

National Tribal Environmental Health Think Tank
Year 3, Meeting 3
March 24-26, 2015 / Atmore, AL

Meeting Notes and Highlights

Purpose and Overview

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's National Center for Environmental Health and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Office of Tribal Affairs, in partnership with CDC's Office for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support and the American Public Health Association, convened a meeting of the National Tribal Environmental Health Think Tank at the Wind Creek Casino and Hotel in Atmore, Alabama on March 24-26, 2015.

On Tuesday, March 24, NTEH Think Tank members provided the group with updates about their work. Antoinette Angulo from Creative Narrations presented more information about the process of digital storytelling and walked members through an exercise designed to help them begin drafting their stories. Afterwards, the group participated in a story circle, sharing their drafts or ideas to the group and received immediate feedback. Later in the afternoon, the group went on a Tour of Poarch Creek, visiting the health center, assisted living facilities, museum, hoop house, sacred grounds and other areas of the reservation.

On Wednesday, March 25, the Think Tank discussed partnership engagement and heard an update on the Communications Package. Members continued to work on their individual digital stories.

On Thursday, March 26, Members discussed the future of the Think Tank, including a three-year comprehensive evaluation and planning for Year 4.

A list of action items coming out of this meeting can be found in [Appendix A](#), and a list of the meeting participants can be found in [Appendix B](#).

Think Tank Member Updates:

Rosemary Ahtuanguak, Tribal Liaison for the Alaska Wilderness League

Rosemary recently attended the North Slope Scenarios Process, which was a Healthy Communities 2040 visioning process. Shell Corporation announced that it will be drilling in the Arctic this summer. Native communities throughout Alaska have many concerns the drilling will make traditional hunting and gathering practices vulnerable. Although discouraged, she does not want to leave young people and students to bear the brunt of working on these issues. The worries about environmental health have been very real, evidenced by the increased effort of oil and gas drilling and the increase of flares. Rosemary's elders have all passed away. When she is visiting communities, many ask her about reproductive health and birth defects. There is great concern for the health effects of these activities. Rosemary has decided to run for Assembly Member of North Slope and will be beginning her campaign in July.

Isaiah Brokenleg, Epidemiologist for the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center has received a grant from CDC, primarily for chronic disease prevention work. The Center has picked four tribes that will be funded through

this grant, and Isaiah will be doing site visits. He will also travel in response to requests to present his tobacco study and assisting with the hiring of two staff.

Susan Hanson, Environmental Consultant for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe

Susan has worked on the Eastern Michaud Flats Superfund Site for many years. The FMC Operable Unit is largely within the Fort Hall Reservation and is going through the remedial design phase. The Tribe is trying to provide oversight at site but EPA has not seemed to acknowledge tribal sovereignty at the site. The Tribe is only allowed to be on the site when an EPA representative is present. EPA hired a contractor to be on site, and until recently only had time to do tours about four hours a day. EPA has now hired another contractor to be on site. The Tribes find it a constant struggle to get roving air monitor locations placed downstream of work being performed. The slag pile at FMC contains metals and radioactivity. FMC is excavating and moving slag throughout the site, using it for material to regrade the site. Elemental phosphorus continues to be uncovered when excavation occurs and burns, generating phosphorus pentoxide. FMC uses rollers and large trucks to drive over and compact the material.

Jurisdiction at the site continues to be a contentious issue. In April 2014, a Tribal court of appeals decisions found the Tribes do have jurisdiction over FMC. FMC has appealed this decision. It is a long and arduous process, and by the time the case is decided, the remedial design work will be done. FMC Corporation agreed to fund an independent study, yet to be completed, through a U.S. Department of Justice Consent Decree to look at the health impacts from FMC's emissions to residents living on the reservation.

The J.R. Simplot plant makes up the other Operable Unit of the Eastern Michaud Flats Superfund Site. They are an operating facility contributing to groundwater contamination. The groundwater contamination enters the surface water and flows onto the reservation and down to the Tribe's sacred lands. This facility is expanding their gypsum stack, a known contributor to the groundwater contamination. The Tribe views it as an expansion of the Superfund site, but the EPA only views it as expanding operations. A gypsum stack is leaking, and large quantities are leaking onto federal land.

Past mining operations, where ore was mined to be processed in the facilities that make up the Eastern Michaud Flats Superfund site remedial investigations, are underway to determine the breadth of contamination. The Tribe sees a need to sample chokecherries, but the companies involved and EPA are insistent that they need to first understand how chokecherries and other vegetation are used by tribal members. The Tribe has already agreed to share the amounts used and the routes of exposure. The companies are also picking and choosing which parts of the plant they want to sample without consulting the tribes, and the leaf, shoot, and berry of the choke-cherry are all used for various activities and reasons. The EPA will not apply tribal cleanup standards as Applicable, Relevant, and Appropriate Requirements through Superfund process. EPA issued an Interim Record of Decision which does not require application of ARARS.

Kristin Hill, Director of the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center

A taconite mine had been proposed in Wisconsin, which would have been the largest open pit mine in the world. There is significant tribal resistance to a mine, and the tribes are doing their best to limit the permitting process through the legislature. Fortunately, the mining company pulled out of the proposal. Many speculate that it was due to the price of iron ore dropped

significantly. If this is the case, if the price rises again, it seems likely that they would return. However, they are trying to use this respite as an opportunity to look into health impact assessments and other resources to stop them next time.

For the National Environmental Health Tracking Network project, there has been progress in the partnership between CDC and the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan (tribal site in urban Detroit). The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center is fairly certain that they will be funded a second year. They are now conducting site visits to discuss health priorities and environmental concerns. The goal of this first year will be to establish the feasibility of community-based environmental tracking. It is loosely modeled after the state and federal tracking system. Whether any of the tribal data will be incorporated into the state data systems has not yet been determined. The Center is talking to state partners about the possibility of tribes hosting their own environmental tracking portal. If enough tribes sign on and want to participate in the project, eventually it may be possible to have tribal data sit side by side in aggregate to preserve each community identity. There needs to be recognition of potential uses of tracking data in tribal communities, and state recognition of the importance of data protection for tribal communities. There is a lot of enthusiasm around this project. Kristin will be presenting about the tracking network at this year's APHA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Jennifer Irving, AISI Project Coordinator at South Dakota Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduates Program (SD GEARUP)

The Oglala Sioux Tribe is celebrating President Obama's denial of the Keystone XL pipeline through their homelands. Jennifer is no longer serving as the Legislative Liaison for the Oglala Sioux Tribe's President. She is a Project Coordinator of the American Indian Scholars Initiative (AISI) a project of SD GearUp. GearUp is a six-week intensive summer program, where students work on academic areas in order to prepare themselves for college. AISI is an extension of SD GearUp and will work with students year-round to prepare for college. Jennifer is developing a mentor-focused toolkit that is designed to assist college students to mentor high schools. The curriculum is designed to specifically for American Indian students and will serve as a roadmap to college.

Additionally, Jennifer is also working on suicide prevention efforts on their communities. Since Christmas they have had seven teen suicide completions in the tribal community, and even more have attempted. SAMHSA is working with the Tribe, and she is working with others towards building a culturally appropriate school-based plan/approach for ideations, attempts and completions.

Ralph McCullers, Tribal Environmental Director for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians

Poarch Creek continues to fight the obesity epidemic. They have made some measurable strides and have documented the progress toward improving the health of their people, but have a distance left to go. They have also struggled with the loss of a health administrator that brought their systems online. The Poarch Creek Environmental Department also continues to struggle with funding. A recent win is that they were recently able to convince Poarch Creek's IT director to display real time meteorological information online. Soon, the Tribe's home page will display a button where tribal members can get real time weather data, which is critical for the area since the weather is extremely variable and volatile. Ralph views the next step as parametric air monitoring. An issue that has come up is that EPA holds the Tribe's data up to QAP research quality assurance standards that the Tribe has difficulty adhering to due to lack of resources and

personnel. The Tribe does not believe QAP quality data is necessary for the intended uses of the data.

