Reviewer’s report

Title: The Forsaken Mental Health of the Indigenous Peoples - A Moral Case of Outrageous Exclusion in Latin America

Version: 3 Date: 2 July 2009

Reviewer: Laurence Kirmayer

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions

The paper is improved but there are still a couple of phrases that are unclear to me:

(1) “However, it quickly became a point of interest for local politics, rather than a mental health promoting institution, and was eventually run, not by health experts, but by political partisans.”

- not sure what is meant by “a point of interest for local politics”

(2) “Indigenous Peoples have learned, whether consciously or unconsciously, to be suspicious of the dominant society’s intentions in their regard. This affects their perception of many matters of life with mainstream society, and does not exclude health care. At the local level, many Indigenous patients still perceive hospitals, clinics, and primary care health posts as dangerous places where they undergo the risk of being inadequately treated, humiliated or insulted by racist doctors or even killed.”

- I am still unclear why Indigenous people fear being killed by racist doctors – is this a realistic fear? Has it happened in the past? Or does it reflect some generalization from other forms of state organized violence?

Discretionary Revisions
In advocating for research, the authors could note the activities in Canada supporting research through the CIHR Institute for Aboriginal Peoples Health.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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