



December 2009

Welcome to *OAHPP Bulletin*, an e-update to keep our partners in the health system informed about OAHPP activities and projects. Updates are also published on our website at www.oahpp.ca, so please be sure to check it regularly.

OAHPP news

Join us in welcoming OAHPP's newest partners As of April 1, 2010, management of four health resource centres – The Health Communication Unit, the Alcohol Policy Network/Association to Reduce Alcohol Consumption, the Ontario Injury Prevention Resource Centre, and the Program Training and Consultation Centre – will transfer from the Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP) to OAHPP. [Read more.](#)

Smoke-Free Ontario The secretariat team for the Smoke-Free Ontario Scientific Advisory Committee (SFO-SAC) has joined OAHPP. The SFO-SAC will bring together scientific experts in the tobacco control field from Ontario and around the world to provide scientific and technical advice to the Ministry of Health Promotion on the renewal of the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy. Tobacco use continues to be a major public health issue in Ontario, linked to over 13,000 deaths each year.

New staff [Dr. George Pasut](#) joins OAHPP as vice-president, Science and Public Health, effective April 1, 2010. Pasut will provide senior leadership to OAHPP in the further development and implementation of the strategic plan, and will oversee the operational portfolios involved with the delivery of scientific and public health programs.

Brian Schwartz receives an Ontario College of Family Physicians (OCFP) Award of Excellence OAHPP's director of Emergency Management Support received the prestigious OCFP Award of Excellence for his role in pandemic planning. Every year, the OCFP issues awards to select college members and other individuals who have shown an outstanding commitment to family medicine in the province of Ontario.

Visit the new OAHPP website at www.oahpp.ca. We've been hard at work making our website a friendlier and more useful resource for you. We welcome your feedback at communications@oahpp.ca.

Events

Tuberculosis: Out with the old, in with the new. On October 8, OAHPP brought together noted leaders in tuberculosis research and diagnostics. View the speakers' [presentations](#).

Geographic information systems This fall, OAHPP hosted the three workshops exploring geographic information systems and their many applications to public health. View the [presentations](#).

HPV dialogue: Advancing research and policy in Ontario OAHPP was a proud sponsor of the Gairdner Foundation 50th Anniversary Symposium, the largest gathering of the world's top scientists ever held in Canada. The event brought together Canada's Gairdner laureates for lectures, panel discussions, public forums, interviews and informal talks, and provided an opportunity for a multi-disciplinary group of Ontario public health, policy and research leaders to engage in discussion with internationally recognized human papillomavirus (HPV) scientists regarding policy and research directions to prevent and control HPV and HPV-related disease. View the [presentation](#).

OPHA 2009 Conference OAHPP was a sponsor of the 60th Annual Ontario Public Health Association Conference. Sonya Corkum, our vice-president, Knowledge Exchange and Communications, gave a [keynote address](#), Don Low, medical director of the OAHPP laboratories, and Dylan Pillai, medical microbiologist, presented a 'Pneumococcal update in Ontario', and OAHPP president and chief executive officer Dr. Vivek Goel delivered closing remarks.

Looking ahead

Public health conference, 2011 OAHPP, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) and the Ontario Public Health Association are working together to plan a unique public health conference for the spring of 2011. You can help to identify innovative themes and approaches by joining our brainstorming session on February 2, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Toronto. All volunteers are welcome. Please RSVP at learning@oahpp.ca by January 8.

On March 8, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., OAHPP will host a forum on **PSA screening** for prostate cancer. The forum will review evidence and recommendations for PSA screening, and explore approaches to public education. Registration information will be available on our [events calendar](#) shortly.

OAHP in the news

OAHP Flu Fighters: Check out the Toronto Star's take on OAHP's [Flu Fighters](#) and their contribution to managing pandemic H1N1.

OAHP welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions at info@oahpp.ca or send a letter to:

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