day events, diabetes walks, etc
- We hand out information and promotional items, display information



# Dog Bite Prevention

- History
  - In 2007-2008 a qualitative study was completed to look at issues of dog population
  - In 2009-2010 the research was expanded
- The interviews assisted in understanding the issue and provide guidance on how to move forward



# Dog Bite Prevention

- Currently:
  - Based on the study, participants recognized that education was key for a successful Animal Control Campaign
- Education is a key component to the program
  - Tools that are being developed are for geared for program managers and youth



# Dog Bite Prevention...Understanding

- Education- how are tools currently being developed?
- Working with a dog behaviourist and through various partnerships, (animal clinics) vets and various rescue groups have volunteered



# Collaboration and Planning

- Attending animal spay and neuter clinics occur in the spring & summer



- This provides a great opportunity to connect with various rescue groups and utilize the clinic to share information on dog bite prevention

# Collaboration and Planning

- TSAG has partnered with Siksika's Animal Control Team.
- Members of the team are present today
- As previously mentioned, the program attends spay and neuter clinics -



# What is an Animal Clinic?



Thank you 😊

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