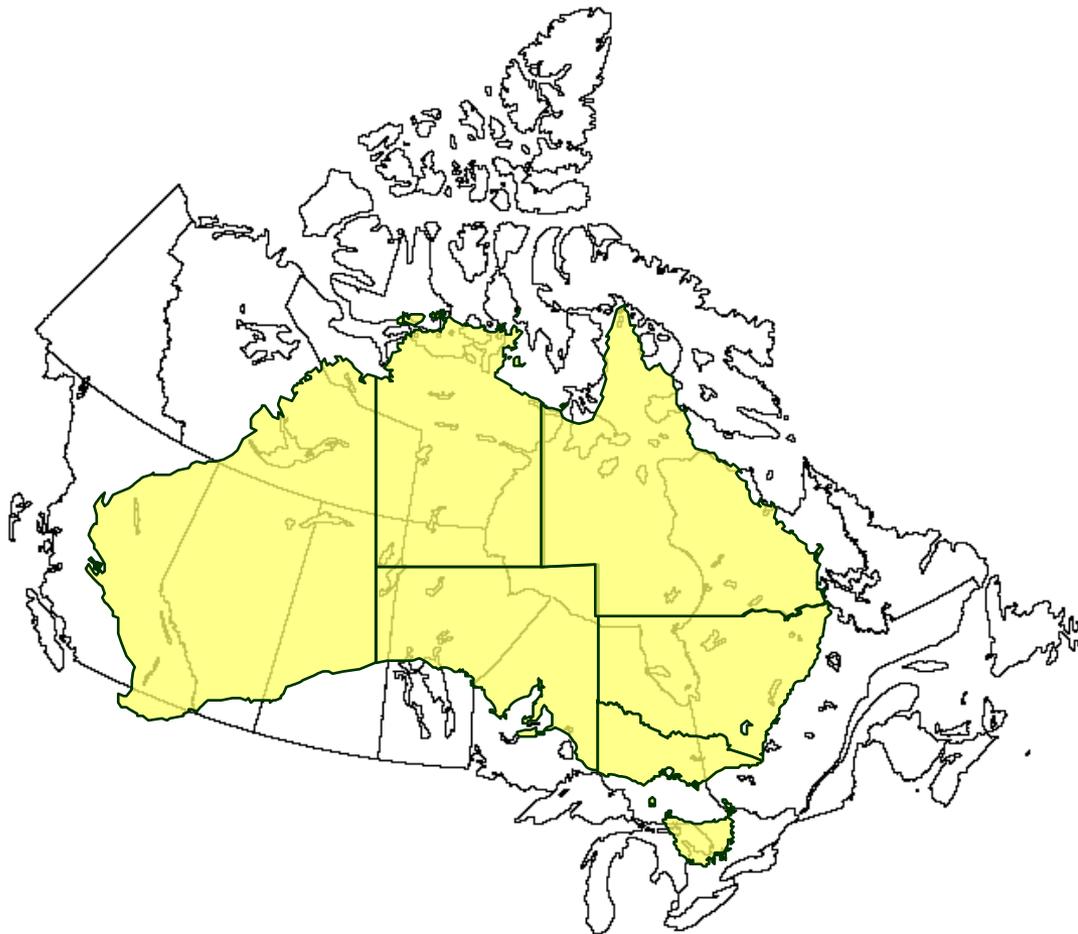


APHCRI International Rural & Remote Primary Health Care Research Linkage and Exchange Travelling Fellowship 2008



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Objectives of Fellowship

1. Strengthen links with Canadian rural & remote health services researchers
2. Test the international robustness of the conceptual framework for sustainable models of PHC services in small rural & remote communities
3. Develop the APHCRI linkage and exchange process:
 - international dissemination of research results
 - discussion with leading Canadian rural health researchers & policy-makers
4. Better understand linkage & exchange processes among researchers & decision-makers

Activities undertaken

- Site visits to
 - Prince George (British Columbia)
 - Sudbury (Northern Ontario)
 - Ottawa (Quebec)
- Meetings with Canadian researchers & policy decision-makers
- Ten formal presentations of APHCRI Stream 4 & 5 projects
- Investigation of prospects for major comparative international collaborative PHC research

Outcomes

- International dissemination of Stream 4 & 5 research results
- Strong endorsement by decision-makers and researchers of the conceptual framework for resolving rural and remote health service problems.
- Discussion with leading Canadian rural health researchers & policy-makers about effective knowledge exchange.
- Increased knowledge about knowledge exchange through activities:
 - *Executive Training for Research Application*
 - *Capacity for Applied and Developmental Research and Evaluation in Health Services and Nursing*
 - *Mythbusters*
 - *Evidence boost*
 - *'Researcher on call'*
 - *Promising practices*

Lessons Learned

1. Critical leadership role of dedicated linkage and exchange organisations to facilitate knowledge translation
2. APHCRI:
 - Maintain strong links with & support CHSRF to run workshops
 - Continue funding travelling linkage & exchange fellowships
 - Ensure lessons learned from travelling fellowships are widely disseminated
3. Australian Government:
 - Develop stronger researcher-decision maker relationships, especially building decision-maker capacity to take up evidence
 - Encourage multiple modes of research dissemination
 - Fund a comprehensive repository of non-peer reviewed reports & evaluations
4. Research organisations:
 - Engage with decision-makers at all stages of research
 - 'Knowledge brokers' to facilitate research translation

Conclusion

- Thanks to APHCRI for its vision and support for Travelling Fellowships
- Valuable opportunity to...
 - Validate findings
 - Learn first-hand about disseminating & translating rural & remote health knowledge into the policy & practice environment
- Full report of APHCRI Travelling Fellowship available on APHCRI Website: <http://www.anu.edu.au/aphcri/>