



Calendar Highlights

see inside for details

April 11-14, 2007

Community - University Partnerships: Mobilizing Partnerships for Social Change. Toronto, ONT

June 10-15, 2007

Health Promotion Comes of Age: Research, Policy & Practice for the 21st Century: The 19th IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education. Vancouver, BC

Contact the JCSH:
Tel. (250) 356-6057
www.jcsh-cces.ca

Message from the Executive Director

It has been a pleasure working with the Joint Consortium for School Health over the course of the last six months. The Consortium has seen a lot of recent change, including modification to the governance structure and staffing of the Secretariat, all of which have resulted in positive growth for this organization.

The work planned for the New Year promises to be both ambitious and exciting for the Consortium. We are beginning the development of the evaluation plan to measure the strength of our work. We will continue to address the data needs of both the health and education sectors to better measure the health and education outcomes for children and youth in Canadian school settings.

The Joint Consortium for School Health will also play a substantive role at the upcoming International Union on Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) World Conference in June

2007 in Vancouver, BC. Prior to the IUHPE, the Consortium will host a four day World Health Organization Technical Meeting on School Health. In addition, the Consortium has been invited to contribute to the development of the World Health Organization's Policy Framework for the Prevention of Chronic Diseases in Schools. All of these efforts will be combined with our ongoing work to enhance cooperation among ministries, departments, agencies and others and in building the capacity of health, education and other systems to work together.

We are still looking for a name for this newsletter. Please send your ideas as well as other input on how we might adapt this newsletter to most effectively meet your needs and interests. We look forward to working together with you in 2007. It should prove to be an interesting and productive year.

—Claire Avison

Federal/Provincial/Territorial Exchange

Public Health Agency of Canada

Canadian Best Practices Portal for Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention

The primary goals of the Canadian Best Practices Portal are to: Develop and disseminate best practices information for chronic disease prevention and control interventions; Provide decision makers with a comprehensive and standardized resource about the practices for chronic disease prevention and control; Create awareness of the overall Canadian Best Practices System through communication and marketing activities targeted to key audiences. The best practices highlighted have shown

positive outcomes to expressed objectives using a sound evaluation protocol and is directly supported by systematic review evidence. The interventions address health promotion and chronic disease prevention. By using "school health" as search-term 65 best practices interventions are listed. Website: http://cbpp-pcpe.phac-aspc.gc.ca/about/index_e.cfm

British Columbia

Crystal Methamphetamine Resources

The Ministry of Education contracted with the Centre for Addictions Research of BC (CARBC) for the development of these educational resources. Guided by the British Columbia

integrated strategy on methamphetamine and framework on problematic substance use and addiction, CARBC has developed learning resources that are consistent with the Ministry of Health's harm reduction approach to substance use. CARBC is recognized as a leader in the field of addictions research and is supported by its partnerships with key organizations in the addictions field. www.no2meth.ca

Healthy Schools Network

The Ministry of Education launched the Healthy Schools Network in October 2006. A comprehensive approach to education recognizes that successful young people are knowledgeable and emotionally and physically healthy. BC's Healthy Schools Network will enhance the ability of schools to address these concerns.

The Ministry has 34 member schools currently registered in the Healthy Schools Network this school year. Participating schools commit to developing a healthy school team, piloting the school health assessment tool, developing a healthy school goal and corresponding strategies, addressing improvement in at least one of the identified areas of priority in the pilot year (i.e., physical activity, healthy eating, tobacco reduction, school connectedness) and provide leadership to work with the province in the development of a Healthy Schools Performance Standard.

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/health

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's Tobacco-Free Challenge To Graduating Grade 12 Class.

The Minister of Healthy Living Services has once again issued a Tobacco-Free Challenge to the graduating class of students in the Saskatchewan provincial education system. He has also sent an invitation to First Nation Chiefs to consider issuing a similar challenge to Grade Twelve Students in their schools. Under the challenge, participating students make a commitment to support each other in reaching their goal of becoming a graduating class that does not use tobacco. Last year eighteen

Grade 12 classes in the province successfully completed the challenge. For further information about the challenge contact Don Racette, mailto:

dracette@health.gov.sk.ca

Manitoba

Manitoba's Healthy Food In Schools Web Site.

Schools across Manitoba are taking action to promote healthy eating and healthy food choices at school. This website provides resources for anyone working in or with a school on food related activities including teachers, parents, administrators, students, and health professionals.

www.gov.mb.ca/healthyschools/foodinschools

Ontario

Ontario Government Issues Healthy Schools Challenge.