Carol Rollins, Director of Environmental Health for the Ho-Chunk Nation

The Ho-Chunk Nation is currently the only tribe working with neighboring counties on a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). They are trying to set up an unbiased study on sand mining and health effects. The partners had their first meeting where Carol learned about the HIA process. They are putting together a preliminary scope of work. She expects it to be about a year and a half long process. The Tribe is very much against sand mining and do not see any benefits. Wisconsin has wonderful aquifers and natural resources, and the sand has filtered their water for so many years. Mining the sand is a very scary thing for the community, and some have been experiencing problems with their wells, finding minerals in the water that were not there before. The health department is trying to communicate risk and reassure people that they are doing a lot of testing. They are keeping track of the water levels in their high capacity wells, watching the amount of water sand mines are pumping. The health department is also working with the legislature about their communicable disease policy. The measure had failed two or three times previously, but it now states that any mandatory isolation or quarantine on tribal lands has to be court ordered through the tribal court. This agreement with the county can be discontinued at any time, so the tribal government felt they could retain control. That policy is now in place in the county collocated with the main quarters. The next step is taking it to the other counties where the population resides. The Tribe also received a large block of land, 1500 acres in southern Wisconsin where an ammunition plant previously resided. The army has been doing cleanup there for years, and the Tribe is intending to use the land as prairie restoration.

Syndi Smallwood, Environmental Consultant

Syndi is back in California for now. She is an environmental consultant and will hopefully be a certified life coach in June. The NTAA national budget remains stagnant. They will be submitting a National Tribal Air Budget to the National Tribal Operations Committee, then forwarding to OMB. She is working on adding more charts and graphs to provide more visual impact, showing continued disparity and need. The American Lung Association is looking at their report. There are data gaps in air monitoring stations and almost no tribal data, and Syndi believes tribes could fill some of those gaps. Tribes in rural areas could particularly benefit from filling those data gaps.

Tour of Poarch Creek:

The NTEH Think Tank greatly enjoyed the tour of Poarch Creek and deeply appreciated Ralph's efforts in coordinating with the health center, assisted living facility, and museum. Members noted that it was great to see the accomplishments of the Tribe, and that the museum did a wonderful job putting the Tribe's efforts into a historical context. They also noted that some of the critical ingredients for the Tribe's success may be the community unity built in order to get federal recognition of the Tribe and the fertility and long growing season of the land. Additionally, the Tribe has leveraged the income from the casino well to benefit the entire community. The group was impressed with the Tribe's infrastructure – the closeness of housing, recreational areas, and health center.

OSTLTS Updates:

Transition to OSTLTS - Annabelle Allison, Deputy Associate Director, OSTLTS Tribal Support Unit

Now that NCEH/ATSDR's Office of Tribal Affairs has merged with Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support's Tribal Support Unit, Annabelle is better situated to expand the NTEH Think Tank's horizons and work with more offices across CDC's Center, Institute, and Offices. The strategic plan is still a vital document and Dr. Brysse, ATSDR's new director, has indicated that tribal issues in environmental health is one of his priorities. At OSTLTS Annabelle now has access to staff that will begin to work more with the Think Tank. OSTLTS has now appointed a new associate director of the TSU, Carmen Clelland, a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. He has 26 years of healthcare experience, much of that in the pharmaceutical realm. His official start date is April 20, 2015. The TSU is eager to get him onboard and hopes that he can provide additional stability and sustainability.

Tribal Advisory Committee

The TAC meeting took place February 11-12, 2015. It was a very productive meeting, particularly now that all of the TAC seats have been filled (from 12 HIS regions throughout the country). Only one person was unable to make the meeting. The new people onboard seemed to add a revitalized energy to the meeting, bringing lively discussion. There were a lot of questions around how funding works at CDC, how much goes to AI/AN populations, and how the money gets there – through state and local governments or directly to tribes. There were constant reminders about the importance of CDC continuing to think about ways to get additional funding to tribes. The CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion put out a FOA last year which directly funded up to 11 tribal organizations and 11 or more tribes looking at health in a comprehensive way, including health, nutrition, obesity, and diabetes.

Working Effectively with Tribal Governments –

There are two upcoming WETG courses offered to CDC and ATSDR, beginning April 27th and September 14th. OSTLTS is hearing a lot of support for the course and starting to have serious dialogue about institutionalizing it. They are attempting to get the course to be as close to mandatory as possible to staff that have duties with AI/AN populations. Additionally, they have heard that individuals from the Seneca Nation will be offering a four-day WETG course, and there has been interest across other entities that want to see similar courses. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), a worker safety organization, has asked for training and they are in discussions about how to potentially best tailor the course for their needs.

Members discussed the potential of marketing the course to schools of public health to integrate content into their curricula.

