
MNCHP NETWORK BULLETIN JUNE 19 / 09

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

ONTARIO

1. FRANCOPHONE POPULATION RE-DEFINED

(also available in French)

The Government of Ontario (2009, June 4) is introducing a new definition of the province's Francophone population to better reflect the evolution and diversity of Francophone communities. Francophones were previously defined as only those whose mother tongue is French. The new definition captures those whose mother tongue is neither French nor English, but who have a particular knowledge of French as an Official Language and use French at home (e.g., recent immigrants to Ontario).

English: <http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOE/2009/06/04/c3121.html?lmatch=&lang= e.html>

French: <http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOF/2009/06/04/c3122.html?lmatch=&lang= f.html>

2. GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO EXPANDS ADMISSION GUIDELINES AT FRENCH-LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

(also available in French)

The Francophone population of Ontario has changed because of issues such as declining birth rates, an increase in immigration, and more families with only one parent who speaks French (Government of Ontario, 2009, June 17). As a result, French-language school boards are looking at making their admission processes more streamlined and their schools more welcoming for: French-speaking newcomers, newcomers who speak neither French nor English, children whose grandparents' first language is French, and families with a parent who does not speak French.

English: <http://www.news.ontario.ca/edu/en/2009/06/supporting-french-language-student-success.html>

French: <http://www.news.ontario.ca/edu/fr/2009/06/appuyer-la-reussite-des-eleves-francophones.html>

CANADA

3. LATEST PRODUCT RECALLS

(also available in French)

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

- Plush Animal Carrier Carrying Case by Oriental Trading Company Expanded Recall: Eyes and nose on the plush animals can easily detach from the toys, posing a choking hazard.

- Liquid-Filled Teethers by Playgro and Nuby: Liquid filling of the teether is contaminated with the bacteria *Bacillus licheniformis* (in the case of the Playgro teether) or *Bacillus cereus* (in the case of the Nuby teethers).

- Turtle-Shaped Pull Cord Toy by Playgro and Nuby: Turtle's hat, wheels, and wind-up mechanism can easily detach, posing a choking hazard.

- Okaïdi Children's Sleepwear: Do not meet the flammability requirements under Canadian law.

- Safety 1st and Eddie Bauer Play Yards: If a child is left unattended in the bassinet portion of the play yard, small movements of the child could cause the child to slide, posing a potential risk of injury or death due to suffocation.

- Bugaboo Bee Strollers: One or both sides of the brakes can fail, causing the stroller to unexpectedly roll away on an incline, posing a risk of injury.

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

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

4. SWINE FLU RISK AND PREGNANT WOMEN

This article (The Canadian Press, 2009, June 11) reports that six pregnant women in Manitoba are on ventilators because they are severely ill with swine flu. Dr. Danuta Skowronski, a flu expert with the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, looked at the evidence about the impact of influenza on pregnancy and found that the fatality rate was higher in pregnant women during the 1918 and 1957 pandemics, though not the milder pandemic of 1968. According to Skowronski: "If we base it on what we know of the 1918, 1957 pandemics, what we know about pre-existing antibody levels to swine influenza in the population, based on that I would say for this particular virus, pregnant women may suffer more serious consequences, especially in the third trimester...And they should probably seek care early if they have influenza-like illness".

http://www.medbroadcast.com/channel_health_news_details.asp?news_id=18366&rss=67&rid=999999&channel_id=1020&rot=3

5. CARDIOLOGIST SAYS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE INCREASING IN NEWFOUNDLAND CHILDREN

Doctors in Newfoundland are saying that they are seeing children as young as five years of age with hypertension. Janeway paediatric cardiologist Dr. Christina Templeton says that inactivity and poor food choices are contributing to high blood pressure: "We have gotten ourselves to the point where we're very dependent to processed foods and convenience foods because they're fast" (CBC, 2009, June 11).

