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---- I. NEWS & VIEWS ----

CANADA

1. LATEST PRODUCT RECALLS (also available in French)

Note: products that are recalled for lead or barium are in excess of the allowable level per the Canadian Hazardous Products Act (CHPA).

- Spa Factory Aromatherapy Fountain and Bath Benefits Kit: Pressure from build-up of carbon dioxide can cause caps on jars to blow off.
- Plush Teddy Bear: Eyes can detach, posing a choking hazard.
- Mavic Bicycles with R-SYS Front Wheel: Carbon tubular spokes on front wheel may break.
- Standing Reindeer by Loblaw's Companies Ltd.: Eyes and bells pose a choking hazard.
- Bijouteria Necklace with Star Shaped Pendant: Pendant contains lead.
- Bijouteria necklaces with Pirate & Sword Birthstone and Double Dolphin Birthstone Pendants: Pendants contain lead.
- Safety 1st SmartLight Stair Gate: Hinges can break, posing a fall hazard.
- Plush Rabbit with Pouch by Daiso: Eyes can detach, posing a choking hazard.
- Centura Brands Disney Princess Lip Gloss and Lipstick Combo Pack: Cap on both products contains lead.
- Souris Mini Children's Sleepwear: Product is flammable.
- Frog Squeeze Toys: Small parts pose choking hazard.
- Stuffed Tinsel Snowman: Small parts pose choking hazard.
- Simi Ring: Contains lead.
- Rainforest Portable Play Yard: May collapse unexpectedly.
- Olympia 3-in-1 Crib: Wooden slats can break, posing entrapment and strangulation hazards.
- Plush Dog: Buttons can detach, posing choking hazard.
- Mood Necklace with Flip-Flop Sandal Pendant: Pendant contains lead.
- Stork Craft Baby Cribs (all cribs manufactured between 2000 and 2008): Metal support brackets can crack and break.
- Big Daddy Gold Tooth: Product contains lead.
- Plush Animal Character: Eyes and nose can detach posing choking hazard.
- My First Blankie Children's Sleep Sacks: Snaps may loosen posing choking hazard.
- Shrek 2 Yo-yo Ball Toy: Poses risk of strangulation.
- Frontier Combination Harness-2-Booster Child Restraints: Shoulder harness can become detached.
- RCMP Uniform Stuffed Toys: Eyes and rivets can detach, posing choking hazard.

English: http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/pr-rp/pr-rp_e.php

French: http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/pr-rp/pr-rp_f.php

2. GROUP ENCOURAGES KIDS TO BE OUTSIDE

This article discusses the importance of outdoor activity in colder weather, and demonstrates that children learn best when they are experiencing nature (Gordon, 2009, February 6).

<http://www.parentcentral.ca/parent/article/583107>

3. IT'S YOUR HEALTH – INFANT BOTULISM (also available in French)

This e-news bulletin (Health Canada, 2009) advises parents and caregivers not to feed honey to infants.
English: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/diseases-maladies/botu-eng.php>
French: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/diseases-maladies/botu-fra.php>

----- II. RECENT REPORTS AND RESEARCH RESULTS -----

CANADA

4. MOTHERS WITH HYPERTENSION OR DIABETES UP TO SIX TIMES MORE LIKELY TO DELIVER PRETERM (also available in French)

According to new analysis from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) (2009), more than 54,000 babies across Canada were born preterm or small for their gestational age (SGA) in 2006-2007. This represents one in seven Canadian births.

English: http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=media_2009_01_29_e
French: http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=media_2009_01_29_f

5. HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT CARD ON CANADIANS' HEALTH (also available in French)

This report reveals that, depending on where they live, Canadians may pay more than double to almost six times more for healthy food. A total of 66 communities across Canada were evaluated.

