



Research News

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Sooke Community Health Initiative (CHI)

A volunteer partnership of community members, health and social service providers, VIHA PHC staff and local politicians, the Sooke Community Health Initiative has been working toward integrating primary care, formal health service delivery, and community organizations into more effective network of care for the citizens in the region from Port Renfrew to East Sooke. One of the key needs is relevant up to date local data on current services and citizen needs and priorities.

With funding from UBCM and partnerships with local groups, members of the CHI committee have developed a 'soon to be web-based' searchable local health resource inventory, conducted a local Community Health Survey, completed a community youth resiliency survey and held a community research workshop. At a community health forum in September 2006, we reviewed our data and established community priorities for action. Our databases are designed to be relevant to the planning departments of the Capital Regional District, the District of Sooke, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, VIHA, non-profits, service clubs and similar groups in the region. Three major domains were identified with key recommendations to guide the Activities of CHI:

- 1) Strengthen community connections and relationships for children & youth
 - a) by improving access to mental health and addiction services,
 - b) strengthening relationships between youth and adults including employers,
 - c) creating alternative learning opportunities,
 - d) increasing support and outreach to families, and
 - e) creating safe, youth orientated recreation and gathering spaces;
- 2) Strengthen collaboration between community service organizations by
 - a) improving resources for and building capacity in while improving relationships between organizations and between organizations and the community at large,
 - b) developing an active community plan for recreation,
 - c) increasing awareness and visibility of social supports and resources, and
 - d) re-orient primary healthcare services to improve local access;

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Message from the Director

We are very pleased to welcome Wanda Martin to our team. See below for the details.



The Capacity-Building grant from the Michael Smith Foundation will be extended to spring 2009 subject to a satisfactory formative proposal. As our department expands we need to consider sustainability: as a result we are working on a business plan with co-op students from the UVic Faculty of Business.

In addition to the business plan, our CEO has hired an external consultant to assist with the planning for developing the academic capacity of our organization. We look forward to enhancing our research activities and fostering a culture of academic excellence.

I will be on sabbatical from November 2nd until March 2008. I will be available by e-mail and phone. In my absence Veronica Morris will be acting on my behalf for all matters regarding research.

The Capacity-Building team is supported by a grant from:



Continued from page 1:

- 3) Create supportive physical environments for healthy lifestyles by
 - a) Improving, developing and encouraging safe use of bike lanes, pedestrian pathways, and parks,
 - b) Increasing the amount of affordable and accessible housing, and
 - c) Developing a regional food security plan with local/regional partners.

CHI is now completing a regional 'healthy transportation' plan, is engaging in identifying food security resources and issues in the region, and is addressing mental health and addictions needs through the Navigator program. We are also offering ongoing community learning opportunities open to local citizens to support the development of community research skills and capacity using local workshops, skill development and participation. The workshops will focus on asking more questions of our current health and social data; working with the media to get clear messages out; and how to partner with decision makers and funders to move forward. For more information, please contact Dr. Ellen Anderson at jeanderson@telus.net or 642-4233

COACH Collaborative

COACH is a formal research agreement between the Centre on Aging at the University of Victoria and the Continuing Health Services portfolio at VIHA. Under the agreement UVic and VIHA have committed to: co-operate in research endeavors; share academic materials and publications; and exchange personnel for research and research-related activities. Among the possible collaborative projects are studies to assess the quality of end-of-life care in various settings and to investigate the current state of adult day centers throughout Vancouver Island.

Research Ethics Update

The Research Ethics office, formerly on the first floor of the Kenning Wing in the Memorial Pavilion, has moved to the third floor. This allows the staff greater privacy and more storage space. Submissions can still be left at the R&AD office, with Beth, our new Administrative Assistant. The [Research Ethics web page](#) has been updated with new links and easy access to the necessary forms. You can find the website through the R&AD website. A new fee structure for Ethical Review will be implemented in the new year. Details are forthcoming.