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2009/06/11/newfoundland-children-hypertension.html>

6. FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR RESEARCH TO COMBAT CHILDHOOD OBESITY

(also available in French)

The Government of Canada (2009, June 17) announced \$1.9 million from a partnership involving the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Rx&D Health Research Foundation (HRF), the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, and the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada. The research projects aim to better understand eating and exercise behaviours and to explore new ways that Canadian children can avoid obesity or control it. The five new projects will: (1) implement a web-based survey of diet and physical activity among Cree schoolchildren in the Hudson and James Bay regions (Rhona Hanning at the University of Waterloo); (2) study how family, peers and school environments affect the attempts of overweight adolescents to lose weight (Louise Masse, Jean Pierre Chanoine, and Josie Geller at the University of British Columbia and the Child Family Research Institute); (3) study how diet and activity changes made by overweight mothers-to-be can reduce the chances of their children becoming overweight (Michelle Mottola, at the University of Western Ontario); (4) study how urban street design can lead to neighbourhoods that foster behaviours to reduce weight (Nazeem Muhajarine and Cordell Neudorf, at the University of Saskatchewan); and (5) study public awareness of the federal Children's Fitness Tax Credit as well as its use and impact on decisions about participation in physical activity (Barbara von Tigerstrom, at the University of Saskatchewan).

English: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-eng.do?m=/index&nid=459959>

French: <http://nouvelles.gc.ca/web/article-fra.do?m=/index&nid=459959>

7. GOVERNOR GENERAL HOSTS A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON RECONCILIATION

(also available in French)

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada hosted a roundtable discussion on reconciliation on June 11, 2009 to mark the one-year anniversary of the Government of Canada's official apology to former students of residential schools.

English: <http://www.gg.ca/media/doc.asp?lang=e&DocID=5771>

French: <http://www.gg.ca/media/doc.asp?lang=f&DocID=5771>

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

ONTARIO

8. REPORT OF THE PAEDIATRIC DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE AND DEATHS UNDER FIVE COMMITTEE

This report presents data from the paediatric deaths reviewed in 2008 in an effort to objectively analyze the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the deaths and to develop recommendations aimed at preventing deaths in similar circumstances. The Paediatric Death Review Committee examined the circumstances surrounding the deaths of 138 children between the ages of 0 and 19 years. The Deaths Under Five Committee reviewed 96 deaths. The findings indicate that the most vulnerable ages for paediatric deaths are for infants under 12 months and children aged 12 to 18 years. The involvement of a Children's Aid Society did not appear to be a factor in the majority of child deaths and in cases where there was involvement by a Children's Aid Society; most deaths could not have been foreseen or prevented by the agency. The findings highlight: (1) the importance of safe sleeping environments for infants; (2) the continuing and concerning trend of adolescent suicides especially in northern and Aboriginal communities; and (3) the majority of children died while in the care of their families and prevention strategies and educational messages need to be aimed at the general public and parents. "Issues facing families such as domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health concerns are prevalent in the cases reviewed with evidence of chronic neglect, partly related to poverty, but also to parental capacity problems" (Lauwers, 2009, June 1).

<http://www.oacas.org/pubs/external/PDRCAnnualReport09June1.pdf>

CANADA

9. INTERVIEWING INUIT ELDERS: PERSPECTIVES ON TRADITIONAL HEALTH (also available in Inuktitut)

This five-volume series is about traditional knowledge. The first volume acts as an introduction to the series. The remaining four volumes are thematic, and deal with traditional law, child rearing, shamanism, and health. The reports are available in English and Inuktitut versions.

<http://nac.nu.ca/OnlineBookSite/vol5/chapters.html>

10. A HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE CANADA: A DETERMINANT OF HEALTH APPROACH (also available in French)

The Subcommittee on Population Health of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology (2009) released this report, which aims to "examine and report on the impact of the multiple factors and conditions that contribute to the health of Canada's population – referred collectively as the determinants of health". The report indicates that Canada is seriously falling behind other countries and that it is unacceptable for a wealthy country such as Canada to continue to tolerate such disparities in health. The subcommittee stressed that disparities may widen even further with the current economic crisis and that a whole of government approach is required with intersectoral action (i.e., business, volunteers, and community organizations). They demonstrate that implementing a population health information system with longitudinal capacity that can monitor, evaluate, and report on well-being throughout the human life course is required. It is also noted that community initiatives that integrate education, health, and social services are required to reduce disparities, stem the prevalence of disease and increase productivity. "We must not be intimidated by this task, which is doable and which will eventually lead to a nation with health equity, well-being and drastically improved productivity. The challenge is for every Canadian, the benefits are to every Canadian" (Senate of Canada, 2009, June 4).

