

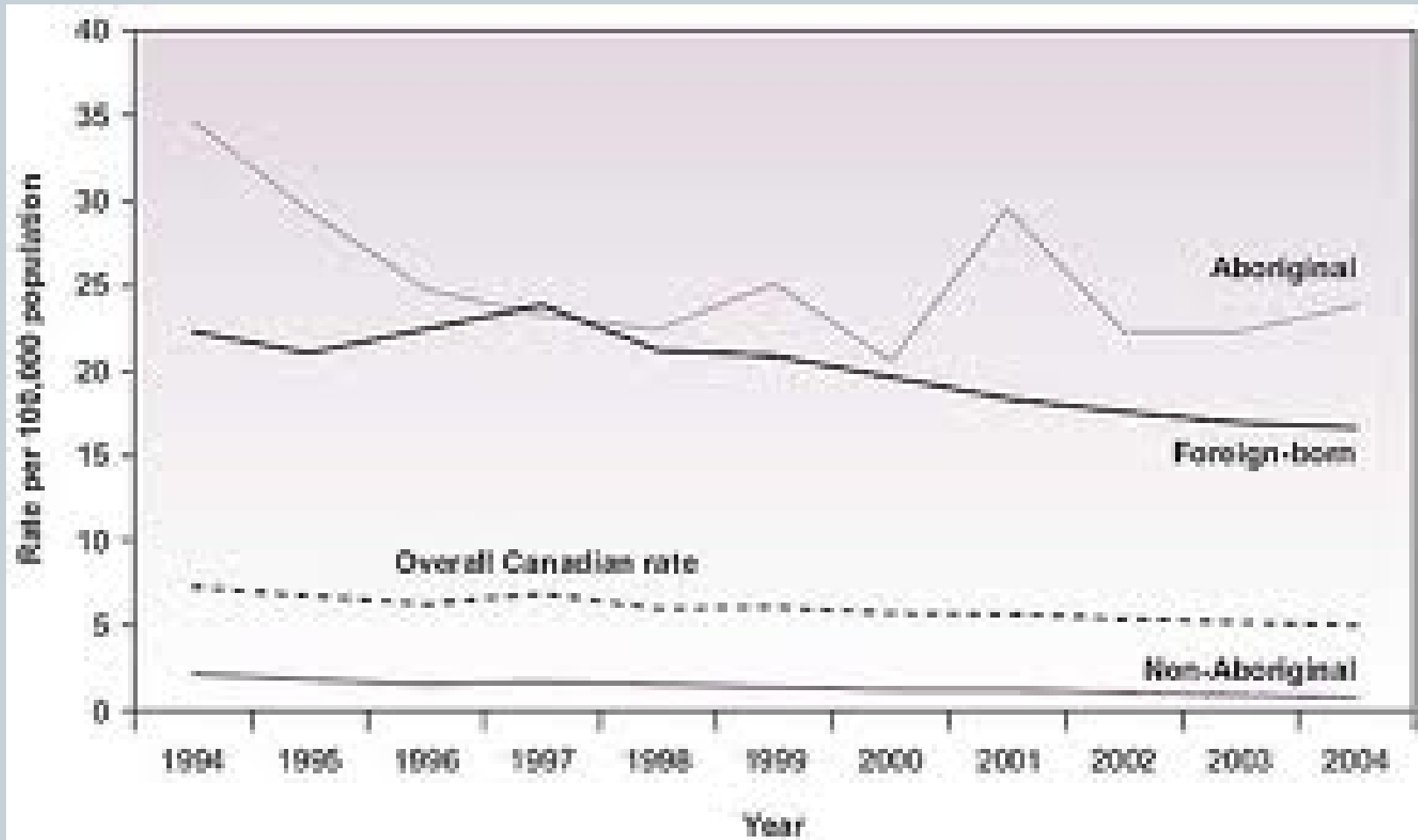
Addressing TB in First Nations and Inuit Communities in Canada:



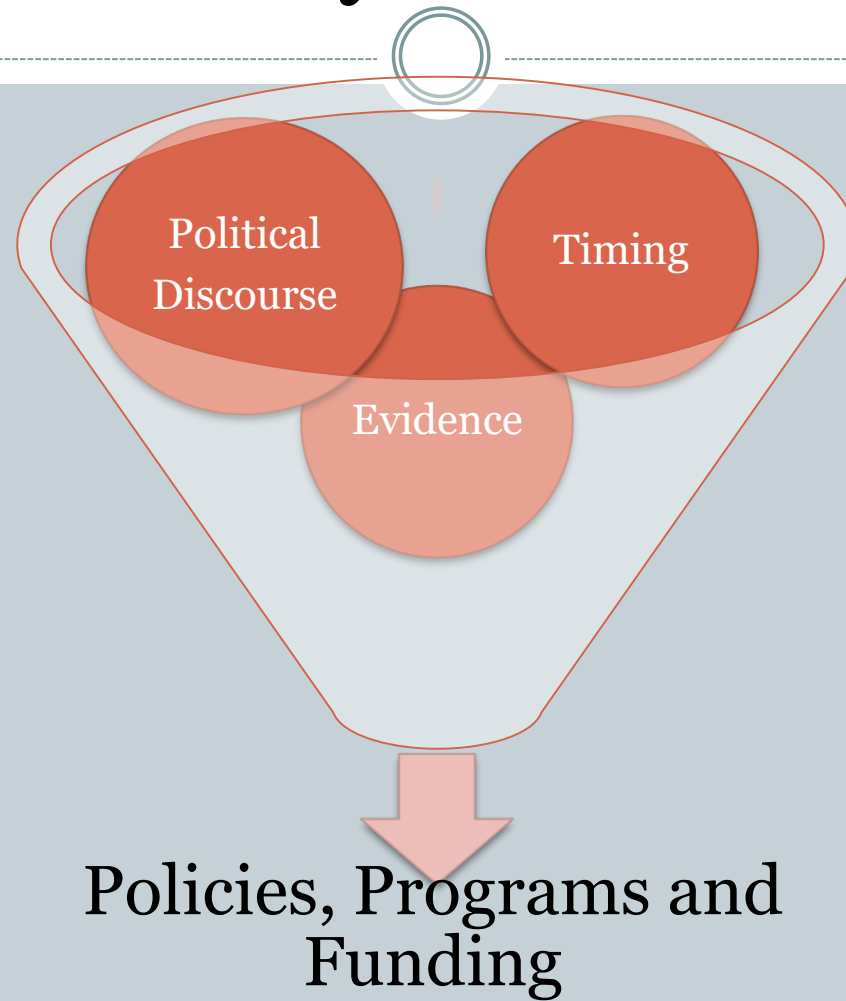
AN HIA APPROACH

Ginette Thomas
August 31, 2012
HIA 2012
Québec

TB in Canada – The Big Picture



Policy context



A balancing act

What needs
to be done

What else is
going on

Problem to
be addressed

Available
options

Social values

Economic
issues

Political
Priorities




Historical context



SO... WHAT HAS BEEN INFLUENCING TB AND
HEALTH POLICIES?

Historical overview – Policy directions



- 1857-1876 – Nation building
- 1879-1909 – The TB crisis
- 1939-1957 – Sanatoriums peak & medications for TB
- 1960s – Defining the “Indian Problem”
- 1970s – Defining Aboriginal relationship
- 1980s – TB not a “problem” anymore....
- 1990s – TB a health priority again
- New millenium – public health issues

Aboriginal Health Policy



SO.... WHAT'S INFLUENCING HEALTH
POLICY NOW?

