National Collaborating Centres for Public Health:
Who are we? 
What we do in Knowledge Translation.

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National Collaborating Centres for Public Health (NCCPH)

• Federal government is committed to strengthening public health across Canada
• Created 6 NCCs (collectively NCCPH)

Objective:
Make research and evidence-based practice in public health more relevant and understandable for individuals and organizations.
Who are we?

National Collaborating Centres

- **Aboriginal Health** *(University of Northern BC, Prince George, BC)*
- **Determinants of Health** *(St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS)*
- **Environmental Health** *(BC Centre for Disease Control, Vancouver, BC)*
- **Healthy Public Policy** *(Institut national de santé publique du Québec, Montréal, QC)*
- **Infectious Diseases** *(International Centre for Infectious Diseases, Winnipeg, MB)*
- **Methods and Tools** *(McMaster University, Hamilton, ON)*
NCC Leads

- NCCAH – Margo Greenwood, PhD
- NCCDH – Hope Beanlands, RN, PhD(c)
- NCCEH – Tom Kosatsky, MD, MPH
- NCCHPP – François Benoit, MSc
- NCCID – Margaret Fast, MD
- NCCMT – Donna Ciliska, RN, PhD
What is KSTE?
Knowledge Synthesis Translation Exchange

Purpose - Increase the uptake and use of research and evidence-based findings in practice and policy decisions

Note: Different stance from informed policy or practice decision-making

Begins with the knowledge frame rather than the decision frame (supply vs demand) (push vs pull)
Goal of all NCCs

- Synthesize, translate, and exchange evidence-based knowledge to support front-line public health practitioners and policy-makers in Canada
- Identify gaps in the use of evidence in public health practice and policy making
- Strengthen national profile with significant contacts and networking across Canada
- Consult with front-line public health practitioners to identify promising practices, policy options and research gaps
NCC Aboriginal Health - Mandate

• Unique among the NCCs in its mandate to address the health of a population.

• Uses a coordinated, holistic and comprehensive approach to the inclusion of Aboriginal people in Canada’s public health system, guided by a respect for Indigenous knowledge and for the diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.
NCCAH – Activities

• Child and youth health
  • Developing initiatives in Aboriginal parenting and school health programs; supporting child-focused projects

• Indigenous knowledge systems
  • Exploring the interface between indigenous knowledge system and the western scientific paradigm; supporting health research that is culturally competent and relevant to Aboriginal communities.

• Indigenous social determinants of health
  • Addressing social determinants unique to Aboriginal peoples, including colonization and cultural dispossession.
NCCAH – Activities

National Forum on Indigenous Social Determinants of Health
Nearly 50 Aboriginal organizations gathered in February to explore how sectors within and beyond health can support improved public health outcomes for Aboriginal peoples. The NCCAH will host a follow-up forum.

Canadian Supplement to the State of the World’s Children in 2009 Aboriginal Children’s Health: Leaving no child behind.

NCCAH collaborations help ensure Aboriginal perspectives are included in key health initiatives.
NCC Determinants of Health - Mandate

• Focus on the social and economic factors that influence the health of Canadians

• Engage public health practitioners, policy-makers and researchers to better include knowledge about the social determinants of health in policy and public health practice decisions that will contribute to social justice and health for all
NCC Determinants of Health - Activities

In 2008/09, the NCCDH:

• Synthesized the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health Knowledge Network Reports on early child development, women and gender equity and employment conditions
• Conducted an environmental scan of public health early child development issues
• Prepared an annotated bibliography of home visiting literature
• Compiled a pan-Canadian public health early child home visiting inventory
NCC Determinants of Health - Activities

In 2008/09, the NCCDH:

- Hosted, in collaboration with NCCAH, a unique pan-Canadian forum with public health practitioners, policy-makers and researchers on the contribution of public health early child home visiting

- Co-hosted a Health Costs of Poverty Design Charrette with representatives from provincial governments, public health organizations and leaders in social research and policy, health economists and statisticians to define the parameters of a study to assess the “health costs of poverty”
NCCDH - Activities

In 2009/10, the NCCDH is:

• Developing a series of knowledge products on the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health
• Synthesizing existing knowledge to propose a Canadian working definition of the determinants of health
• Identifying indicators of health inequity
• Identifying, assessing gaps in knowledge and the use of evidence, and developing a KSTE plan around the application of the determinants of health
• Continuing to identify gaps in research evidence and knowledge with respect to the determinants of health in public health
• Developing and translating the NCCDH public health early child home visiting business case for the public health community
NCCDH – Activities (cont)

- Disseminating the NCCDH pan-Canadian public health early child home visiting inventory
- Strengthening and link a network of early child development experts and researchers by hosting a forum based on the *Total Environment Assessment Model of Early Child Development* (TEAM-ECD)
- Enhancing and supporting evidence-informed public health interventions to enhance school readiness
- Contributing to the inter-NCC collaboration project on small drinking water systems
- Enhancing partnerships and alliances with the other five NCCs, front-line public health practitioners, policy-makers, and researchers
- Strengthening the NCCDH’s national profile with significant contacts and networking across Canada
NCC for Environmental Health - Mandate

- Focus on the health risks associated with the physical environment (natural and built)
- Identify evidence-based interventions to reduce those risks
NCCEH – Activities

