



National Collaborating Centre
for Determinants of Health
Centre de collaboration nationale
des déterminants de la santé

NEWSBLAST

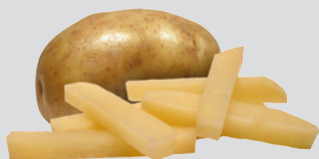
National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (NCCDH)

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DID YOU KNOW?

23% of premature years of life lost prior to age 75 in Canada can be attributed to income differences
(Dennis Raphael, 2004)

If all Canadians' lived in the wealthiest quintile of Canadian neighbourhoods, there would be 6,366 fewer deaths each year from cardiovascular disease
(“Why Low Income and Social Exclusion are Major Causes of Heart Disease in Canada, North York Heart Health Network”, 2001)



Nearly 25% of all vegetables eaten by families are in the form of french fries
(Toronto Heart Health Partnership)

NCCDH at the 2009 Summer Institute

The NCCDH was well represented at the 2009 NCCPH Summer Institute held July 6th to 8th at Mont-Ste Anne, Quebec. Highlights included: a preconference “Determinants of Health: Knowledge to Action” workshop; as well as a concurrent session and workshop both of which focused on early child development as a determinant of health.

Hope Beanlands, Scientific Director, NCCDH set the stage for the concurrent session in her presentation, “Identifying Highlights from the WHO Knowledge Network Report, Early Child Development: A Powerful Equalizer”, by reminding attendees that children are the most vulnerable members of society. The World Health Organization noted that “The physical, social ... and cognitive experiences that are part of early child development (ECD) help to shape and influence individuals throughout their lifetime. These experiences directly increase or decrease the opportunities an individual has to increase their skills development, further their education or enhance their occupational opportunities.”

The preconference workshop focused on how front-line public health practitioners and policy-makers can effectively use the determinants of health to take action in an intersectoral, evidence-informed, and comprehensive manner to address health inequities. Dr. Cory Neudorf presented data on health disparities in Saskatoon. Dr. Verlé Harrop talked about how community-based needs assessments structured around the determinants of health can become transformational tools. Mikiko Terashima, a PhD Candidate at Dalhousie University, presented G.I.S. social disparity mapping data on Nova Scotia.

As part of the NCCDH-hosted concurrent session, the Honourable Landon Pearson spoke of her international experiences as a child advocate and reminded us that “each child has the right to be heard”. She was followed by Dr. André Dontigny who described the Québec program of integrated perinatal and early childhood services for vulnerable families (Les services intégrés



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“In the case of poverty, unemployment, stress and violence, the influence on health is direct, negative and often shocking for a country as wealthy and as highly regarded as Canada.”

(The Statistical Report on the Health of Canadians. Ottawa: Health Canada, 1998.)

en périnatalité et pour la petite enfance – SIPPE). The SIPPE program is part of a government led province-wide effort to work toward health equity for all children in Québec.

The early child development conference workshop explored the utility of the Total Environment Assessment Model of Early Child Development (TEAM-ECD) to guide Public Health program and policy development and collaborative practice in Canada. Dr Ziba Vaghri, Director of the International Research and Initiatives Program of the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), at the University of British Columbia, provided an overview of the TEAM-ECD model described in the WHO Early Child Development Knowledge Network Report. Dr. Vaghri described the TEAM-ECD model as a robust and comprehensive way to frame the environmental conditions and resources that provide the most ‘nurturant’ experiences for children.

Workshop participants explored the TEAM-ECD model’s potential to guide practice, program and policy development. Case-based learning was used to facilitate knowledge transfer. Lively and stimulating small group discussions resulted in recommendations and next steps being summarized in a final plenary session.

For a more in-depth report by NCCDH on The Summer Institute, please visit the NCCDH blog at <http://nccdhone.wordpress.com/>

News

Hope Beanlands, Scientific Director, NCCDH was recently honoured with the Centennial Award of Distinction by the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia. This unique, once-in-a-lifetime award recognized 100 current/former registered nurses (10 per decade) whose significant accomplishments have influenced the advancement of College initiatives, nursing practice and/or the nursing profession over the past 100 years. Congratulations Hope!



As summer draws to a close, we bid a fond farewell to our three fabulous student interns – Kristin MacLellan, Erica Budding and Jonathan Dyer. Best of luck to all three as they move forward in their studies! Our organization has benefitted tremendously from their hard work and enthusiasm. We are particularly pleased that, on a part-time basis, Jonathan will continue to work with us as we revamp our website and Kristin will continue to work on our early child development projects.