Tribal Public Health Institute

Kristin has been serving on the Tribal Public Health Institute Advisory Board, which has launched into a [feasibility study](#) on establishing a Tribal Public Health Institute (PHI). PHI claims to be a neutral convener of government, academics, private organizations, and others to work through public health issues and problems. Public Health Institutes typically seek funding from a variety of grants and resources. They can perform a number of roles, including serving as a convener offering neutrality when partners have different visions and providing consultation and resources to build public health infrastructure. The idea surfaced as Red Star, an independent tribal consulting business, brought together several partners and convened an advisory committee. The initiative has been growing, funded from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation then from public health institutes. It culminated in a tribal leaders forum in Phoenix, AZ last August with funders. There is a lot of

enthusiasm for building public health infrastructure through an entity that functions like a public health institute. There are PHI's in 35 states, but large stretches of the country do not have access, particularly in areas with large tribal presence. For more information visit Red Star's [website](#). Carol noted that the Wisconsin PHI has been very connected with tribes, meeting regularly, working with them on accreditation issues, and funding tribes for various activities.

Partner Engagement: Annabelle Allison, Deputy Associate Director, OSTLTS Tribal Support Unit

At the September meeting in DC, the Think Tank heard presentations from various partner organizations and agreed on some action items regarding partner engagement.

- *Children's Environmental Health Network* – Jerry attended a Wingspread Retreat. He said it was a good opportunity to learn from others in regard to what's happening in that area and that they were very receptive to him.
- *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development* – Jerilyn had volunteered to take the lead on some of the discussions around housing.
- *ASTHO* – was very interested in hosting a WETG course last December but timing did not allow. Surili will put Kristin in touch with Bob Vanderslice and begin that conversation.
- *APHL* – was very excited to meet with the Think Tank last September. Isaiah and Kristin have been working with two or three APHL staff on designing a process to learn how tribes interact with public health laboratories, and what their service satisfaction levels are so they can be more helpful to tribes. They will conduct a focus group in the next few weeks and from there, APHL will digest those results and work on a survey tool to be disseminated more widely to tribes across the country.
- *National Institutes of Health* – They succeeded in obtaining funding and are giving a course in December on Traditional Ecological Knowledge and a workshop for NIH staff.
- *National Environmental Health Partnership Council* – There has been a lot of transition occurring at CDC, APHA, and other organizations, so there were more people at the table this year's in-person meeting. The new dynamic also brought more questions and insight from different perspectives. The Partnership Council is typically made up of high-level professionals representing different associations and organizations coming together to do high-level strategic planning. A few years ago APHA and other partner organizations discussed the need for and how to best communicate environmental health and who does that work, in order to understand the gaps between what experts and what the public understands environmental health to be. This catalyzed the environmental health messaging project, facilitated by the FrameWorks Institute. The research culminated in the dissemination of metaphors and tools to help explain these gaps. At the in-person meeting, attendees went through a hands-on workshop, practicing using the research-based frames and applying them.

Communications Package Update: Aila Hoss, ORISE Fellow, OSTLTS

The communications package will consist of resources and documents members can share to educate others about the NTEH Think Tank's work.

- *Process Paper* – The process paper came out of a request from the Think Tank in Year 2. It discusses how the Think Tank was originally convened, membership selection, meeting structure, how the priorities were developed, outputs and work developed, and promising practices and lessons learned. Drafts were shared at the meetings in Rapid City and Washington, DC and that feedback was incorporated into the current document. Since then,

some of the language has been reframed to account for the merger of OTA with OSTLTS Tribal Support Unit. The document is very close to being ready to be put through the CDC clearing process, so this was a last opportunity to provide additional feedback.

- Feedback:
 - Remove any mention of tribal consultation to make sure anyone reading the document does not confuse the Think Tank's work with anything in that realm.
 - Provide clarification that the members are tribal representatives, and only representing their own expertise and experience in working with tribes.
- *Priorities document* –
 - Feedback:
 - Strong language from process paper around air is not present.
 - Suggestion to add an example of best practices within each priority area.
 - Table in Section 5: revisit which divisions work on each issue.
- *Member Bios* – Many thanks to all who have been in touch and sent in their bios. Only a couple are still outstanding. We would like to make sure each member approves their bio before the document is finalized. Ivana will email the document out to everyone. Please check your bio and let her know if you approve or if you have any feedback.
- *Digital Stories* – Think Tank members can continue to work on their digital stories during webinars with Creative Narrations throughout April and May.
- *PowerPoint template* – This will be finalized and distributed to the Think Tank members.

