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## Health Impact Assessment

Dr. Murray Lee  
University of Calgary

Wednesday, January 16, 2008  
12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

Room G643, Health Sciences Centre,  
3330 Hospital Drive NW, Calgary

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a process used to identify how a project, policy or program might influence health.

HIA evaluates projects and policies that have wide-ranging impacts on social, economic and/or physical environments—for example, large natural resource projects, economic policies, or land-use proposals.

The purpose is to produce recommendations that enhance the health benefits of the project/policy and mitigate potential harms.

HIA's strength derives from its unique combination of three essential attributes:

- a) a broad societal perspective on the determinants of health
- b) significant community consultation and input
- c) the potential to identify and mitigate impacts before they affect local populations

In this seminar, we will explore the history and current regulatory environment for HIA, its potential applications, and the thought processes involved in HIA. We will also discuss the linkages between population health research and HIA practice.

Murray Lee is a physician and population health consultant based in Calgary. As a founding partner in Habitat Health Impact Consulting Corp., Dr. Lee has been involved in pioneering approaches to HIA in the natural resource sector in Canada. In addition, Dr. Lee is a practicing physician with extensive experience in Aboriginal communities in Canada's far north and is an instructor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary.

This Seminar Series is sponsored by the Population Health Intervention Research Centre. We'd like it to reflect a range of perspectives and interests. We welcome participation. Please contact Lindsay Bradshaw, at ph (403) 210 9316; email [bradshaw@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bradshaw@ucalgary.ca) if you have any ideas or suggestions.



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