



National Collaborating Centre
for Determinants of Health

Centre de collaboration nationale
des déterminants de la santé

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Report: Outcomes of the Early Child Home Visiting Forum

ANTIGONISH--The National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (NCCDH) today released a report on "The Proceedings of the Early Child Development Forum: Exploring the Contribution of Public Health Early Child Home Visiting", held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan October 14 – 17, 2008.

The Forum, which the NCCDH co-hosted along with its partner organization The National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCAHA), brought together more than 125 frontline providers, policy makers and program planners, senior government officials, academics and researchers. Over the three days, participants heard presentations and participated in small group discussions designed to showcase home visiting programs from various jurisdictions across Canada and explore research findings and experiential knowledge.

"Along with formal presentations, delegates had the opportunity to identify and prioritize issues with respect to home visiting and early child development in Canada," said Hope Beanlands, NCCDH Scientific Director. "This was a great opportunity for us to hear from key experts in the field about the information that is important to them and we look forward to addressing many of the priority issues that were raised over the three days."

The identified issues were sorted and themed according to priority:

1. Develop standardized screening tools
2. Provide access to standardized, formal training that is adaptable to community needs
3. Generate a business case that highlights the role and benefits of home visiting
4. Support workforce development and human resources
5. Identify effective models that deliver a continuum of home visiting services
6. Communicate, advocate and network.
7. Develop a common framework for consistent evaluation.
8. Strive for excellence by identifying and championing key activities

The NCCDH and the NCCAHA will continue to build upon the momentum from the Early Child Home Visiting Forum. The Centres are committed to supporting the public health community to create the conditions for children to thrive equally in their physical, social/emotional, and language/cognitive development.

To view the full Forum Report, please visit our website at www.nccdh.ca.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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