Reviewer’s report

Title: Perspectives on food insecurity from a remote First Nations community: "We go hunting or we ask family for food"

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Reviewer: Elaine M Power

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this interesting and important manuscript. Rates of food insecurity among Aboriginal people living in remote communities are “staggering,” as the authors describe, and this urgent public health issue is one of a host of devastating consequences of settler colonialism. The authors are quite right that the food insecurity issues facing Aboriginal communities are unique and that there is little research on this, especially in sub-Arctic.

The authors ask an important and clearly defined question. Their methods are well-described and theoretically supported, giving me confidence in their results. I am particularly pleased with their description of their qualitative research methods, which suggests a careful and thorough analysis.

The manuscript is exceptionally well-written and well-referenced, incorporating numerous recent publications in this area.

Discretionary Revisions

1. The HFSSM differentiates between the experiences of adults and children, and the authors mention that food insecurity was raised as a barrier to healthy eating in their earlier research. Was there any discussion of how strategies to manage food insecurity differentially affected children? For example, there is considerable research in southern, urban food insecure households that shows that mothers protect their children from experiences of hunger to the extent possible.

2. I find the inclusion of the data codes distracting and unnecessary.

3. I like the conviction in the last sentence, and the call for government action but since the participants did not use the language of food sovereignty, it seems jarring to use it in the concluding sentence of a qualitative manuscript. I wonder if this is more appropriately framed as another aspect of “self-determination”? (I don’t know)

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a
statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests