

conducted at the University of New Brunswick (Fredericton). Dr. Nicole Letourneau will examine how best to support mother-infant relationships that are affected by intimate partner violence and Dr. Judith MacIntosh will study women's health when they experience both workplace bullying and intimate partner violence.

MANITOBA PROJECTS TO IMPROVE NORTHERNERS' ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS. Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Minister Oscar Lathlin announced a series of projects under the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative that will help improve the ability of northern communities to gain access to nutritious foods and become more self-sufficient through local production of healthy food. Partners in the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative include the Northern Association of Community Councils, Four Arrows Health Authority, Bayline Regional Round Table, Frontier School Division and a number of First Nations and Northern Association of Community Councils communities in northern Manitoba.

NATIONAL MULTIPLE BIRTHS AWARENESS DAY. The lead event for the 2ND Annual National Multiple Births Awareness Day (NMBAD), a Multiple Births Canada initiative, will be held May 28, 2006 at the Wheels Inn Banquet Room, in Chatham, Ontario. There has been a 35% increase of multiple-births during the past two decades, which represents about 10,000 multiple-birth babies born every year. Considered a high-risk pregnancy, most new parents of multiples only discover after the first ultrasound all the risks involved, including twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome, poor fetal growth, premature birth and low birth weight. "Health professionals have a basic understanding of the issues, but the statistics are still too high. For example, multiples account for 1 in 5 preterm births, and 1 in 4 low birth weight births. These statistics can improve with better education and earlier intervention," said Kim Weatherall, Chair, MBC. With regard to better education, MBC is promoting the use a new resource piece called Low Birth Weight & Preterm Multiple Births: A Canadian Perspective. The document can be viewed and purchased online at www.multiplebirthscanada.org. The educational brochure was a collaborative effort of Multiple Births Canada with Best Start: Ontario's Maternal, Newborn and Early Child Development Resource Centre. Info: -866-228-8824 or visit the website at <http://www.multiplebirthscanada.org> or communications@multiplebirthscanada.org

THE MISSING LINK IN THE ROMANOW REPORT. An opinion editorial by Dr. Hirotaka Yamashiro challenges the health care sector and governments to prioritize children's health. In his April 11, 2006 Toronto Star article, Dr. Yamashiro says "If one were building a house, it would be imperative to ensure you have a solid foundation. In terms of human health, the foundation for good health lies in ensuring that infants and children are afforded appropriate and timely health care so they are given every chance to

lead healthy and productive lives. For this to happen, the many aspects of children's health...must be delivered in a co-ordinated and efficient way....Children's health and social issues are often intertwined, yet currently fall under different departments and different budgets. Would it be possible to create a "children's first agenda" to combine government resources where it makes the most sense? The answer is: Of course it could, but it would take a government with a clear vision and mandate to grasp the opportunity to declare that constructing a health-care system dedicated to providing timely and appropriate care to all of Ontario's children is a top priority, and to then follow that up with broad consultations of all stakeholders, physicians (including family doctors and pediatricians), parents and many other parties”.

C-SECTIONS COST 60% MORE THAN VAGINAL BIRTHS. New study by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). "While many more women have vaginal deliveries than have C-sections in Canada, the mix is shifting over time," says Jennifer Zelmer, Vice-President of Research and Analysis at CIHI. "Changes in birthing practices clearly have important implications for mothers, their babies and their care providers. This report shows that these trends may also affect how much hospitals spend on obstetrical care. "Giving Birth in Canada: The Costs, the final report in CIHI's three-part series on having a baby in Canada, also shows that about one of every ten dollars that hospitals spend on care for patients with overnight stays goes toward childbirth and newborn care. Info: <http://www.cihi.ca>

FEDERAL BUDGET TO BE BROUGHT DOWN MAY 2/06. Info:

<http://www.fin.gc.ca/access/budinfor.html>

ONTARIO

FORMER THUNDER BAY REGIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE TO BECOME A CANCER AND CARDIAC RESEARCH CENTRE. Ontario announced April 27, 2006 that \$2.2 Million will be going towards A Cancer And Cardiac Research Centre. Funded by the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation at over \$2 Million, the Cancer and Cardiac Research Centre will house several different research initiatives that will be supported by local medical professionals, educational institutions and private sector partners. Info: <http://www.gov.on.ca>

francophone children in minority francophone communities. This pilot project is part of the Government of Canada's Action Plan for Official Languages. The project will offer enriched child care services in French to young francophone children, and will evaluate the effects of those enriched services on their linguistic, cultural, and overall development. Social Development Canada (SDC) invites minority francophone communities that are interested in participating in the pilot project and that meet the selection criteria to submit their application. Five communities will be selected to participate.

Info: http://www.sdc.gc.ca/en/cs/comm/sd/child_care/2006/cc_pilot_project.shtml

ONTARIO

ONTARIO HEALTH QUALITY COUNCIL RELEASES FIRST REPORT. The Ontario Health Quality Council's first report identifies electronic health records for all patients, health information management systems and telehealth, together known as e-health, as the key enablers for health care system improvements. The Ontario Health Quality Council is an independent agency funded by the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The Council reports directly to Ontarians on access to publicly funded health services, health human resources in publicly funded health services, consumer and population health status, and health system outcomes. Info:

<http://www.ohqc.ca/en/index.asp>

A FRAMEWORK TO INTEGRATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH INTO THE ONTARIO PUBLIC HEALTH MANDATE: A DISCUSSION PAPER. A report from the Sudbury & District Health Unit. Info:

<http://www.opha.on.ca/resources/SDOH-FrameworkDiscussionPaper-March06.pdf>

THE CASE FOR PREVENTION: MOVING UPSTREAM TO IMPROVE HEALTH FOR ALL ONTARIANS.

This report is a call to action for government and policy makers and was launched at the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Ontario Prevention Clearinghouse in February, 2006. It is available in PDF, English and French at the OPC website. Info: <http://www.opc.on.ca>

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CURRENT INITIATIVES

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CANADA

THE CONFERENCE BOARD'S ROUNDTABLE ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH.

While there is great emphasis from government on the funding and restructuring of the health care system, more emphasis is needed on the socio-economic determinants of health. Social and economically disadvantaged people have less access to health resources, they are less healthy and they die earlier than people in more privileged socio-economic positions. The Conference Board has created a new network that will allow key stakeholders to gather together and share challenges, but also offer solutions to these issues. The first meeting is scheduled for May 26/06 at the Conference Board's offices in Ottawa. To receive an invitation to this meeting or to find out more about becoming a member of the Roundtable, please contact gagnon@conferenceboard.ca.

THE CANADIAN COUNCIL ON LEARNING SEEKS REVIEWERS. The Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) will be issuing numerous calls for research proposals, which will be peer reviewed. To that end, CCL is creating an inventory of reviewers upon whom it may call to help adjudicate research proposals. CCL is seeking reviewers in the areas of early childhood learning; Aboriginal learning; adult learning; health and learning. Please note that CCL is interested in identifying community-based researchers as well as researchers who work in academic settings. We invite you to provide the name and contact information for up to three nominees who fulfil the above criteria. If the person you are nominating is a specialist in a particular facet of the Early Childhood Learning domain, please indicate the area of specialization. Please do not hesitate to nominate yourself if you meet the criteria. Please forward your proposals to childhoodlearning@ccl-cca.ca. Questions: info@ccl-cca.ca

ONTARIO

PEOPLE FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE. To develop and implement a comprehensive provincial strategy to encourage increased involvement by marginalized parents in their children's education, and to establish a provincial Parent Inclusion Network. \$245,000 over three years.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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Events added since last week's bulletin are bolded for easier identification.