English:

<http://www.heartandstroke.com/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=iklQLcMWJtE&b=4955951&ct=6715269>

French:

<http://www.fmcoeur.com/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=ntJXJ8MMIqE&b=4277231&ct=6712137>

News article: <http://www.cbc.ca/health/story/2009/02/09/heart-food-prices.html?ref=rss>

6. TOO EARLY, TOO SMALL: A PROFILE OF SMALL BABIES ACROSS CANADA (also available in French)

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) released (2009, January 29) a new report "Too Early, Too Small: A profile of small babies across Canada". Babies who are born preterm (before 37 weeks of gestation) or small for their gestational age (SGA) are at increased risk of mortality and morbidity (CIHI, 2009, January 29). This report examines the relationship between selected factors and preterm and SGA births for all provinces and territories except Quebec. Data from CIHI's 2006-2007 Discharge Abstract Database was used. The report also provides information on the hospital costs of preterm, SGA, and low birth weight newborns.

English:

http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=PG_1791_E&cw_topic=1791&cw_rel=AR_1106_E

French:

http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=PG_1791_F&cw_topic=1791&cw_rel=AR_1106_F

7. BULIMIC EATING DISORDERS (also available in French)

The Canadian Paediatric Surveillance Program (CPSP) is collecting national data on bulimia nervosa in 5- to 18-year olds. There is currently no Canadian data on bulimia in children; the data collected through

the CPSP study will advance knowledge on how to help these children. The study runs until February 2010.

Study outline: <http://www.cps.ca/English/surveillance/CPSP/Studies/bulimia.pdf>

French: <http://www.cps.ca/francais/Surveillance/PCSP/Etudes/boulimie.pdf>

News article:

<http://www.canada.com/health/Eating+disorder+survey+targets+patients+young+five/1077600/story.html>

INTERNATIONAL

8. M. D. ANDERSON STUDY FINDS PREGNANCY HAS NO IMPACT ON BREAST CANCER SURVIVAL, DOES DELAY TREATMENT, DIAGNOSIS

Young women who develop breast cancer during their pregnancy, or who are diagnosed within one year of their pregnancy, have no difference in rates of local recurrence, distant metastases and overall survival compared to other young women with the disease (The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, 2009). The findings will be published in the March 15 issue of the journal Cancer.

http://www.mdanderson.org/patients_public/display.cfm?id=D043534A-88DA-11D4-B10C00508B603A14&method=displayFull

9. FIRST-TIME MOTHERS AT GREATER RISK OF PSYCHOSIS IN MONTH FOLLOWING CHILDBIRTH

The journal PLoS Medicine recently published (Valdimarsdóttir et al., 2009, February 10) a study of risk factors associated with psychotic illness after childbirth. The study shows that first-time mothers are at the greatest risk of developing psychosis in the month following the birth of their child.

<http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371/journal.pmed.1000027&ct=1&SESSID=2b221889b56cb8a9a34020ba02c718c8>

10. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS FOR CHILDREN AGED 3 OR YOUNGER

A study from the American Journal of Public Health (December, 2008) shows that the use of car safety seats reduces the odds of children dying in a vehicle collision.

<http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/99/2/252>

News article: <http://www.cbc.ca/consumer/story/2009/01/21/car-seats.html>

11. VITAMIN D INTERACTS WITH GENE IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS)

Vitamin D seems have a functional interaction with a gene known to increase the risk of multiple sclerosis — a finding that suggests taking vitamin D at critical time periods may be key to disease prevention (Public Library of Science Genetics, 2009, February 6).

<http://www.plosgenetics.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pgen.1000369>

12. MATERNAL OBESITY AND THE RISK OF INFANT DEATH IN THE UNITED STATES

Research shows that babies born to obese mothers are at an increased risk of dying in their first weeks of life, compared to babies born to mothers of normal weight (Epidemiology, January 2009).

Abstract: <http://www.epidem.com/pt/re/epidemiology/abstract.00001648-200901000-00014.htm;jsessionid=JRMLJhkQpMsgXfrTPRc12QsjXThhJrVxPWvLBM2KZY2HNpDg4IVw!1219197830!181195629!8091!-1>

News articles:

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory_74706.html

http://news.yahoo.com/s/time/20090211/hl_time/08599187854900

http://www.webmd.com/baby/news/20090210/obesity-carries-pregnancy-risks?src=RSS_PUBLIC

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7879498.stm>

13. ONE IN SIX SWEDISH CHILDREN OVERWEIGHT

A study released on February 10 from Sweden's Linköping University, reveals that one in six Swedish five-year-olds is overweight. The study (Huus, 2009) included 17,000 children, with 12.9% overweight and 4.3% obese.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090210/hl_afp/healthswedenchildobesity

14. PARENTAL DEPRESSION, PARENTING BEHAVIOURS, AND BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS IN YOUNG CHILDREN

This study examines the relationships among parents' symptoms of depression, features of their parenting practices, and their ratings of their children's behaviour problems.

