

6th World Summit on **HEALTH NUTRITION**

November 18-19, 2024 | Paris, France

Contribution of Nutrition North Canada (NNC) in nutrition education initiatives**Santosh Kumar Mishra**

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Nutrition education (NE) is an effective way for (a) "fostering healthy eating habit", and (b) "improving health outcomes". It is due to this consideration that several programs are underway to impart nutrition education in Canada. One such program is Nutrition Education Initiatives (NEI) undertaken by Nutrition North Canada (NNC). Objective of this abstract is to present discussion on activities of NEI undertaken by NNC, in collaboration with other developmental partners in the area of NE. It outlines management aspect of community-based nutrition education activities of NNC. Secondary data been used in this work, and method of data analysis is 'descriptive'. Data are largely 'qualitative' in nature; they were collected from secondary sources. Analysis of data in this research indicates that NNC is Government of Canada program aimed at helping make nutritious food and some essential items more affordable and accessible. As part of NNC, there are two agencies namely, (a) Indigenous Services Canada, and (b) Public Health Agency of Canada that provide funding and other resource support to community-based NE activities in all eligible isolated northern communities. Two priority areas of such activities are "increasing knowledge of healthy eating"; and "developing skills in selecting and preparing healthy store-bought and traditional food". It is pertinent to note that it is communities that decide which NE activities should be offered, as per their needs and priorities. Key activities under NEI of NNC include (a) "nutrition workshops", (b) "healthy cooking classes for all ages", (c) "in-store sampling of healthy food", (d) "knowledge building on traditional food harvesting and preparation", and (e) "development of nutrition education materials". As per data published in October, 2024, there are 125 isolated northern communities eligible for NNC subsidy and NEI. This paper concludes that NEI is focusing on food security and food access inequality in isolated northern communities.

Biography

Santosh Kumar Mishra is a researcher affiliated with S. N. D. T. Women's University, India. His work focuses on public health, nutrition education, and food security. He has a particular interest in community-based initiatives and programs that address disparities in food access and promote healthy dietary habits. His recent research highlights the activities and impact of Nutrition Education Initiatives (NEI) by Nutrition North Canada (NNC), showcasing efforts to enhance nutritional knowledge and skills in isolated northern communities. His work contributes to understanding the role of collaborative programs in addressing food security and health inequalities.