



Ontario

Agency for Health
Protection and Promotion

Agence de protection et
de promotion de la santé

The Exchange

June 2011

Volume 1, Issue 4

Welcome to The Exchange, a monthly e-newsletter containing 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](#). Be sure to check there for regular updates.

Please share this bulletin with staff and colleagues.

In this Issue:

[Join the Project Reference Group](#)
[Locally Driven Collaborative Projects Update](#)
[Planning for Library Services Continues](#)
[A New Model for Ethics Support Services](#)
[SPEP Network Structure Developed](#)
[Contact Us](#)

Join the Project Reference Group

Public health professionals have frequently expressed the need to easily identify who is doing what in public health and to find colleagues with expertise in specific content areas. An inventory of this type of information has the potential to strengthen public health activities by facilitating [knowledge exchange](#) and collaboration. The Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP), the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) are working together to address this need by collectively designing an effective, efficient, and useful inventory of public health activities and expertise for use by Ontario public health professionals.

We are seeking 10–12 experienced health unit staff to serve on our Project Reference Group (PRG). The PRG will meet monthly from late June to September via teleconference. The group will provide strategic guidance and feedback to ensure repository design and data collection processes meet the needs and interests of the field. Beyond PRG, there will be other opportunities to get involved and to share your ideas through focus groups and consultations.

If you are interested in joining the Project Reference Group,

please contact Dayna Albert <dalbert@opha.on.ca> or Linda Stewart <linda@alphaweb.org> **by June 10, 2011.**

Locally Driven Collaborative Projects Update

On April 5, 2011, the first of three collaboration workshops for the [locally driven collaborative projects](#) (LDCP) was held. Health units and other public health stakeholders came together to identify and prioritize topics. A [detailed report](#) on the workshop, including what has happened since the workshop and next steps, is now available as well as all the [appendices](#) to the report.

The second workshop, *Moving from Possibilities to Projects*, will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2011, in Toronto. The aim of this workshop is to develop and select applied research and program evaluation projects for LDCP funding. More information about this workshop and factors to consider in deciding who should attend is included in both the detailed report from Workshop 1 and the presentation [Locally Driven Collaborative Projects: Overview of the 2011 Process](#). [Registration](#) for Workshop 2 is open until **Tuesday, June 7, 2011.**

Planning for Library Services Full Steam Ahead

Introducing the Library Services Working Group (LSWG)

Members — We had an overwhelming response to our request for interested health unit staff to submit their names to participate on the LSWG. In total, 26 people put their names forward. Based on the selection criteria, which included representation from health units with and without libraries and of various sizes and geographic locations, the following six people have agreed to sit on the LSWG:

- Gayle Jessop, Public Health Librarian, Region of Waterloo Public Health
- Yvonne Tyml, Librarian, Middlesex-London Health Unit
- Crystal Merriott, Library Technician, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- Alanna Leffley, Senior Epidemiologist, Grey Bruce Health Unit
- Kim Peters, Health Promoter, Timiskaming Health Unit
- Judy Stanley, Sexual Health Nurse, Peterborough County City Health Unit

Thanks to all those who submitted their name. Although not everyone could be selected to join the working group, there will still be the opportunity for feedback from health units as the [partnership model](#) is developed. The LSWG will hold its first meeting on June 7th. Its primary function is to provide input and feedback to OAHPP on key aspects of the shared library services partnership planning.

Easier Access to Full-Text Journals Coming Soon — A new feature on the Virtual Library (VL) will soon be available to provide easier access to full-text journals. Known as EBSCO A-Z, this tool is an alphabetical and searchable listing of all full-text journal titles available through the VL, Knowledge Ontario, and Open Access public health journals. It is anticipated this feature will be available on the VL in June.

Virtual Library Training Session in Development — A half-day training session on the VL for staff of health units without a library is currently under development. This training session, to be delivered on-site by a public health librarian, will be ready by the summer. More details about the training and scheduling will be sent to health units in the near future. The session is being developed in partnership with the Ontario Public Health Libraries Association (OPHLA) and will also be shared with those health units with librarians.

Coming Soon... A New Model for Ethics Support Services

Ethics Services will soon release two discussion papers for broad stakeholder consultation. These papers describe the proposed ethics services for OAHPP and for health units in Ontario. The *Conceptual Framework* paper provides a public health perspective for addressing ethical issues in research and other evaluative projects. The *Ethics Support Services Overview* paper provides a description of how the new ethics services are to be delivered. The two papers will be made available on the [Ethics Support](#) section of our website for review and comment. Your feedback is welcome.

SPEP Network Structure Developed

The Student Placement Education and Preceptorship (SPEP) Network has developed a [model](#) that depicts the Network's vision, structure, and links to other organizations within public health. The SPEP Network consists of interested

health unit representatives from across Ontario who are involved in student placement coordination. Within the SPEP Network, a core group of members will act as an advisory group and will collaborate and advise on the day-to-day operational decision making of the network. Work teams will be formed to complete specific network activities based on the prioritized needs identified from the key informant interviews conducted in March. The core group met in late May to begin prioritizing the work activities.

The Findings Report: Key Informant Survey, Student Education and Preceptorship, will be available in June on the [Student Education & Preceptor Support](#) section of the 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. Program updates are also posted on our [website](#).

OAHP welcomes the opportunity to talk to you further about these services. If you would like OAHP 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.

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