

2009-10 Annual Progress Update: Core Public Health Programs

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Introduction

This annual progress update is for all core programs PHSA has developed gap analyses and improvement plans for since March 2006, as specified by the 2009-10 Government Letter of Expectation. This document reports progress on the following Core Public Health Programs:

Programs completing their third year of implementation:

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

Programs completing their second year of implementation:

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

Programs completing their first year of implementation:

- Unintentional Injury Prevention

The work of the core program had been coordinated in PHSA by creating working groups with members from relevant PHSA agencies and programs. Since the implementation of the PHSA Centres for Population and Public Health (CPPH) in April 2009, the core program work has now been integrated into the centres' mandate. The Centres for Population and Public Health include nine "virtual" Centres with membership from agencies and programs across PHSA. They address a wide range of topic areas in Population & Public Health and align with the Core Public Health Programs and expertise of the PHSA agencies' and program. (See Appendix A and B). The Centres are the coordinating mechanism for PHSA agencies and programs to collaborate on population and public health initiatives namely the Core Public Health Programs and primary prevention projects. In the last year, the Centres for Population & Public Health have focused the coordination of population and public health activities within PHSA. Developing external linkages and connections will be a focus for 2010/11. Through the centres, PHSA has the potential to provide provincial coordination to support the development of healthy public policy and consistent messaging, provide expert advice and support surveillance activities.

Progress in Achieving Performance Targets

Most performance targets were met for the 2009-10 year, with the exception of those deferred due to the H1N1 epidemic in Fall-Winter 2009 and reorganization within the Lower Mainland and Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport.

Air Quality

Over the past year, PHSA/BCCDC has: i) assisted Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) in communicating air quality information to the public, with susceptible populations in particular (example, persons with asthma and chronic heart and lung conditions); ii) developed air quality health advisories for days with high levels of air pollution; iii) assisted RHAs to assess, communicate and mitigate risks related to local air pollution sources. PHSA has liaised with external partners including BC Lung Association and BC Heart and Stroke Association. PHSA has also co-convened one to two conferences annually (directed in part to RHAs) on air quality and health.

Food Safety

Through several university-associated research projects (evaluation of FoodSafe, development of a food recall database, characterization of foods and processes at high contamination risk through expert opinion, identification of ready-to-eat products at risk for contamination by *Listeria monocytogenes*) staff have developed skills in the areas of research and facility inspection. Formal staff education is limited by funding constraints. A part-time food safety specialist at BCCDC has enrolled in doctoral studies at UBC.

The Food Safety program at BCCDC is working in collaboration with the Food Security Program (part of the Population and Public Health Program) to support the alignment of priorities of both the food safety and food security core programs as they are implemented at regional health authorities.

Health Emergency Management

The Ministry of Health Services' Health Emergency Management Council ensures that the priorities, standards and guidelines used to develop emergency management plans are consistent and implemented across BC. The HEM Council includes representation from all six health authorities, BC Ambulance Services and BCCDC.

Food Security

In 2009/10, PHSA's role in Food Security was expanded from coordinating the Community Food Action Initiative to supporting the implementation of the Food Security Core program at the Regional Health Authorities. In this expanded role, PHSA worked closely with the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport and the five regional health authorities to facilitate dialogue and coordinate provincial actions to increase consistency, efficiency and reduce duplication in implementing the core program. Details of the main outcomes are reported on pages 5 and 6. The following activities have revised their completion dates:

- The collaborative project led by PPH and BCCDC to develop activities to better align food safety and food security core program implementation at the health authority level will be completed by March 2011
- Completion of the suite of research papers and information sheets targeting policy makers and other stakeholders on seven salient issues impacting food security in BC will be completed by May 2011.
- The work done to develop infrastructure for the ongoing evaluation of the Community Food Action Initiative is currently on hold until healthy authority capacity to undertake ongoing evaluation is established.

Healthy Living & Healthy Communities

These 2 core programs are located in the Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention and a workplan and its implementation will be integrated into the work for the Centre. Due to the consolidation of Human Resources departments in the Lower Mainland, the process of confirming and aligning potential priority areas for improvement with the HR strategic plan was deferred to March 2011.

Health Assessment & Disease Surveillance

The PHSA Health Assessment & Disease Surveillance (HADS) working group consists of data stewards and surveillance experts from across PHSA agencies and programs. The working group has reassessed their gap analysis and improvement plan and determined that gaps in coordination of surveillance activities within PHSA are beginning to be addressed. Progress has been made to address challenges in human resources planning.

