

# Medical Anthropology Network

- **SSHRC – CIHR transition in funding health research**
- Anthropologists met with SSHRC and CIHR @ CASCA 2010 (Montreal)
- “The End of Medical Anthropology in Canada”, *University Affairs*, February 2011 – call for constructive consultations
- Lobbying SSHRC, CIHR and CFHSS
- CASCA 2011, Fredericton: anthropologists met again; listserv created to share experiences and feedback
- November 2011, “*Discussion Document for Proposed Changes to CIHR’s Open Suite of Programs and Enhancements to the Peer Review Process*”. Submitted response in December 2012 after consultation with President of CIHR
- Document released for wider feedback in January 2012; Consultations continue with CIHR and with SSHRC
- Critique of CIHR document presented *in University Affairs* in February 2012

# Discussion: **Proposition to publish CASCA Conference Abstracts in *Anthropologica***

Recommendation: That *Anthropologica* publish an annual supplementary journal volume of conference abstracts.

Rationale: Peer reviewers at CIHR, and SSHRC require markers of "productivity".

- Learned societies within basic science and medicine publish their peer reviewed conference abstracts in a supplement to their journal.
- Conference Abstracts are "counted" as publications by CIHR and NSERC in the Common
- Anthropologists traditionally do not include conference papers as publications, resulting in an underscoring/undervaluing in CHIR grant peer review.

Considerations:

- Upgrading conference submission peer review process would require coordination of LOC and *Anthropologica*;
- Costs could be deferred by distributing the Supplementary volume to registrants electronically (avoid added costs of paper). Currently Conference Organizers absorb cost of Conference Programme so added expense may be minimal
- Other?

Discussion. (Action?)