



Ontario

The Exchange

Agency for Health
Protection and Promotion

Agence de protection et
de promotion de la santé

May 2011

Volume 1, Issue 3

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.

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Update on Ethics Support Services

Secondment Opportunity in Ethics — Are you interested in ethics? Have you ever wanted to amend the ethics review process so that it could better address the issues that arise in population and public health? If so, you may be interested in a secondment position at the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) to help develop and implement new ethics services for public health units. Virtual arrangements are possible (e.g. work two days at OAHPP and three days at home). For more information about this exciting opportunity or to apply, visit the [Career](#) section of our website.

New Model for Ethics Services for Public Health

Projects — A new model to provide ethics review and support services for a range of public health projects, including research, program evaluation, surveillance and quality improvement, is making the rounds at a number of national forums where it's already generated a lot of interest. The [new model](#), developed in collaboration with health units, was presented at the Canadian Association of Research Ethics Boards in April. In June, it will be presented

at the North American Congress of Epidemiology and the Canadian Public Health Association conference, both at a podium session and at a pre-conference workshop on the use of frameworks in public health ethics. For more information, visit the [Ethics Support](#) section of our website.

LDCP News

Collaborating to Advance Public Health — Locally Driven Collaborative Projects (LDCP) Workshop — The first of three collaboration events to help develop and facilitate the selection of the 2011 locally driven collaborative projects was held on April 5th. The workshop was well attended, with representation from 31 health units and several partner organizations. Prior to the workshop all health units were invited to submit a wish list of research or program evaluation topics related to [six themes](#). We received an enthusiastic response of over 200 topics that were sub-classified and presented at the workshop. Throughout the day there were presentations and activities, including a world café to identify additional topics, brainstorming ideas for effective collaboration, and a prioritization exercise. More information about the workshop is available in a [brief recap](#) document, or you can speak to your organization's [representative](#) who attended. A full report on the day, including steps that were taken after the workshop to prepare for the next session, will be available on the [LDCP](#) section of OAHPP's website in mid-May.

SPEP Network Springs Into Action

At the March meeting of the Student Placement, Education and Preceptorship (SPEP) Network, members contributed to the development of a vision that supports all health units to coordinate and provide student placements and preceptor development. Members considered challenges, opportunities, future goals, as well as resources required to support the vision. Details about the March meeting are available in the [full report](#) or the one-page [summary](#) document.

The SPEP Network includes health unit staff members who are involved in student placement coordination. If you would like to join the Network or would like more information about it, visit the [SPEP](#) section of the website or contact Karen Jenkins, Student Education and Preceptor

Liaison at Karen.jenkins@oahpp.ca

Interest High for Library Services Working Group

The call for volunteers from health units to sit on a library services working group has generated a great deal of interest across the province. Six individuals will be selected in May (three staff members from health units with libraries and three from health units without libraries) to sit on the working group. This group will provide input and advice to OAHPP into the development of the shared library partnership model. Once developed, the model will be shared with all health units for feedback, refinements, and to solicit expressions of interest from those health units that might be interested in acting as a library service provider. While the working group will recommend criteria for selecting the service providers, these decisions will be made by OAHPP to achieve the model's objectives and meet the criteria.

Analysis of data from the environmental scans of health units conducted in March to assess their level of access to public health library services and resources is underway. The final report will be shared with the Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH), the Ontario Public Health Libraries Association (OPHLA), and other stakeholders and will be used to help inform the shared library partnership model. Once the report is completed it will be available on the [Library Services](#) section of the website.

Knowledge Exchange Initiatives

The development of a web-based system for public health is moving ahead. The consultant's final report containing recommendations for technical options was recently presented to OAHPP. Key results will soon be shared with the field to allow for broad system understanding of the needs, technology capacity, and strategy going forward.

OAHPP is also working with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) and the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) to improve access to information about public health initiatives, experts and networks. Both alPHA and OPHA will consult with public health practitioners to collect this information. We envision that putting this information together in one easily searchable platform will

improve awareness and information sharing of activities and results, increase uptake of results, and reduce duplication of effort.

For more information, visit the [Knowledge Exchange Support](#) section of our website.

Contact Us

If you would like more information about the services supporting applied research, program evaluation, education, professional development and knowledge exchange in public health, or to receive this regular e-update, please contact us at feedback@oahpp.ca. Updates are also posted on our [website](#).

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

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