Unintentional Injury Prevention

The Unintentional Injury Prevention Core Program falls within the work of the Centre for Injury and Violence Prevention. The Centre has successfully guided the completion of two projects; the *Online Data Mapping Tool*, and the *Safe Start Video*. A survey on the primary prevention activities related to seniors fall and injury prevention within PHSA agencies and programs was completed and the results will be used to identify specific surveillance and data linkage projects and the necessary resources to support seniors fall and injury prevention within PHSA.

Progress Update: 2009-10 Performance Targets

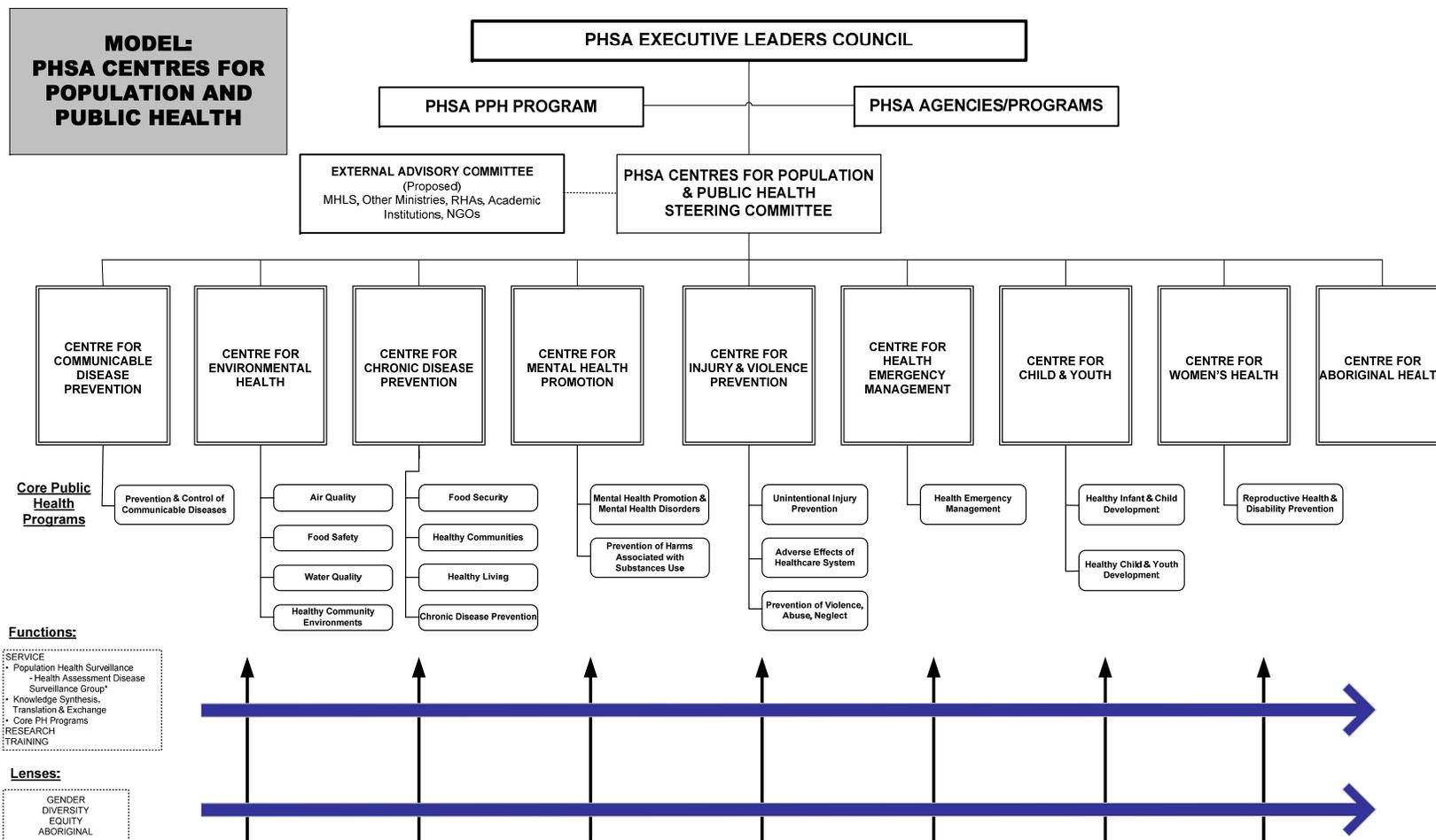
CORE PROGRAM COMPONENT	2009-10 PERFORMANCE TARGET	STATUS (Complete/ Target Revised)
AIR QUALITY		
Air Quality Program for Indoor/Outdoor Air	Advise/support Northern Health in the development of a neighborhood air quality monitoring program in Prince George	Complete
Air Quality Program Infrastructure	Advise MHLS in the development of new BC Air Quality guidelines Provide advice to Interior, Northern, Fraser and Vancouver Island Health Authorities on local air pollution issues	Complete Complete
FOOD SAFETY		
Directed Food Safety Research	Develop updated staffing education plan.	Complete
HEALTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
Building Preparedness & Response Capabilities	As per workplan and 2009/10 targets set by the Provincial Health Emergency Council.	Complete
FOOD SECURITY		
N/A	PHSA's role in Food Security Identified	Complete
Food Policy Framework	Develop a comprehensive food policy framework for PHSA (led by Alternative Service Delivery)	Complete
Food Security Programs & Services	Develop a process to support the alignment of priorities of the two Core Programs as they are implemented at regional health authorities in collaboration with the Food Safety program at BCCDC	Target Revised to March 2011