• Getting useful information into the hands of Environmental and Medical Health Officers
  • Succinct evidence-based documents on topics ranging from home drinking water filters to indoor radon
  • A directory of Canadian environmental health legislation
  • A directory of training and practicum opportunities
  • Environmental health news
  • Links to other useful documents produced by others
  • Course on small drinking water systems
  • Summaries of recent journal articles in EH
  • Risk communication course (to come)
NCCEH - Activities

- **Large-scale drinking water project in Canada**
  - Enumerated past cases of waterborne illnesses and identified risk factors
- **Environmental scan** (2nd) of EHOs, MHOs, and researchers to update project priorities
- **Other KT projects underway** – heat, pesticides, traffic
NCC Healthy Public Policy - Mandate

• To increase the expertise of public health actors across Canada in healthy public policy through the development, sharing and use of knowledge

Focus

• Public policies and their impact on health
  • E.g. housing, transportation, food, education, social welfare, taxation, etc.
  • At various levels of government (or authority)
  • Policies other than health services (e.g. waiting times)

• Public Policy Processes
• Methodology (KT, policy analysis)
NCCHPP – Activities

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)
- Helps Public health actors address the complexity of developing healthy public policy
- Recent activities
  - Presented as expert witness to the Senate sub-committee on population health: the Keon-Pepin report recommended that HIA be applied to all federal policies;
  - Organized knowledge exchange workshops with local, regional, provincial and territorial representatives;
  - Documented local experiences;
  - Produced a primer, a guide to resources, and a fact sheet on HIA;
  - Developed HIA training resources
NCCHPP - Activities

- Healthy public policy methodology
- Multisectoral approach
- Non-governmental organizations
  - Use-of-evidence workshop
  - Knowledge of public processes
- Health Inequalities
  - List of promising policies
  - School readiness
- Built environment
- Ethical analysis of public policy
- Economic analysis of healthy public policy
NCCHPP-Activities

- Use of multimedia for policy learning
- Structural profile
- Tobacco Timeline
- Health impact assessment course
NCC Infectious Diseases - Mandate

• Bridge the ongoing research and evidence in emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases with the program and policy questions of front-line public health practitioners and policy-makers.
NCCID – Activities

- Prevention of HIV and STBBI Outreach for vulnerable populations:
  “Outreach Forum” (February, Montreal)
  Development of an “Outreach Resource Guide” (underway)
  Network (CNPHI)

- Strategic approaches to integrating interventions to achieve high prevention impact:
  Development of a functional “taxonomy” of HIV prevention interventions
  Evidence reviews on HIV prevention methods
NCCID – Activities

• **Learning Sites** – To improve HIV/STBBI prevention programs for members of vulnerable populations by:
  Increasing capacity of health regions to deliver effective programs based on sound evidence;
  Facilitating knowledge exchange among Canadian health regions

• **Integrating New Technologies into Public Health**
  Consultation with expert group (February 2008)
  Canadian summary of UK Foresight project
  Survey of Public Health capacity to access and adopt new and existing technologies
NCCID - Activities

• Reducing the Burden of Community-Acquired Antimicrobial Resistant Organisms

  Knowledge Exchange Meeting with experts (March 2008)
  Comprehensive review of interventions to reduce prevalence of ca-AMR
  Report on the current status of public health activities related to AMR in Canada
  Forum for public health practitioners and policy makers
  evidence-based intervention strategies for AMR reduction
NCC Methods and Tools - Mandate

• Improve access to and use of evidence-based methods and tools for actors involved in policymaking, program decision making, and practice in Canada
NCCMT - Activities

- Capacity development workshops
  And on-line modules
- Networking and knowledge management
  (conferences and papers)
- Registry of KT methods and tools

sharing what works in public health
NCCMT - Activities

• **Tools** to bring evidence into program planning:
  An on-line planning tool to integrate best evidence
  **Public Health+** to keep up with highly relevant, high quality research in public health.

• **Organizational change** - develop and test of toolkit to move organization towards Evidence-Informed Decision Making

• **Network** – **DialoguePH** - on-line discussion group
  -first is about using evidence in practice
Collective NCCPH Activities

- Website (www.nccph.ca)
- Communications strategy
  - Working towards contact database
- MOH Survey
- Pan-Canadian Public Health Profile
- Collaboration on conference session organization
  - Canadian Public Health Association
  - Journée annuelles de santé publique
  - Summer Institute
Summer Institute

• July 7-9, 2009 in Mont Sainte-Anne, QC
• Open to the public health practitioner
• Doubled in size from 2007, quadrupled from 2006
• Evaluations positive – Average rating > 4 out of 5
Summer Institute Comments

As a result of the Summer Institute, I will...

• “Promote KSTE & EIDM. Implement it in my practice & policy work. Continue to network with other groups to work collaboratively on: research agenda, inter-sectorial policy to help reduce disparities. i.e. housing, child health, poverty, air quality.” (EH practitioner/Policy)

• “Take the "nuggets" back to my health region and discuss in my workgroups how we can incorporate these ideas into our work. I've been inspired to try to help fill the gaps in our collective knowledge in my work and future research” (Health Region Coordinator)

• Share materials / info gathered with the 7 Okanagan Indian bands that I work for. I will also encourage their staff to utilize the resources & to share them as well. (Okanagan Educator/Administrator)
Thank You

Questions?
Discussion
Suggestions
Contact us

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