Evaluation: Surili Patel, Senior Program Manager of Environmental Health, APHA

Shattuck and Associates will be conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the NTEH Think Tank since its inception through the end of this year. Surili asked the members what types of questions they believe should be asked or what kind of feedback they believed could be useful to obtain.

- Feedback:
 - Demonstration of collegiality, increased sense of collaboration and connectedness among Think Tank members.
 - If you have a concern/question, do you feel comfortable sharing or reaching out to other Think Tank members?
 - Increase in familiarity and better understanding of the mission, programs, and processes across NCEH/ATSDR
 - Changes in networking and ability to work with centers across NCEH/ATSDR
 - Changes in networking and ability to work with agencies other than CDC
 - Changes in visibility of environmental health issues
 - Changes in the resources committed to environmental health issues
 - Changes in the visibility of environmental health careers, professional opportunities, internships, resources
 - Have you referred anyone from your organization or community to NCEH/ATSDR on any environmental or public health issue?
 - Have you referred anyone from your organization or community to another Think Tank member?
 - Craft measures out of/based on logic model (short, intermediate, long-term goals)
 - Increased technical expertise on environmental or public health issues
 - Have you discussed the Think Tank or the 6 priority areas in your work or community? (Providing examples)

- Changes in support of environmental health work from tribal governments
- For CDC staff:
 - Did the Think Tank inform NCEH/ATSDR during the (or through the) various engagement efforts?
 - Effect of Think Tank on CDC's work with tribes.
 - Have there been any impacts to CDC/ATSDR internships, FOAs, career development?
- Baseline assessment of the visibility of the Think Tank
 - Who has heard of us?
 - Do people know who participates in the Think Tank?

Planning for Year 4: Annabelle Allison, Deputy Associate Director, OSTLTS Tribal Support Unit

Working with other CDC CIOs –

OSTLTS provides a platform to increase the Think Tank's ability to work across CDC's Center, Institute, and Offices (CIOs). Education on what it means to work with tribes on a government to government basis is still needed. There is a need to build sustainability and institutionalize those values across offices. Offices have generally been pretty responsive to TSU, but members discussed possible offices to prioritize engagement.

- Potential collaboration with Office of Infectious Diseases.
- Would be interesting to explore National Center for HIV/ Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention.
- ATSDR – training modules that could be opened to the public about health assessments

What are we offering to tribes? – Members discussed that it would be great to have a resource toolkit to offer to tribes. The toolkit could include policy templates (on 6 priority areas and possibly other important environmental health issues, like fracking), guiding documents connecting tribes to the right experts or group, educational documents or fact sheets, and a one-pager describing the group. Members expressed particular interest in finding ways to highlight tribes' experiences, lessons learned, and best practices, perhaps around the priority areas and other environmental health issues. The members also discussed branding and marketing as a tool for increasing visibility, and expressed that it may be worth considering establishing letterhead or a logo for the Think Tank.

NTEH Think Tank Structure – The members expressed interest in adding more structure to the NTEH Think Tank, and having official documents elaborating the Think Tank's structure, including membership guidelines establishing required level of commitment, information about how in-person meetings are chosen. Adding structure could provide the group with additional stability in case Annabelle ever gets pulled away from this effort.

- *Governance* – Members expressed interest in creating Chair and Co-Chair positions. This could provide the NTEH Think Tank with a voice outside of CDC leadership to represent the Think Tank and speak at group meetings or other events. Members also expressed interest in establishing work groups, perhaps around the priority areas or the pillars of the strategic plan. APHA or CDC could provide conference lines for work group calls and they could provide updates to the Think Tank on the monthly group conference calls.
- *Meetings* – Members expressed interest in establishing guidelines for how in-person meetings are chosen. They discussed holding two meetings a year in Indian Country,

either hosted by a member or chosen based on environmental health issues occurring there. The third meeting could occur in Atlanta.

