



March 2017

## OTRU Launches the Ontario Tobacco Research Network (OTRN)

On March 28, 2017, in conjunction with the SFO Scientific Advisory Group (SFOSAG) meeting, OTRU convened the inaugural meeting of the new Ontario Tobacco Research Network. Twenty-one Ontario scientists and three trainees from 11 institutions participated.

OTRU established the Ontario Tobacco Research Network (OTRN) in order to provide a platform for Ontario tobacco control researchers to share research in progress, provide and receive input on ongoing studies, identify research gaps, facilitate collaboration and enable trainees to both learn and gain experiencing in presenting their work.

OTRN's main activity is the annual meeting during which presentations are delivered and discussion takes place on presentations. Time is also allocated at the annual meeting to discussing research gaps and identifying potential collaborations. Additional activities may involve teleconference and web-assisted meetings.

At the first meeting, OTRN discussed eight presentations:

1. Laurie Zawarteillo, CAMH—Real-world effectiveness of bupropion and varenicline for smoking cessation: an internet-based randomized controlled trial (MATCH)
2. Scott Leatherdale, University of Waterloo—The COMPASS system: a tool for evaluating aspects of the SFO among youth
3. Bruce Baskerville, University of Waterloo—Research on impacts of Bill 44: approach and implications for Ontario
4. Imran Syed, CAMH—Exploring health equity: differences in risk perceptions
5. Michael Chaiton, OTRU—Menthol ban evaluation
6. Michael Palmer, OTRU—Smoking attributable mortality among Indigenous People in Ontario
7. Pam Kaufman, OTRU—Secondhand e-cigarette aerosol in an indoor natural setting
8. Rochelle Wijesinha, McMaster University—Tobacco use in First Nations populations



# PROJECT NEWS

Participants were excited about the opportunity to once again hold a scientific meeting to discuss current and emerging research in the Ontario context. All look forward to the next annual meeting and to expanding both participation and time for presentations.