

## Secretariat Updates 2012

(no written updates for January or February 2012 meetings) (January 2012 was joint f2f of MC and SHCC for strategic planning)

### Secretariat Update February 09 2012

Rather than formal Secretariat Update, these items presented verbally at Feb 09 2012 SHCC teleconference.

#### 1. Review of Requests from the Secretariat

The Manager, Partnerships and Initiatives reviewed a number of recent and upcoming requests from the Secretariat that require input from the SHCC, including:

- the call for 2011/2012 Annual Report submissions;
- updates to the Healthy Weights Environmental Scan;
- the opportunity to identify panelists to speak at the Healthy Weights Summit (February 27th, Ottawa, ON);
- the opportunity to identify panelists to speak at the National Symposium on Child and Youth Mental Health (May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 1<sup>st</sup>, Calgary, AB);
- the need for SHCC representative(s) on the Communications Strategy Sub-Committee;
- the opportunity to provide input on the YE CLASP Phase II Proposal; and
- the opportunity to suggest participants at an upcoming meeting on implementing school-based physical activity models (March 1-2, Victoria, BC).

#### *Discussion:*

- The Committee agreed that the Communications Strategy Sub-Committee would benefit from a mix of jurisdictions, as well as a mix of members at the Management Committee and SHCC level.
- The NB SHC volunteered to sit on the Communications Strategy Sub-Committee. Additional members are still welcome.
- Regarding the upcoming meeting on implementing school-based physical activity models: Committee members requested that the original email from Karen Strange be forwarded to them, including a message from the Secretariat highlighting the fact that suggested meeting participants from YE CLASP jurisdictions (BC, AB, MB, ON, NB, PE, NL) will be eligible for funding and should contact their local YE CLASP team, while noting that representatives from non-YE CLASP jurisdictions who wish to attend should contact the JCSH Secretariat, who will explore possibilities with the BC Youth Excel team.

#### 2. Secretariat Update

The Manager, Partnerships and Initiatives provided a brief update on recent and upcoming business of the Secretariat: the recent Strategic Planning session of the Management Committee and the SHCC (Toronto, ON); booth, poster presentation and panel participation at the Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC) conference (Ottawa, ON); booth and presentation at Shaping The Future (Kananaskis, AB); and a presentation at the upcoming national Mental Health Summit (Winnipeg, MB).

### **3. For Information: Project-Specific Updates**

The Manager, Partnerships and Initiatives provided a general update on the following:

- *2009/2010 national report of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Survey*

#### *Discussion:*

- PHAC informed the SHCC that the national report is scheduled for release on February 15.
- A question was raised regarding whether there is any significance behind the fact that this release date coincides with the February 15-16 Mental Health Summit, particularly given that the focus of the HBSC national report is on mental health.
- It was noted that during a February 2<sup>nd</sup> call with PHAC focused on the release of the HBSC national report, School Health Coordinators had been informed they would receive five days' notice in advance of the report's release. As such, they inquired as to when official notice regarding the report's release would come from PHAC.
- As also committed to at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> call, a Common Briefing Note (CBN) regarding the national report to provide common messaging to all JCSH jurisdictions was to be developed by the JCSH Secretariat and PHAC. It was noted that it would be helpful for School Health Coordinators to have this CBN as soon as possible.

- *Next Steps from the 2011 National Forum on Youth Health ("Catching the Jellyfish")*

The Manager, Partnerships and Initiatives provided an update on the status of the Forum Report and next steps.

- *Positive Mental Health Toolkit*

The Manager, Partnerships and Initiatives provided an update on the status of the Positive Mental Health Toolkit. Final tweaks are being made to both on-line and off-line versions, and will be sent to School Health Coordinators upon completion.

#### *Discussion:*

- It was confirmed that, it being a dynamic resource, there will still be an opportunity for School Health Coordinators to suggest further changes to the toolkit upon receipt of the next version.

- The JCSH Secretariat should give consideration to a promotional piece for potential toolkit users regarding how it could be of benefit/assistance.
- In NB, a facilitator guide for the toolkit will be developed, and links between the toolkit and other jurisdictional initiatives/strategies/etc. will be showcased. This work might be leveraged by the JCSH.
- The JCSH might also leverage work that is intended to take place in BC upon release of the toolkit (e.g. “Train The Trainer”).

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## **Secretariat Update March 08 2012**

### **Recently attended meetings / conferences**

#### **1. *Shaping The Future* (January 26-28, 2012 Kananaskis, AB)**

A presentation on Positive Mental Health and the JCSH Positive Mental Health Toolkit was recently held at Shaping The Future – a conference held in Kananaskis, Alberta that focused on school health assessment, planning and implementation.

The presentation, led by Bill Morrison and Patti Peterson of W.M. Associates in collaboration with the Secretariat, was very well received, and generated many requests for the Better Practices document as well as the Toolkit. Alberta SHCC member Gail Diachuk was also in attendance.

This presentation also served as an opportunity to prepare for the presentation on Positive Mental Health at the 2012 National Mental Health Summit.

#### **2. *Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC) Conference* (February 06-10, 2012 Ottawa, ON)**

The Executive Director and the Manager, Cross Sector Engagement attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Pan-Canadian conference of the Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC). The JCSH was well represented at this conference. The Executive Director was part of a panel in the Childhood Obesity conference stream, based on the articles from the 2010 Canadian Journal of Public Health Supplement on Comprehensive School Health, of which JCSH was a co-publisher. The panel members were:

*Moderator:* Steve Manske, Propel Centre for Population Health Impact

- Part A: Comprehensive School Health – **Katherine Kelly**
- Part B: Healthy Eating – **Jennifer Taylor**, UPEI
- Part C: Physical Activity – **Sue McKinnon**, DASH BC
- Part D: Monitoring and Evaluation of Healthy Eating and Physical Activity School Policies – **Kate Storey**, U of Alberta.

The JCSH also had an animated poster presentation on the Consortium's work on Positive Mental Health and an information booth where copies of the JCSH brochure, the Better Practices Document and the Comprehensive School Health Framework were available.

In addition, **Neil MacDonald**, our Management Committee member from Alberta who is the Executive Director of Public Health Policy and Planning, Alberta Health and Wellness, delivered one of the final plenary presentations on *Obesity: From Prevention to Promoting Healthy Weights*. This panel – as the wrap-up session – aimed to leave conference participants with a focus shift from body weight to health promotion. Solutions for reversing the trend of unhealthy lifestyles and the partnerships needed in order to achieve this were highlighted. Neil's presentation focused on the framework approved by Ministers of Health/Healthy Living/Health Promotion entitled *Curbing Childhood Obesity: A Federal, Provincial and Territorial Framework for Action to Promote Healthy Weights*.

### **3. Mental Health Summit 2012: Mental Health Promotion and Mental Illness Prevention for All (February 15-16, 2012 Winnipeg, MB)**

This Summit was hosted by the Government of Manitoba to build on Premiers' discussion on the importance of mental health promotion and mental illness prevention at the July 2011 Council of the Federation meeting. It was attended by government and Aboriginal policy, research and decision-making representatives from across the country and featured a number of renowned national and international speakers sharing leading edge scientific evidence. The JCSH was invited to present on our work on Positive Mental Health, including the new PMH Toolkit, at a concurrent session. The Executive Director, along with researchers from W. Morrison and Associates, presented the Toolkit with an introduction by Mark Robertson, JCSH Management Committee member from Manitoba. The toolkit was very well received. In attendance at the session was the Minister of Education from Manitoba who spoke very favourably about the Toolkit in the question period. Also in attendance at the Summit were Paige MacFarlane, BC Management Committee representative; Charito Elderfield, BC SHCC; Andrea Lamboo-Miln, Manitoba School Health Coordinator; Jean-Vianney Auclair, Manitoba Management Committee Alternate; and Charlotte Borg, NU SHCC .

### **4. Healthy Weights Summit (February 27, 2012 Ottawa, ON)**

On February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the Executive Director attended this Summit. The purpose of the Summit was to advance efforts in building partnerships across sectors, to bring forward new ideas, discuss progress of initiatives underway, and connect sectors working toward common objectives. Kyla Christiansen, one of Saskatchewan's School Health Coordinators, was also in attendance. This Summit provided the opportunity to consider linkages between the work of meeting participants, as well as to better familiarize them with the unique governing model of the Joint Consortium and its Comprehensive School Health Framework.

### **5. Federal/Provincial/Territorial Group on Nutrition (FPTGN) Meeting (February 29, 2012 Ottawa, ON)**

A number of School Health Coordinators from around the country, as well as the Manager, Cross Sector Engagement representing the JCSH Secretariat, took part in a one-day meeting with the Federal Provincial Territorial Group on Nutrition (FPTGN) to discuss relationships and possible collaboration and directions for these two groups. The focus of the day was for the FPTGN to learn from the jurisdictional work in the area of school food guidelines, nutrition policies in place, and implementation work, and areas where the work of the FPTGN might be of assistance. The School Health Coordinators in

attendance (Lorna Arsenault (YK), Ellen Coady (NL), Kyla Christiansen (SK), Gail Diachuk (AB), Dwayne Provo (NS), Sanja Ristic (BC) ) provided a strong overview of the work being done in their jurisdictions in the area of school foods and nutrition, and the FPTGN found their discussions very helpful. In addition, Ellen Coady co-presented on the work being done in NL and the need for health and education collaboration in this area. Laraine Poole, Management Committee alternate for PE, also attended this meeting. A number of recommendations came out of this day-long event and will be discussed on the March 08 SHCC teleconference.

#### **6. *Exploring international perspectives on adoption and implementation of school-based physical activity models: Identifying a research, policy, practice agenda (March 01-02, 2012 Victoria, BC)***

This knowledge dissemination and exchange meeting, hosted by BC Ministry of Health was funded by CLASP and CIHR. There were four presentations:

- A Framework for Understanding Implementation of School Based Health Initiatives by Dr. PJ Naylor, UVic;
- Institutionalization of the CATCH school health program by Dr. Steven Kelder, Austin Texas;
- Implementation research on school-based obesity prevention in The Netherlands by Dr. Mai Chinapaw, University Medical Centre, Amsterdam;
- Translating research into practice: A case study of Action Schools! BC by Drs. Louise Masse and PJ Naylor, UVic.

The presentations were followed by a roundtable discussion looking at the Canadian Context with a focus on: How does the research compare to other real world experiences? What are the critical supports and challenges to wide scale dissemination and implementation of effective policies and programs and how can we influence it?

The day and a half concluded with two Fish Bowl activities:

- **Policy makers/practitioners** – what are the issues/questions you are interested in having researchers address?
- **Researchers** - what are the research issues you are interested in exploring?

Approximately two-thirds of the participants were policy makers and practitioners. JCSH members included: Scott Beddall (BC), Sanja Ristic (BC), Paul Paquin (MB), Andrea Lamboo-Miln (MB) and Katherine Kelly, JCSH ED.

#### **7. School Travel Plan initiative**

On March 2, 2012, members of the JCSH Secretariat followed up on a request from Jacky Kennedy of the “School Travel Plan initiative” to discuss potential collaborative opportunities between this initiative and the JCSH. The SHCC PE co-chair also attended the meeting. This opportunity will be further discussed in the greater context of JCSH partnerships at the upcoming April face-to-face meeting of the SHCC.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

## 8. YE CLASP II Proposal Writing

On March 21-22, 2012, the Executive Director will attend a meeting in Waterloo, ON, regarding proposal development for a potential YE CLASP Phase II. JCSH feedback (i.e. potential to explore youth engagement, links to HBSC) has been incorporated into the latest draft proposal, and will be discussed in more detail at this meeting.

## 9. “Concept Paper” on Comprehensive School Health / Health Promoting Schools / Healthy School Communities

On March 23, 2012, the Executive Director will attend a meeting in Waterloo, ON, regarding the latest draft of a Concept Paper on Comprehensive School Health / Health Promoting Schools / Healthy School Communities being developed by Propel and PHE Canada.

### Project-specific Updates

## 10. Healthy School Planner

### *CIHR Knowledge Translation (KT) Grant*

Propel has started the interviews in Alberta for the KT Grant, “Dissemination Plan to Increase Use of the Healthy School Planner Across Canada.” Eleven interviews have been completed to date; five more are pending. The plan is to interview up to twenty individuals in each jurisdiction. There are also plans for interviews to be held in Manitoba.

### *Pilot Testing (Foundational module, as well as the Physical Activity and Tobacco “Express” modules)*

The pilot study for the foundational module, as well as the Physical Activity and Tobacco “Express” modules (express modules based on YE CLASP’s “Core Indicators and Measures” (CIM), formerly known as “Minimal Data Sets” ) is underway. These modules will be piloted in two schools in NL, three schools in SK and up to eleven schools in AB (some are still pending). In addition, several schools will test the express modules as part of the CLASP CIM testing. The aim is for this data collection (questionnaires and follow-up interview) to be complete by the end of March.

### *Detailed Modules*

Propel has begun working to revise the detailed modules, and hopes to have some revised drafts to share with the Healthy School Planner Advisory Committee in the coming month.

### *Request for round 2 of working groups and pilot testing*

Given the plan to conduct another round of working groups, as well as pilot testing, for the detailed modules on physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco, as well as for the healthy eating “express” module (which is not yet available due to delays on the healthy eating CIM, but which should soon be available), **we are again seeking feedback from School Health Coordinators regarding whether they are interested in volunteering schools from their jurisdictions for these sessions.** Engagement of these working groups will take place in late April/early May, with pilot testing to take place in late May.

## 11. Communications Working Group

This group has held its first meeting and has begun work on the JCSH Communications Strategy. During the meeting, the decision was made to go forward on revisions to the website, as this area is already covered in the current JCSH operating plan and SHCC work plan. This work is especially important now as the JCSH website is experiencing fairly frequent shutdowns lately due to a “malicious code injection” which will be resolved with a new site. The JCSH Secretariat has been in contact with the webmaster and in consultation with the Working Group members will be providing him with answers to questions he has posed on website direction and design. It is hoped that the Working Group will have some website design options and a draft Communications Strategy to share during the April face-to-face meeting of the School Health Coordinators’ Committee.