

2008-09 Annual Progress Update: Core Public Health Programs

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2008-09 Annual Progress Update Core Public Health Programs

Prepared for Brian Schmidt by:

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**With input from the PHSA Core Programs
Working Groups**

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Introduction

This annual progress update is for all core programs PHSA has developed gap analyses and improvement plans since March 2006, as specified by the 2008-09 Health System Performance Framework. This document reports progress on the following Core Public Health Programs:

Programs completing their second year of implementation:

- Air Quality
- Food Safety
- Health Emergency Management
- Food Security

Programs completing their first year of implementation:

- Healthy Living
- Healthy Communities
- Health Assessment & Disease Surveillance

Over the past year a number of developments have altered the landscape of population and public health (PPH) activity in BC, and within PHSA:

- In June 2008 the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport and the Ministry of Health Services were created from the former Ministry of Health, and many details of the transition have yet to be finalized.
- PHSA's role in core public health programs has evolved as new core programs were developed and approved. This role currently identifies PHSA as having the potential to provide provincial coordination to support development of healthy public policy and consistent messaging, provide expert advice and support surveillance activities.
- The PHSA Centres for Population and Public Health are currently being implemented. They consist of 9 "virtual" Centres that address a wide range of topic areas in PPH. The Centres are the mechanism for PHSA agencies and programs to collaborate PPH initiatives such as the Core Public Health Programs and primary prevention projects.

Progress in Achieving Performance Targets

Overall, almost all performance targets were met for the 2008-09 year, with the exception of those targets which specify the need for provincial discussion regarding PHSA's role.

PHSA's role in Core Public Health Programs

Although model core programs have now begun to define a provincial role for PHSA, the core programs addressed in this progress update were being implemented before this role was articulated. With the development of the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, and the PHSA Centres for Population & Public Health, the role of PHSA in provincial-level functions needs to be further defined. PHSA is continuing discussions with its provincial and regional partners to identify how it can continue to add value to core programs at a provincial level.

Air Quality & Water Quality

With the creation of the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport and its subsequent acquisition of the Environmental Health portfolio, PHSA is working with its provincial partners to clarify roles, responsibilities and expectations in the areas of air and water quality.

Food Safety

Due to the interdependencies of the Food Safety & Food Security Core Public Health Programs, alignment of these programs was initiated. A proposed framework for PHSA's role and value added was developed jointly by BCCDC, Food Safety and the PHSA Population & Public Health Food Security Program.

Health Emergency Management

The scope of health emergency management as it relates to public health is currently under review provincially. Once completed, the PHSA Health Emergency Management gap analysis and improvement plan will be assessed to determine if revisions are needed.

Food Security

At the request of the health authorities and the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, PHSA has expanded its role from coordinating the Community Food Action Initiative to supporting the broader Food Security agenda outlined in the core program. While this new role and scope were evolving, PHSA coordinated the development of a suite of indicators for the food security core program; developed and coordinate a monthly CFAI e-brief; began the development of a suite of information/fact sheets on salient issues impacting food security in BC and initiated the development of a web portal that will be a gateway to food security information in BC. PHSA Population & Public Health Food Security Program also collaborated with the BCCDC to develop a draft framework for how the two programs will add value in the process of integrating program priorities in food safety and food security.

Healthy Living & Healthy Communities

The Healthy Living & Healthy Communities core programs were clustered together and addressed under one gap analysis and improvement plan, due to their overlapping scope.

Health Assessment & Disease Surveillance

The PHSA Health Assessment & Disease Surveillance working group has recently been formalized through a Terms of Reference. This working group consists of data stewards and surveillance experts from across PHSA agencies and programs, and has agreed to collaborate on resolving common issues and challenges relating to surveillance. This group also has links into other PHSA structures that are tackling similar issues such as the PHSA Data Access Task Force and the Information Management Council.

Progress Update: 2008-09 Performance Targets

CORE PROGRAM COMPONENT	2008-09 PERFORMANCE TARGET	STATUS (Complete/ In Progress/ Target Revised)
ALL CORE PROGRAMS		
N/A	Process to develop strategic plan identified	Complete
CORE PROGRAMS 1st Year of Implementation		
N/A	Mechanism for reporting progress implemented	Complete
HEALTHY LIVING – HEALTHY COMMUNITIES		
All Components	Inventory of activities completed	Complete
	Gap analysis & improvement plan revised	Target Revised to March 2010
Healthy Communities: Healthy Workplaces	Inventory of activities completed	Complete
HEALTH ASSESSMENT & DISEASE SURVEILLANCE		
Data Management	Inventory of data systems & surveillance activity within PHSA completed	Complete
	Data sharing & access issues identified	Complete
	Issues forwarded to Data Access Task Force for action	Complete
Analysis & Interpretation	Inventory of existing data analysis & interpretation expertise within PHSA completed	Complete
	Issues regarding lack of appropriate skills and capacity for analysis & interpretation identified	Complete
CORE PROGRAMS 2nd Year of Implementation		
N/A	PHSA's role in relation to provincial-level functions identified in consultation with Ministry & regional health authorities	In Progress