Report: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/40/2/parlbus/commbus/senate/Com-e/popu-e/rep-e/rephealthjun09-e.pdf>

French: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/40/2/parlbus/commbus/senate/Com-f/popu-f/rep-f/rephealthjun09-f.pdf>

The committee's mandate, schedule of meetings, most recent reports and minutes of proceedings:

www.senate-senat.ca/social.asp

French: http://www.parl.gc.ca/common/Committee_SenHome.asp?Language=F&comm_id=47

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

11. INTERNATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK: JUNE 15-21

International Men's Health Week aims to increase the awareness of preventable health problems and encourage early detection and treatment of disease among men and boys. This week health care providers, public policy makers, the media, and individuals can encourage men and boys to seek regular medical advice and early treatment for disease and injury.

<http://www.menshealthmonth.org/imhw/imhw.htm>

12. SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE DAY: JUNE 24

(also available in French)

French Canadians across the country express their cultural pride and rich heritage through parades and parties. Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day activities combine the ancient rites of the summer solstice which is a period of light and hope with the traditional celebration in honour of the Patron Saint of French Canadians.

English: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/canada/11/baptiste-eng.cfm>

French: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/canada/11/baptiste-fra.cfm>

13. MULTICULTURALISM DAY: JUNE 27

(also available in French)

Canadian Multiculturalism Day is for celebrating diversity, showing commitment to democracy, equality, and mutual respect, and appreciating of the contributions of the various multicultural groups and communities to Canadian society.

English: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/canada/11/multi-eng.cfm>

French: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/canada/11/multi-fra.cfm>

14. DIABETES FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: THE LAWSON FOUNDATION

The Lawson Foundation invites letters of intent to support innovative projects that address: (1) the prevention of diabetes in at-risk populations; and/or (2) the delivery of health care to those who are living with diabetes. The maximum grant amount is \$150,000 payable over 24 months (maximum \$75,000 per 12-month period). The deadline for submission is August 17, 2009.

<http://www.lawson.ca/>

15. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: CANADA GETS ACTIVE!

(also available in French)

In conjunction with the "Everybody gets to play" initiative, Canada Parks and Recreation Association's (CPRA) new project "Canada Gets Active" aims to increase physical activity involvement of Canadian children by increasing their access to participation in community facilities. This project is modeled after "Kingston Gets Active". CPRA is asking interested communities in Canada to apply to be one of the five communities to provide Grade 5 students with a Community Physical Activity Pass that will provide free access to designated recreation and facilities. Pilot communities are eligible to receive up to a maximum of \$15000 to assist with their project, which would take place from August 2009 to March 2010. The deadline to apply is July 15, 2009.

English: http://www.everybodygetstoplay.ca/EN/main.php?action=cmsEGTP.e_whatsNew

French: http://www.everybodygetstoplay.ca/FR/main.php?action=cmsEGTP.e_whatsNew

16. ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: TD FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION (TD FEF)

TD FEF is a national organization with a grassroots focus that supports local environmental projects and works with people who want to protect and preserve the environment in their own backyard (Charity Village, 2009, June 1). Canadian nonprofits, municipal governments, and educational institutions can apply online for funding that typically ranges from several hundred to several thousands of dollars, depending on the scope and size of the project. TD FEF supports a wide range of projects including: wildlife rehabilitation, education programs for children, environmental cleanups, tree planting campaigns, conservation and recycling initiatives, and urban renewal. TD FEF will contact an organization within 120 days of receiving their application.