Proposed solutions



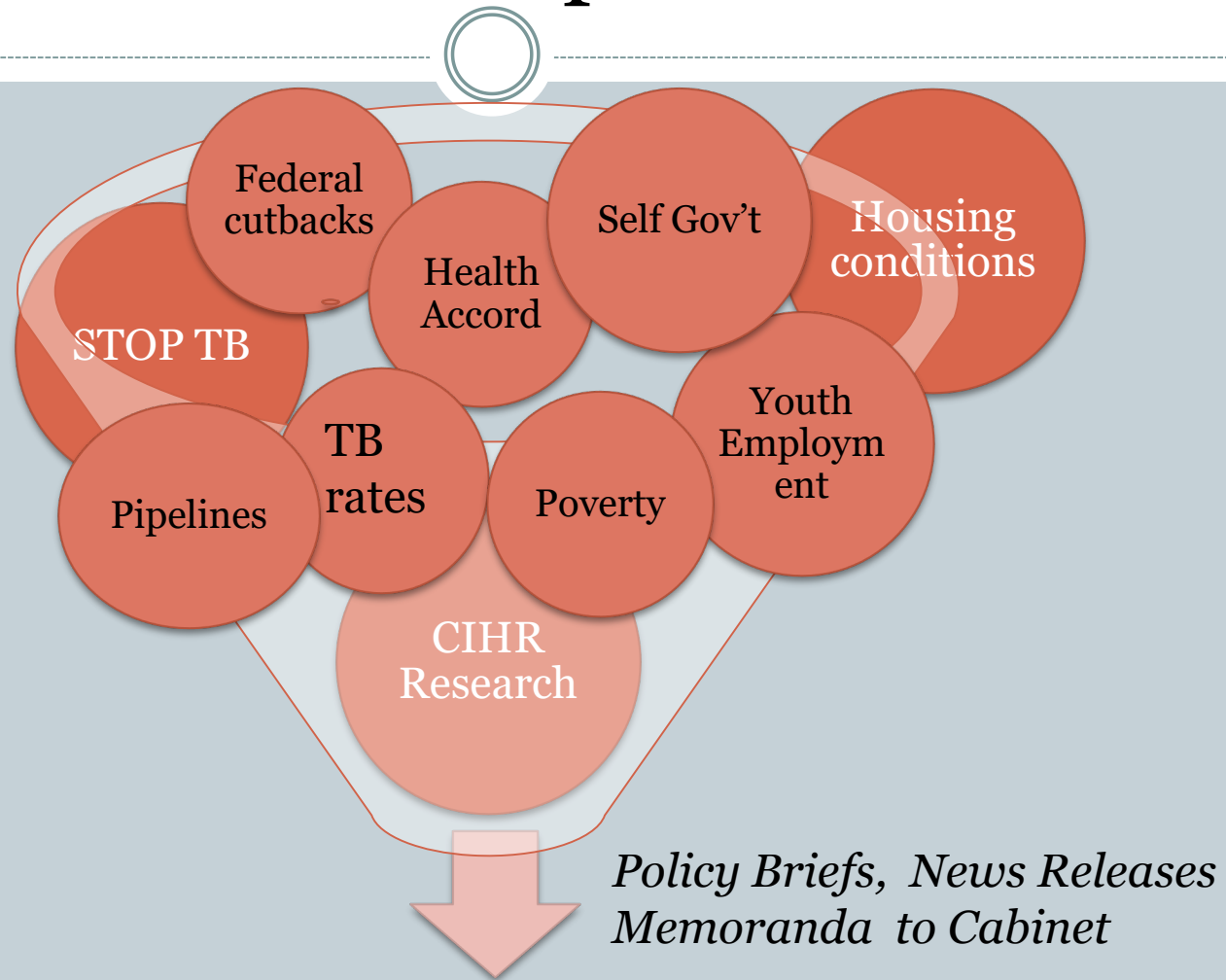
- ❖ From a clinical perspective: Deal with poor adherence to treatment with Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT) - Canadian Tuberculosis Standards
- ❖ From a policy perspective: Renew Health Canada's National TB Elimination Strategy for FN and Inuit communities – Senate Committee Report
- ❖ From a stakeholder perspective: Improved housing: improved food security; better access to health care – Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

Recent releases



- Tackle tuberculosis in Nunavut: CIHR funding for 2 research studies – March 22, 2012:
 - Expand TB awareness campaign to 2 communities in Nunavut
 - Evaluate new state of the art TB diagnosis equipment
- World Tuberculosis Day – March 24, 2012:
 - Strategy Against Tuberculosis for FN On-Reserve
- Government studying noise and health effects of wind turbines – July 10, 2012:
 - “...will include experts in health assessment...”
- Preparing Aboriginal Youth for the Labour Market – July 30, 2012:
 - “...equipping young Aboriginal people with the skills and experiences they need to participate more fully in Canada’s economy”

How can HIA help– the “neck”



Tuberculosis Policies & Programs

Policy Drivers



BARRIER	FACILITATOR
“Silo” mandates in federal departments	Alberta & Québec as models - find a Champion for a health in all policies approach
Fiscal concerns & austerity measures	Redirect costs of ineffective national TB programs to where it could work - evaluate and inform
Federal / Provincial / Collaboration	National agencies (PHAC & CIHI) can bring parties to the table on specific (non-political...) issues



Thank you!

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