CORE PROGRAM COMPONENT	2009-10 PERFORMANCE TARGET	STATUS (Complete/ Target Revised)
Food Security Promotion & Public Awareness	Develop a one stop information resource (the Food Security Gateway – a web portal) for stakeholders working in food security Coordinate a monthly electronic info-bulletin that is disseminated through health authorities to community based stakeholders Develop a suite of information sheets on seven salient issues impacting food security in BC for policy makers and other stakeholders	Complete Complete Target Revised to May 2011
Surveillance, Monitoring & Evaluation	Coordinate a process to identify a common suite of indicators for the Food Security Core program that will be used by all RHAs Develop a manual for consistent data collection in costing the Nutritious Food Basket (data requirement for one of the indicators). Support data collection for the 2009 Cost of Eating in BC report	Complete Complete Complete
HEALTHY LIVING – HEALTHY COMMUNITIES		
All Components	Gap analysis & improvement plan revised	Complete
Healthy Communities: Healthy Workplaces	Priority areas for improvement for HR employee wellness and health promotion confirmed	Target revised to March 2011
HEALTH ASSESSMENT & DISEASE SURVEILLANCE		
All Components	HADS Plan completed and approved	Complete
	Gap Analysis revised	Complete
Data Management	Mechanism for sharing successful MOU templates within PHSA identified	Complete
Analysis & Interpretation	Plan to address HR challenges developed	Complete

CORE PROGRAM COMPONENT	2009-10 PERFORMANCE TARGET	STATUS (Complete/ Target Revised)
UNINTENTIONAL INJURY PREVENTION		
Knowledge Transfer & Public Education	Safe Start Video Project	Complete
	Online Data Mapping Tool Project	Complete
Surveillance	Seniors Fall Prevention within PHSA identified as a common project to demonstrate value of surveillance/data linkages in unintentional injury prevention across the Health Authority	Complete

Appendix

Appendix A – PHSA Centres for Population & Public Health Model



* Health assessment & Disease Surveillance is also a Core Public Health Program

Appendix B – Working Group Membership

AIR QUALITY	
Tom Kosatsky	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
FOOD SAFETY	
Lynn Wilcott	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
HEALTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	
Doreen Myers	PHSA Emergency Management
FOOD SECURITY	
Deepthi Jayatilaka	Population & Public Health (PPH)
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
Ann Pederson	BC Women's Hospital
Lydia Drasic	Population and Public Health (PPH)
Phyllis Stoffman	Population and Public Health (PPH)
John Millar	Population and Public Health (PPH)
Ruth Abramson	Facilities & Planning
Tira Kozer	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
UNINTENTIONAL INJURY PREVENTION	
Tom Kosatsky	BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
Debra Kent	BC Drug & Poison Information Centre
Shelina Babul	BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU)
Ian Pike	BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU)
Nasira Lakha	BC Trauma Advisory Council
Richard K. Simons	BC Trauma Advisory Council
Tracey Taulu	BC Trauma Advisory Council
Jan Finch	BC Women's Hospital
Karen Horn	BC Children's Hospital
Lydia Drasic	Population and Public Health (PPH)
Jane McCarney	Population and Public Health (PPH)