

RESEARCHER OF THE MONTH

Dr. Serene Kerpan is an Assistant Professor in Kinesiology at University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Her research focuses on the health and educational success of children and youth through the promotion of physical activity. Through community-engaged scholarship Serene works to cultivate strong relationships with community organizations, schools, and Indigenous communities to investigate the effect of physical activity on the well-being of children and youth.



Serene completed her PhD in Kinesiology and Post-doctoral fellowship in Community Health and Epidemiology at University of Saskatchewan. Serene's current research includes a partnership with Durham Catholic District School Board in which she and her school partners are examining the effect of embedded professional development on teachers use of movement integration. She is also the Principal Investigator on a SSHRC funded study examining sport and successful aging in Indigenous older adults. Dr. Kerpan's research also crosses into social epidemiology. She is currently a Co-Principal Investigator on a CIHR funded study examining prenatal opioid exposure in First Nation communities. Serene is passionate about teaching and mentoring students. She teaches multiple courses on physical activity promotion and Indigenous health. She currently has three excellent graduate students who she enjoys working with.

Why is it important to be connected to the PHE Canada Research Council?

The PHE Research Council provides a national platform and point of connection for the promotion of physical activity and health education in Canada. Through the PHEnex Journal I can learn about new and exciting research and keep up to date on what my colleagues across the country are doing. The PHE National Conference Research Forum allows me to network, gain insight and motivation from eminent scholars, support graduate students in presenting their research, and have meaningful discussions on how we want to move our agenda forward as a group.

Dr. Kerpan's most recent publications:

- Kerpan, S.,** Humbert, L., Abonyi, S. (2019). Perceptions of Canadian Indigenous Teachers and Students on Movement Integration in the Classroom. *The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education*, 1-10. doi:10.1017/jie.2019.1
- Kerpan, S.,** Humbert, L., Rodgers, C. (2019). The Effects of Integrated Classroom Based Physical Activity on On-Task Behavior for Aboriginal Children in Grades Four and Five. *Revue phénEPS/PHEnex Journal*, 10(2).
- Kerpan, S.,** Humbert, L., Rodgers, C., Stoddart, A. (2019). Improving On-Task Behavior in Kindergarten and Grade One Indigenous Students with the use of Integrated Classroom Based Physical Activity. *Journal of American Indian Education*, 58(9).
- Kerpan S.,** Humbert L. (2016). Playing Together: The Physical Activity Beliefs and Behaviors of Urban Aboriginal Youth. *Journal of Physical Activity & Health*, 12(10), 1409-1413.
-