CORE PROGRAM COMPONENT	2008-09 PERFORMANCE TARGET	STATUS (Complete/ In Progress/ Target Revised)
AIR QUALITY		
Air Quality Program for Indoor/Outdoor Air	Develop proposal for neighbourhood air quality monitoring with Northern Health	Complete
Air Quality Program Infrastructure	Information system plan developed and integrated into air quality program	In Progress
FOOD SAFETY		
Surveillance & Evaluation of Food Safety & Food Borne Illness	Food Safety & Food Borne Illness data systems plan developed and integrated into Provincial Health Plan	Complete
	Enhanced Food Borne illness surveillance and data systems developed and implemented	Target Revised to August 2009
Expand Expert Resource into Food Toxicology	Food toxicology priorities identified and implementation begun	Complete
Directed Food Safety Research	Develop updated staffing education plan	Target Revised to March 2010
	Identify 1-2 projects yearly to expand food safety research (& secure funding)	Complete
	Develop provincial guidelines and best practices	In Progress
FOOD SECURITY		
N/A	PHSA's role in Food Security Identified	In Progress
Food Policy Framework	PHSA food sales guidelines and implementation plan developed	Complete
Food Security Programs & Services	To be determined, pending definition of PHSA's role	TBD

CORE PROGRAM COMPONENT	2008-09 PERFORMANCE TARGET	STATUS (Complete/ In Progress/ Target Revised)
Food Security Promotion & Public Awareness	To be determined, pending definition of PHSA's role	TBD
Surveillance, Monitoring & Evaluation	Phase 2 of CFAI Evaluation planned and implemented	Complete
HEALTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
Building Preparedness & Response Capabilities	PHSA Emergency Management & Business Continuity (EMBC) Policy approved	Complete
	PHSA EMBC council identified	Complete
	Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) established with written guidelines, identified and trained staff	Target Revised to November 2009
	PHSA Agencies participated in at least one activation drill/exercise in EOC	Complete
Business Continuity Planning	Begin implementation of process to identify internal hazards	Complete
	Process to identify PHSA critical services developed	Complete
	Business impact analysis on potential down time against critical services completed	Complete

Appendix

Appendix A – Working Groups

HEALTHY LIVING – HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	
Sonia Lamont	BC Cancer Agency (BCCA)
Lynn Wilcott	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
Shelina Babul	BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU)
Ian Pike	BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU)
Paola Ardiles	BC Mental Health and Addiction Services (BCMHAS)
Marilyn Ibraheem	BC Mental Health and Addiction Services (BCMHAS)
Shannon Griffin	BC Mental Health and Addiction Services (BCMHAS)
Susan Baer	BC Mental Health and Addiction Services (BCMHAS)
Jan Finch	BC Women's Hospital
Lorraine Greaves	BC Women's Hospital
Ann Pederson	BC Women's Hospital
Barb Fitzsimmons	BC Children's Hospital
Becky Palmer	BC Children's Hospital
Lydia Drasic	Population and Public Health (PPH)
Shazia Karmali	Population and Public Health (PPH)
John Millar	Population and Public Health (PPH)
Ruth Abramson	Facilities & Planning
Catherine Fast	Human Resources

HEALTH ASSESSMENT & DISEASE SURVEILLANCE	
John Spinelli	BC Cancer Agency (BCCA)
Sharon Tamaro	BC Cancer Agency (BCCA)
Ray Copes	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
David Patrick	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
Stephanie Shih	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
Judy Isaac-Renton	Laboratory Services - BCCDC
Yin Chang	Laboratory Services - BCCDC
Shelina Babul	BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU)
Ian Pike	BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU)
Jane Collins	BC Mental Health and Addiction Services (BCMHAS)
Karin Jackson	BC Mental Health and Addiction Services (BCMHAS)
Sheryll Dale	BC Perinatal Health Program (BCPHP)
Lee Er	BC Provincial Renal Agency
Mirek Piaseczny	BC Provincial Renal Agency
Nasira Lakha	BC Trauma Advisory Council
Richard K. Simons	BC Trauma Advisory Council
Tracey Taulu	BC Trauma Advisory Council
Steve Chasey	BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre
Lorraine Greaves	BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre
Scott MacRae	BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre
Karin H. Humphries	Cardiac Services BC
Steven Blanchard	IMIT Strategic Services
Joseph Wong	IMIT Strategic Services
Lydia Drasic	Population & Public Health (PPH)
Shazia Karmali	Population & Public Health (PPH)

HEALTH ASSESSMENT & DISEASE SURVEILLANCE (Con't.)	
Andrew Kmetc	Population & Public Health (PPH)
John Millar	Population & Public Health (PPH)
Cindy Brice	Information Access & Privacy
Elaine Sawatsky	Information Access & Privacy
AIR QUALITY	
Ray Copes	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
FOOD SAFETY	
Lynn Wilcott	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
FOOD SECURITY	
Deepthi Jayatilaka	Population & Public Health (PPH)
HEALTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	
Doreen Myers	PHSA Emergency Management