Abstract: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122192660/abstract>

----- III. CURRENT INITIATIVES -----

15. THE BABY FRIENDLY INITIATIVE – UNICEF UK

The Baby Friendly Initiative released a Community Audit Tool that enables community facilities to audit staff skills and standards of care delivery in line with the new Seven Point Plan for Sustaining Breastfeeding in the Community. Available March 2, 2009. There is a cost associated with this tool.

http://www.babyfriendly.org.uk/pdfs/infosheets/audit_tool_infosheet.pdf

16. SAFE KIDS WEEK

(also available in French)

May 25-31, 2009: Canada-wide

Hosted by: Safe Kids Canada

This year's 13th annual Safe Kids Week is focusing on home product safety. Product related injuries are a leading cause of injury for children under the age of 14. The campaign will emphasize education, engineering and enforcement solutions to reduce product related injuries and fatalities. Register as a Safe Kids Week partner to receive more information on the home product safety campaign and how to get your child care group/organization involved by visiting:

English: www.safekidscanada.ca

French: <http://www.safekidscanada.ca/securijeunesCanada/default.asp>

----- IV. UPCOMING EVENTS -----

This section lists events that have not been included in earlier editions of the MNCHP bulletin or listserv postings. For the details of these events and a complete list of events noted in previous MNCHP bulletins and postings, including contact information, links to organizations, and descriptions, see

<http://www.beststart.org/events/otherevents.php>

ONTARIO

17. CHNET-WORKS! DISCUSSIONS ON COMMUNITY HEALTH ISSUES

Dates: Multiple dates

Hosted by: Community Health Research Unit, University of Ottawa

Fireside Chats are free pan-Canadian discussions on pressing community health issues, for community health professionals via a simultaneous telephone and Internet 'conference'.

http://www.chnet-works.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=15&Itemid=61

18. WOMEN BUILDING PEACE CONFERENCE

February 15-17, 2009: Ottawa, ON
Hosted by: Civilian Peace Service Canada
www.civilianpeaceservice.ca

19. EATING AND MOVING WELL TO PREVENT & TREAT OBESITY: BUILDING OUR CAPACITY TO SUPPORT BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

March 11, 2009: Brockville, ON
Hosted by: Stroke Strategy of Southeastern Ontario
Registration: Charlette Campbell campbelc@kgh.kari.net

20. URBAN YOUTH AND THE DETERMINANTS OF SEXUAL HEALTH – STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

March 26, 2009: Toronto, ON
Hosted by: Centre for Urban Health Initiatives
Call for Submissions deadline: February 25, 2009
<http://www.cuhi.utoronto.ca/seminars/workshopdetails.html#Anchor-%22Urb-36615>

21. THE X EFFECTS CONFERENCE: WOMEN AND MENTAL HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE

April 1, 2009: Toronto, ON
Hosted by: Women's College Hospital
Early bird deadline: February 27, 2009
www.womenshealthmatters.ca/conf

22. TOWARDS 2020: CANADA'S COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH

A Conference with a Difference
April 27-29, 2009: Ottawa, ON
Hosted by: Child & Youth Friendly Ottawa
http://www.towards2020.ca/documents/towards2020_conference_program_feb5.pdf

23. THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

May 5-8, 2010: Toronto, ON
Hosted by: International Society for Physical Activity and Health
Registration for the 2010 International Congress on Physical Activity and Public Health will open on Wednesday, April 1, 2009. The deadline for symposium and workshop submissions is July 15, 2009. The deadline for posters and abstracts is November 15, 2009. Information concerning the Congress is constantly being updated on the website at www.icpaph2010.org.

