



Ontario

The Exchange

Agency for Health
Protection and Promotion

Agence de protection et
de promotion de la santé

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Welcome to The Exchange, a monthly e-newsletter with news and information about services supporting applied research, program evaluation, education, professional development and knowledge exchange in public health.

More information is available on OAHPP's [website](#), so be sure to check there for regular updates.

Please share this bulletin with staff and colleagues.

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New Program Model Introduced

Want to access more journals through the Virtual Library?

Wish you could find examples of student policies and evaluation tools to prepare for arriving student placements?

Want to work with colleagues in other health units on applied research projects that matter to you?

The Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) has developed a new set of services to help. Designed to support health units in addressing applied research and program evaluation, education and professional development, and knowledge exchange functions, these services arose from the transfer of the provincial share of funding for the Public Health Research, Education and Development (PHRED) program to OAHPP as of January 1, 2011.

Your needs and priorities helped shape the design of the new model and we want your continued involvement.

At a [webinar](#) on January 21, 2011, the new program model for supporting applied research, program evaluation, education, professional development and knowledge exchange in public health was introduced. More than 200 individuals registered for this event. If you attended – or in

case you missed it – we are pleased to launch a newly [expanded website](#). A [paper](#) providing a comprehensive overview of the new program model is posted there along with other program information and documents.

Expanded Website

OAHP's [website](#) has been expanded to include a new section dedicated to information, resources, and updates about the new program model. You'll find a general overview of the program, as well as detailed information about each of the five program elements:

- [Locally driven collaborative projects](#)
- [Ethics support](#)
- [Student education and preceptor support](#)
- [Library services](#)
- [Knowledge exchange support](#).

The website also includes a [Reports and Resources](#) page that contains a variety of documents related to the development of the new program model and current program planning, as well as PHRED program documents and links.

Be sure to visit the website often for updated resources and information about the program, and for opportunities to get involved in the development and implementation of the program elements.

Get Involved

There are plenty of opportunities for interested individuals to get involved in the design and implementation of the program. Upcoming opportunities include:

- **Web-Based Public Health Platform** – Planning has begun for the development of a public health web-based platform to support many of the program services, such as on-line collaboration, communities of practice, and a repository for public health resources. OAHP is presently partnering with the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) and Association for Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa) to conduct a needs assessment of health units to identify needs, priorities, advise on engaging the field, and conduct a current state analysis and a gap analysis related to the platform. **Timeframe: February – March 2011**

- **Health Unit Consultations** – In order to design services that will meet the needs of health units, a number of consultations are being planned with public health stakeholders in the near future. These will include online surveys, telephone interviews, and focus groups on the following topics:
 - an environmental scan of health units with libraries of existing services and resources (launching week of March 1, 2011);
 - an environmental scan of health units without libraries related to library services and resources (launching week of March 14, 2011);
 - key informant interviews with health unit staff playing student education and preceptor coordinator functions (beginning week of March 7, 2011); and
 - focus group with health unit staff to identify ethic support needs (March – April 2011).

- **Collaboration Opportunities** – OAHPP is hosting a pre-convention facilitated session on April 5, 2011, at The Ontario Public Health Convention for public health stakeholders to brainstorm topics for collaborative projects and to identify potential collaborations. This will be followed closely by two more sessions that will build on the momentum of the first and help to facilitate the formation of collaborative projects. It is hoped that each health unit will have at least one attendee whose participation costs will be covered by OAHPP. The [invitation](#) to the facilitated session on April 5th provides more information about this event and how to register to attend.

- **Work Groups** – Several work groups, composed of public health staff and other interested stakeholders, are being formed to provide input into the design and implementation of program services. Staff members of public health units are welcome to express their interest in participating in a work group by emailing us at feedback@oahpp.ca. Notices of these work groups will be included in our regular email bulletins and will be posted on our website.
Timeframe: variable, March – Fall 2011

- **Advisory Committee** – Draft terms of reference have been crafted and a call for volunteers will be issued in March – April 2011. This will be an ongoing advisory committee to the program.

For a full list of other exciting opportunities to get involved in the development of the program elements, visit the [Get Involved](#) section of our website.

CONTACT US

If you would like more information about the program or to receive this regular e-update, please contact us at feedback@oahpp.ca.

Program updates will be posted on our website and will also be emailed to key stakeholders and those on the distribution list on a regular basis.

OAHPP welcomes the opportunity to talk to you further about the program and its services. If you would like OAHPP to attend your health unit, team, association, or working group meetings to discuss the program further, please contact us at feedback@oahpp.ca.

If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please reply to this email with the word **unsubscribe** in the subject line.