



National Collaborating Centre  
for Determinants of Health

Centre de collaboration nationale  
des déterminants de la santé

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **NCCDH Co-Hosts National Early Child Home Visiting Forum**

SASKATOON--The National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (NCCDH) and its partner organization The National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCAHA) are co-hosting a joint forum entitled "*Exploring the Contribution of Public Health Early Child Home Visiting*", which opened today in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

"We have been working together with the NCCAHA to synthesize, translate and exchange knowledge about early child development as a determinant of health," said Hope Beanlands, NCCDH Scientific Director. "This Forum will provide us with an opportunity to hear what more than 125 frontline providers, policy developers and program planners, senior government officials, academics and researchers have to say about public health early child home visiting. This will help us decide what our next steps need to be in looking at early child development as a determinant of health."

The objectives of the Forum are to:

- 1) profile selected home visiting programs and explore the relationship between home visiting and health equity
- 2) explore knowledge from stories and scenarios to help apply "what works" to improve policy and practice
- 3) identify and prioritize policy and practice issues that could be addressed by the Collaborating Centres

"We all have a moral and ethical responsibility to ensure our children's health," said Margo Greenwood, NCCAHA Academic Lead. "Optimal humanity begins with the optimal health of individuals, of our children. From there we build our families, our communities, and our nations."

The Forum continues until October 16, 2008. Final results and outcomes will be published in the spring/summer of 2009. Please watch [www.nccdh.ca](http://www.nccdh.ca) for updates and to download a final copy of the Forum proceedings.

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#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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