24. BODY IMAGE AND SELF ESTEEM: SHADES OF GRAY

National Eating Disorder Information Centre 2009 Conference
May 11-12, 2009: Toronto, ON
Hosted by: National Eating Disorder Information Centre
www.nedic.ca

25. ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION IN EARLY YEARS

May 14, 2009: Burlington, ON
Hosted by: Early Years Education Ontario Network
Information: Dr. Aimee Wolanski, aimee.wolanski@peelsb.com

26. PREPARING FOR PREGNANCY – SELECTED TOPICS IN PRECONCEPTION HEALTH

May 27, 2009: Toronto, ON
Hosted by: Motherisk
Note: this program meets the accreditation criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been accredited for up to 6.0 Mainpro-M1 credits.

<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TicketingWelcome.aspx?EventID=24624&LangPref=en-CA>

27. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EDUCATION SESSIONS

Dates: Flexible dates

Hosted by: Algoma Council on Domestic Violence

The Algoma Council on Domestic Violence is looking for venues to make presentations.

www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.on.ca or contact Gayle Manley gmanley@shaw.ca

CANADA

28. BREASTFEEDING: THE SMART CHOICE - STEPPING UP TO BABY-FRIENDLY CONFERENCE

February 19-21, 2009: Vancouver, BC

Hosted by: BC Perinatal Health Program

Preliminary Program: www.bcphp.ca

Registration: <https://bcphp.ca/?p2=/modules/bcrp/regform.jsp>

29. MATERNAL INFANT-CHILD HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: HOW LOCAL RESEARCH CAN INFLUENCE POLICY AND PRACTICE

February 26, 2009: Edmonton, AB

Hosted by: Covenant Health Research Centre

Registration (by invitation only): caritasresearch@caritas.cha.ab.ca

30. 72ND ANNUAL PARENT CONFERENCE

April 24-26, 2009: Moncton, NB

Hosted by: New Brunswick Federation of Home and School Associations Inc.

Tradeshow table reservation: March 5, 2009

<http://www.nbhomeandschool.org/Welcome.html>

----- V. RESOURCES -----

31. HANDBOOK OF LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT – FREE ONLINE RESOURCE

Handbook of Language and Literacy Development: A Roadmap from 0-60 Months

This evidence-based reference (Canadian Language and Literacy Network, 2008) for researchers, parents and caregivers includes children's development milestones including: auditory, narrative, reading, speech-language, spelling and writing, and more.

www.theroadmap.ca

32. QANUQTUURNIQ – FINDING THE BALANCE

This is a 3-part call-in series on Inuit Wellness (National Aboriginal Health Organization, 2009), with a focus on Inuit maternity care (Birth: A Joyous Community Event).

<http://www.naho.ca/inuit/e/TVseries/matcare.php>

Information: Catherine Carry ccarry@naho.ca

33. SPECIAL DELIVERY

This inaugural issue (Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, 2009) contains a Clinical Update, Research News, annual meeting updates, and the Society's mission, values and vision.

<http://www.smfm.org/attachedfiles/SpecialDeliveryv1.pdf>

Society website: www.SMFM.org

34. ZERO TO THREE: CARING FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS IN GROUPS

This revised edition (Zero to Three, 2008) focuses on reflective supervision, the practice of meeting with staff regularly to discuss their experiences, thoughts, and feelings related to work.
<http://www.zerotothree.org/site/PageServer>

----- VI. FEATURED BEST START RESOURCES -----

35. HEALTHY EATING FOR A HEALTHY BABY (also available in French)

This booklet contains information for pregnant women addressing concerns related to nutritional needs of the growing baby, issues to watch out for (alcohol consumption, physical activity, weight gain) and also provides workbook questionnaires for self-assessment.

English: http://www.beststart.org/resources/nutrition/pdf/Prenatal_Ntrtn_Bklt.pdf

French: http://www.meilleurdepart.org/resources/nutrition/pdf/healthyeating_fr_2004.pdf

36. HEALTHY EATING FOR A HEALTHY BABY – POSTER (also available in French)

Based on Canada's Food Guide, this food guide for pregnant women contains information on essential nutrients, alcohol, coffee and fish consumption, etc., and offers advice for physical activity and simple recipes.

Order form: <http://www.beststart.org/resources/order.html#nutrition>