Project Coordinator Change

We were sad to see Lori Wagar leave her position as Project Coordinator for research capacity building. We wish her all the best in her role at the Ministry of Health. To help fill the void, our team has welcomed Wanda Martin, RN, MN, as part-time Project Coordinator. Wanda comes to us from the University of Victoria, where she works as a Project Coordinator with studies involved in the New Emerging Team on Family Caregiving for People at End-of-Life. You can read about her through the Centre on Aging web site: http://www.coag.uvic.ca/eolcare/wanda_martin.htm
As part of this transition, the Capacity Building Team has a new email address. cap_building@viha.ca

Online Resources

Database of Knowledge Translation Information Resources

This online database is full of knowledge translation resources that have been selected based on their relevance to research in environmental and occupational health and health policy. The articles and other resources will be helpful for researchers writing grant proposals, designing fieldwork strategies, and developing effective communication strategies to share their findings with a diverse range of stakeholders. This database will help researchers to develop knowledge translation and communications plans targeted at the audience(s) most in need of their research findings. <http://web.cher.ubc.ca/ktdatabase/>

*To subscribe/unsubscribe to the newsletter or to suggest a feature or highlight your research, please contact:
Wanda Martin
Capacity-Building Team
Research & Academic
Development
cap_building@viha.ca*

Upcoming Events

October

The University of Victoria's Centre on Aging presents an INFORMAL LECTURE
Feminism, Aging, and Critical Gerontology: Dialogues and Debates
Peg Cruikshank, University of Maine
Thursday, October 25 3:00 – 4:30 pm Room C126, David Strong Building, University of Victoria

November

[A National Forum on Cancer Care for All Canadians](#)

Improving Access & Minimizing Disparities for Vulnerable Populations
November 1-3, 2007
Vancouver

[Infectious Diseases Update](#)

November 2-3, 2007
Victoria Conference Centre

[Harm Reduction Therapy Conference](#)

Harm Reduction Therapy in the Real World
November 2 - 4, 2007
Philadelphia PA

[Canadian Conference on International Health](#)

November 4-7, 2007
Ottawa

[4th Annual Canadian Risk and Hazards Network Symposium](#)

Practitioners and Researchers: Forging Partnerships for Disaster Resilient Communities
November 6 to 8, 2007
Richmond

[Canadian Roundtable on Public Health Ethics](#)

November 8 and 9, 2007
Montréal

[Visions National Health Law Conference](#)

November 8-10, 2007
Banff

[Making Connections: A Canadian Cancer Research Conference Celebrating NCIC's 60th Anniversary](#)

November 15-17, 2007
Toronto

[The 3rd Annual Mental Health Research Showcase](#)

November 21 - 23, 2007
Banff

[Issues of Substance \(ISO\) 2007](#)

November 25-28, 2007
Edmonton

[21st Primary Care Research Methods & Statistics Conference](#)

November 30 - December 2, 2007
San Antonio, Texas

December

[Health Human Resources 2007: Connecting Issues and People](#)

December 4-6, 2007
Ottawa

February

[6th Annual Geriatric Services Conference](#)

February 22, 2008
Vancouver

March

[24th Annual Cardiovascular Conference](#)

March 16-20, 2008
Lake Louise

April

[Third National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder](#)

FASD and Mental Health: The Wisdom of Practice
April 10 - 12, 2008
Vancouver

May

[Community-University Partnerships: Connecting for Change](#)

May 4-7, 2008
University of Victoria
Deadline Submission: November 15, 2007

June

[34th Annual Alcohol Epidemiology Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society](#)

June 2-6, 2008
Victoria

[International Nursing Research Conference](#)

Facing the Challenge of Health Care Systems in Transition
June 30-July 3, 2008
Jerusalem, Isreal

August

[15th International Conference on Cancer Nursing](#)

August 17-21, 2008
Singapore

To subscribe/unsubscribe to the newsletter or to suggest a feature or highlight your research, please contact:
Wanda Martin
Capacity-Building Team
Research & Academic Development
cap_building@viha.ca