The McGuinty government is challenging every school in Ontario to work with student, parent and community partners to find ways of making schools healthier in 2006/07. Full press release at [\[News Release\]](#).

Research Briefs

Nutrition Policy & Childhood Obesity Prevention

Stats Canada

Canadian Community Health Survey: Overview of Canadians' eating habits, 2004.

According to the most recent Stats Canada survey of what Canadians are eating, many people do not have a balanced diet. The Canadian Community Health Survey: Nutrition, which asked more than 35,000 people to recall what they had eaten during the 24 hours before they were interviewed, shows that Canadians face some nutritional challenges.

[Your Community, Your Health: Findings from the Canadian Community Health Survey](#)

American Journal of Public Health

“Healthier Choices and increased Participation in a Middle School Lunch Program; Effects of Nutrition Policy Changes in San Francisco,”

is published in the September 2006 issue of the American Journal of Public Health. Requests for reprints can be sent to: mheyman@peds.ucsf.edu

National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine.

Food marketing to children and youth: threat or opportunity?

How marketing influences children and youth is the focus of this report by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine. The report provides a comprehensive review of the scientific evidence on the influence of food marketing on diets and diet-related health of children and youth. The study was requested by Congress and sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Copies of the report can be ordered at: <http://www.iom.edu/CMS/3788/21939/31330.aspx>

Health Education Research Journal

Child Obesity Prevention – Issues and Controversies.

The December, 2006 issue of Health Education Research Journal (Vol. 21, Number 6) is a special edition containing several articles pertaining to childhood obesity prevention. <http://her.oxfordjournals.org/current.dtl>

World Health Organization (WHO)

Addressing the socioeconomic determinants of healthy eating habits and physical activity levels among adolescents,

World Health Organization, 2006. Adolescents who are poor are also less healthy, but what can be done? A new WHO/Europe report highlights case studies and survey data to examine the problem and the solutions attempted in various countries. The report can be ordered from WHO free of charge or viewed online at [World Health Organization](http://www.who.int).

Related International News

Scotland

Junk Food Ad Crackdown Announced, November 2006.

Junk food advertisements during television programs targeted at under-16s will be banned, under new rules put forward by the Office of Communications (Ofcom). The ban will apply to any foods that are high in fat, salt and sugar. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/6154600.stm>

Europe

European Charter on Counteracting Obesity. The WHO European Ministerial Conference on Counteracting Obesity was held in November in Istanbul, Turkey. Full text of the charter can be found at:

<http://www.euro.who.int/document/e89567.pdf>

Helpful Links

Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Coordinating (EPPI) Centre

The EPPI-Centre is dedicated to making reliable research findings about health, education and welfare accessible to the people who need them, whether they are making policy, practice, or personal decisions. Most research never finds its way to the people who work in these fields or formulate the policies that relate to them. The EPPI-Centre writes and supports others to write comprehensive summaries of this research, which are known as ‘systematic reviews’ - they do not simply repeat the findings of the research but assess its quality, helping readers to make informed decisions. These reviews are conducted in consultation with potential users of the reviews to ensure that the research findings are synthesized and presented in the most useful ways. <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/>



EPPI Centre

For an example of one of the EPPI Centre's systemic reviews, see **Children and Healthy Eating: A systemic review of barriers and facilitators** at: *Young People and Healthy Eating*.

World Health Organization (WHO)

Food and Nutrition Policy for Schools: a tool for the development of school nutrition programs in the European Region. The World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a series of tools to assist Member States in developing and implementing food and nutrition policies. Go to <http://www.euro.who.int/nutrition/Policy/PolicyTools>, click on *Nutrition Policy* and follow the link to *Nutrition Policy Publications*.

Upcoming Events

Toronto, ONT

April 11-14, 2007

Community - University Partnerships: Mobilizing Partnerships for Social Change. Participants from across the health, education, human rights and social service sectors who are working in urban, suburban and rural settings in Canada, the U.S. and abroad will gather to address the root causes of health, social and economic inequalities.

<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/conf-overview.html>

Vancouver, BC

June 10-15, 2007

Health Promotion Comes of Age: Research, Policy & Practice for the 21st Century: The 19th IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education. The International Scientific Program Committee of the 19th IUHPE World Conference is calling for the submission of abstracts of papers, workshops, and symposia to be presented to the conference. <http://iuhpeconference.org>

Toronto, ONT

June 24-27, 2007

International Conference on Physical Activity and Obesity in Children.

This symposium will focus on the development of a scientifically-based community strategy to reduce the incidence of childhood and youth obesity through increased sport and physical activity participation. www.obesityconference.ca