<http://www.fef.td.com/funding.jsp#criteria>

----- 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. RESEARCH FOR CHANGE: YOUTH CONFERENCE

June 20, 2009: Toronto, ON

Hosted by: Access Alliance

<http://www.researchforchange.ca/>

18. CENSUS 2009 AND A NEW REALITY: EMPOWERMENT AND LEADERSHIP OF SOUTH ASIAN WOMEN

August 7-8, 2009: Toronto, ON

Hosted by: South Asian Women's Centre

<http://newreality.conference.yorku.ca/>

19. CANADIAN REFUGEE HEALTH CONFERENCE

November 24-25, 2009: Toronto, ON

Sponsored by: Continuing Education and Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

<http://www.canadianrefugeehealth.ca/>

CANADA

20. ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETATION: SHARING NATURE WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

June 20, 2009: Halifax, NS

Hosted by: Nova Scotia Outdoor Leadership Development Program

http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/environmental_interpretation.pdf

21. SPIRITUALITY AND HEALTH: WORKING TOGETHER FOR OPTIMAL HEALTH

September 24-26, 2009: Calgary, AB

Hosted by: Canadian Research Institute of Spirituality & Healing and Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary

http://medicine.ucalgary.ca/files/med/Spirituality_09.pdf

22. READY FOR SCHOOL? READY FOR LIFE?

November 12-13, 2009: Quebec, QC
Hosted by: Centre of Excellence for Early Child Development and the Strategic Knowledge Cluster on Early Child Development
<http://www.excellence-earlychildhood.ca/news.asp?lang=EN&menu=noMenu&doc=115>

23. FOURTH NATIONAL BIENNIAL CONFERENCE ON ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS WITH FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER
April 14-17, 2010: Vancouver, BC
Hosted by: University of British Columbia Interprofessional Continuing Education
<http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Adults.html>

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

24. INUIT TUTTARVINGAT FACTSHEET: PREGNANT OR PLANNING TO BE?

This resource (Inuit Tuttarvingat, 2009) provides key information for those who are pregnant or are considering having a child.

<http://www.naho.ca/inuit/wellnessTV/documents/FactSheet6PregnancyforWeb.pdf>

25. WHAT WORKS FOR WHOM? PROMISING PRACTICES IN PARENTING EDUCATION

This latest Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs (FRP Canada) resource (Mann, 2009) provides the current knowledge about what is most effective when working with parents of young children living in circumstances with multiple challenges. It includes information about how to get participants to: come, keep coming, engage and learn, use what they learn, and sustain learning. The report highlights that good facilitators have: personal characteristics like warmth, integrity, humility, flexibility, and optimism; reliable, up-to-date knowledge of children's development and other relevant topic areas; and good skills suited to the level of intervention.

<http://www.parentsmatter.ca/data/global/images/resources/WhatWorksforWhomFINAL.pdf>

26. HEALTH INFORMATION, RESEARCH AND PLANNING: AN INFORMATION RESOURCE FOR FIRST NATIONS HEALTH PLANNERS

This resource (First Nations Centre, 2009) defines fundamental concepts in health research and public health, and explains them in a manner that is relevant to First Nations health planners, administrators and leadership. This information is intended to get readers thinking about how health information can be used to support and enhance the development and delivery of community health programs and services. Part 1 focuses on First Nations community health needs and Part 2 focuses on the transfer of health services to the control of First Nations.

<http://www.naho.ca/firstnations/english/documents/HealthInformationResearchandPlanning.pdf>

27. WHY PLAY?

(also available in French, Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Tamil, and Vietnamese)

This series of brochures (FRP Canada, 2009) offers information to parents and child care providers on play and child development for age groups 0-6 months, 6-12 months, 1-2 years; 2-3 years; 3-4 years, and 4-5 years.

<http://www.welcomehere.ca/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewpage&pageid=791&stopRedirect=1>

----- VI. FEATURED BEST START RESOURCE -----

To promote reproductive health during International Men's Health Week (June 15-21), the following resource may be helpful to service providers in providing information to male clients.

28. MEN'S INFORMATION: HOW TO BUILD A HEALTHY BABY
(also available in French)

This brochure contains information specific to men on reproductive health. It includes information to increase a man's chances of having a healthy baby, a checklist, a readiness questionnaire, and references for further information.

English: <http://www.beststart.org/resources/preconception/index.html>

French: <http://www.meilleurdepart.org/resources/preconception/index.html>