- **Membership –**
 - Number of Active Members – Discussed whether there is a minimum number of members to strive for. Members should be chosen from the perspective of area of expertise and regional standpoint.
 - Defining Member Responsibilities – Create transparency about the level of commitment required and expected from members. It could go into number of conference calls and in-person meetings attended. The document would also be helpful to leverage to supervisors for continued support in member participation.
 - Honorary/Emeritus Status – Examined the possibility of establishing honorary or emeritus status for those that are too busy to meet all member responsibilities but would like to stay involved.
 - Member Representatives - Explored the idea of allowing members to send representatives on their behalf to attend conference calls or meetings.
 - Membership Transition – Ideally, the Think Tank would be able to stagger new membership, so new people could have a greater opportunity to learn from outgoing members and have additional time and support to learn the group’s context and dynamic.
 - Retiring Members– Kristin is retiring sometime in the near future, but would like stay on the Think Tank if it is feasible. Without her organizational anchor her involvement would be different than what she offers now, although she plans to continue to work in other capacities. She stated that she may actually have more time to do some things, although it is unclear now.

WETG course – Leadership is considering possibly creating online modules of the WETG course so it could be offered online. This raises the question of where the WETG should reside. The National Indian Health Board has expressed interest. Members expressed the need to be careful in ensuring that the course that has been built is protected, as other agencies have done similar courses badly. However, the curriculum cannot be copyrighted because everything CDC creates has to be public. Members raised concerns about an online experience of the course, and they would be interested in trying to maintain some of the elements of the live experience of talking and discussing through issues that were just presented. They also suggested keeping the pre- and post-test evaluation, possibly including open ended questions to determine how effective the course is being and to ensure individuals are engaged. Additionally, it may be helpful if there is an FAQ for each module posted online for all to see. Members also discussed whether tribal colleges or public health schools would be interested in the course curriculum.

Next Meeting Locations –There was consensus from the members that if the Think Tank was going to Alaska, they would want to go north, at least to Barrow. In Barrow, the group would be able to see some camps associated with Shell efforts to increase gravel production, and a landfill closure. Rosemary stated that Shell has some lodging sources, but the Think Tank would have to visit sometime in early October due to extreme politics. Another possibility may be Summer 2016. The Think Tank also expressed interest in having Susan host a meeting in Idaho, in order to see firsthand the sites she has discussed for years. Susan said the Shoshone-Bannock Pow Wow takes place the second weekend in August, so perhaps they could time a meeting close to that so members could have the opportunity to attend that cultural event. However, she was concerned about the hotel’s space and capacity at that time, since many people visit the area at

that time. The members also discussed potentially attending the TAC meeting in February 2016 as part of an in-person meeting in Atlanta. OSTLTS and APHA will research which location is most feasible for the next meeting.

Submitting Comments to Agencies – Is there a way for the Think Tank to submit comments to agencies (i.e. EPA) to have input on rulemaking/policymaking?

- Once we start making group recommendations, are we moving into FOCA realm consultation?
- Maybe a way to begin to have this effect is by creating a relationship with TAC work groups.
- APHA has a government relations team which has in the past commented on various EPA rules and on TSCA.
- It may also be possible to use NIHB as a mechanism.
- Annabelle will verify what is possible within CDC.

Becoming a Separate Entity – Members brought up the idea of eventually becoming a separate entity, possibly a 501(c)(3). The benefits would include the ability to increase efforts for lobbying and other activities currently out of reach, but may lose the value of having someone supporting the effort working within CDC. Members decided to revisit this thought in 2-3 years because it would require a good sense of sustainable funding sources and governance documents.

Appendix A: Next Steps

During the meeting, the group discussed and agreed to the following next steps.

Next Steps:	Who:
1. Put Kristin Hill in touch with Bob Vanderslice at ASTHO.	Surili
2. Incorporate feedback into process paper.	CDC
3. Incorporate feedback into priorities document.	CDC
4. Send out member bios document and follow up with members to ensure approval before finalizing.	Ivana
5. Incorporate feedback into Shattuck's Evaluation Plan.	CDC and APHA
6. Create draft of governance and membership guideline documents to present to members.	CDC and APHA
7. Develop letterhead or logo for the NTEH Think Tank	TBD
8. Develop a one-pager on who the NTEH Think Tank is for Annabelle's internal educational efforts and for tribes.	TBD
9. Look into possibility of hosting next meeting in Idaho close to the Shoshone-Bannock powwow.	APHA
10. Look into possibility of NTEH members attending TAC meeting in February.	CDC
11. Continue exploring possibility of Barrow, AK meeting at some point in the future, possibly early October or Summer 2016.	CDC, APHA, Rosemary
12. Verify what is possible for Think Tank in terms of submitting comments to agencies.	Annabelle.
13. Continue work on digital stories and attend or view all webinars.	All Members

Appendix B: Participants

NTEH Think Tank Members

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