INTERNATIONAL

May 6/06

INTERNATIONAL NO DIET DAY

Founded in 1992 in England in reaction to societal standards of appearance that pressure everyone to be thin, often with devastating results, International No Diet Day is an annual day of celebration which encourages people to adopt healthy, fulfilling lifestyles, regardless of size and weight.

Info: <http://www.nedic.ca/> (National Eating Disorders Information Centre).

May 15/06

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE FAMILY

<http://www.un.org>

CANADA

May 3-5/06

Montreal

SOCIAL INCLUSION: ARE WE THERE YET? International Summit for the Alliance on Social Inclusion.

Info: <http://www.aamrqc.org>

May 15 – 21, 2006

QUEBEC WEEK OF THE FAMILY: Parent et fier de l'être!

Info: <http://www.sqf.qc.ca>

May 19/06

Ottawa: Sheraton Ottawa Hotel

VANIER INSTITUTE OF THE FAMILY AGM. Info: <http://vifamily.ca>

May 28 -31/06

Vancouver, BC.

WHAT DETERMINES HEALTH? 97th Annual Conference of the Canadian Public Health Association.

Info: <http://www.cpha.ca>

June 103/06

Vancouver BC: Coast Plaza Hotel

MATERNAL, CHILD, YOUTH CONFERENCE. Special pre-conference session "When survivors give birth: Understanding and healing the effects of early sexual abuse in childbearing women.

Info: http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Brochure_MatCY_2006.pdf

June 15-17/06

Calgary: Convention Centre

LEADING THE WAY TO QUALITY. Info (cut and paste the address into the address bar of your browser):

<http://www.cccf-fcsge.ca/images/Leading%20the%20way%20to%20quality%20conference/conference%20postcard4b&w.jpg>

June 17-20/06

Charlottetown: Delta Prince Edward Hotel

NEW WORDS, NEW WORLDS: PARTNERING FOR CHILDHOOD LITERACY.

The 5th Annual Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network Conference. Info:

anc2006@cclrnet.ca <http://www.cclrnet.ca/index.php?fa=Conference.welcome>

ONTARIO

April 28-29/06

Ottawa: Association francophone à l'éducation des services à l'enfance de l'Ontario (AFÉSO) Provincial

forum. Info: 613-541-5107 or <http://afeseo.ncf.ca/PDF/Activites/Forum%202006.pdf>

May 3-5/06

Kingston: Ambassador Resort Hotel

Early Childhood Resource Teacher Network of Ontario (ECRTNO) 20th Anniversary, AGM and Annual Conference.

http://www.ecrtno.ca/conference/2006_agm_brochure.pdf

May 5-6/06

Toronto: Bank of Montreal's Institute for Learning

THE FATHER INVOLVEMENT RESEARCH ALLIANCE CURA. Info: The Centre for Families, Work & Well-being (cfww@uoguelph.ca) at the University of Guelph.

May 10/06 8:30-4:30pm

WORKING WITH MUSLIM WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Toronto: Ryerson University, Student Centre, 55 Gould Street, SCC 115

Info: <http://www.bande.whsites.net/mwc/>, tafhcc@yahoo.com

May 30-June 1/06

Toronto: York University

CASWE INSTITUTE 6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE: WOMEN, HEALTH AND EDUCATION Info:

<http://www.csse.ca/CASWE/Institute/Institute.htm>, CASWE@med.mun.ca

May 31/06

Ottawa: St. Mary's Home, Amethyst Centre

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN WITH ADDICTIONS PROJECT

To register, please contact kimd@amethyst-ottawa.org or nadinel@amethyst-ottawa.org.

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RESOURCES

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May 1-7 is National Summer Safety Week

*The Canada Safety Council Child Safety page:

<http://www.safety-council.org/info/child/children.htm>

*Child & Family Canada Child Safety page:

http://www.cfc-efc.ca/menu/safety_en.htm

*For the Safety of Canadian Children and Youth, Public Health Agency of Canada

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/fscopy-psjc/toc_e.html

