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WESTERN CANADIAN IMMUNIZATION FORUM 2011

**Immunization as a Component of
Comprehensive School Health**

December 8, 2011



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Healthy Families BC

Provincial prevention strategy focused on four key areas:

- Healthy Eating
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Healthy Communities
- Healthy Start



Why Healthy Families BC Schools?

- Lack of provincial coordination of school health programs/resources operating in BC – inconsistent implementation and evaluation
- Capacity building is needed in the education sector (e.g. skill enhancement, resources) to effectively deliver school health programming



Comprehensive School Health (CSH)

- An international, “whole school” approach that addresses school health via 4 pillars:
 - Teaching and Learning
 - Social and Physical Environment
 - Healthy School Policy
 - Partnerships and Services




CSH – Evidence and Support

- Improves health and educational outcomes, and more effective than single intervention approaches¹
- Principles of CSH are drawn from WHO's Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion (1986)
- Endorsed by the Pan-Canadian Joint Consortium for School Health



CSH – The 4 Pillars

When we say	What we mean	
Teaching and Learning	Curriculum, resources and activities both in and beyond the classroom that build on and improve student health knowledge and skill	
Social, Emotional and Physical Environment	Quality of the relationships among and between staff and students; emotional well being of students	Buildings, grounds, play space and equipment; basic amenities such as sanitation and air cleanliness
Healthy School Policy	Policies, processes, rules and practices that promote health and shape a respectful, welcoming, caring environment	
Partnerships and Services 	Connections between schools and students' families; health, education and community working together to advance school health	



Relationships – Foundation of CSH

- Successful health promotion activities foster positive relationships between schools and health workers
- Once a relationship is established, opportunities for future sharing of knowledge and capacity building with educators are increased



**WHY BUILD
STRONG
WORKING
RELATIONSHIPS
?**

Teaching & Learning

**Healthy School
Policy**

**Social & Physical
Environment**

Partnerships & Services


STRONG WORKING RELATIONSHIPS



Relationships – Foundation of CSH

- *“we strongly believe partnerships are cornerstone in overall school health. This includes strong healthy relationships with parents, community partners, agencies”*
- *“having a broad Healthy Schools team...will only enrich our school atmosphere and model to our students and staff how to develop positive, respectful relationships with others.”*



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Joint Ministry Initiatives

- Healthy Living for Families booklets
- 10 Year Plan to Address Mental Health
- Daily Physical Activity
- Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales
- Healthy Schools Network
- Joint Consortium for School Health
- School Meal & School Nutrition Handbook



HFBCS Goals

Strengthen health-education partnerships to:

1. Support a coordinated, evidence-based approach to healthy schools across BC
2. Build the capacity of both sectors to effectively implement healthy schools initiatives
3. Improve the health and educational outcomes of all BC students



HFBCS Components

- New provincial leadership and youth engagement to guide the healthy schools agenda in BC
- Enhanced health-education partnerships
- Consolidation and coordination of healthy school programs and resources
- New school health planning and assessment tools, and training opportunities



New Provincial Leadership

- New provincial steering committee of health and education stakeholders – developing a framework for how the sectors can work together most effectively using a CSH approach
- DASH BC is responsible for the provincial management and coordination of HFBCS



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Enhanced Health-Education Partnerships

- Health authorities working at the school and school district/regional level to promote and support healthy school initiatives
- Flexibility for health authorities and education partners to create customized strategies to meet HFBCS objectives



Consolidation and Coordination

- Provincial programs being coordinated via DASH BC to provide “one stop” access for schools
- New healthy schools portal – online “one stop” directory to programs and resources, plus a community of practice
- Updated teacher resource packages of healthy school tools



Tools and Training Opportunities

- Healthy School Toolkit
 - School and District/Regional level applications
 - Supports healthy school teams to identify areas of focus and develop customized action plans
- CSH training modules and community of practice for health authority and education staff
- New and expanded teacher workshops



Youth Engagement

- New Healthy Schools Youth Advisory Council to facilitate youth participation and help guide the healthy schools agenda in BC
- Broad youth health promotion initiatives (including multi-media campaigns)



Evaluation of HFBCS

- Development of HFBCS evaluation plan in progress
- Concurrent development of a performance framework, logic model, indicators and measures that will be linked to the evaluation plan.



HFBCS Regional Consultations

- Consultations between health and education sector will be held in each HA in spring 2012
- Purpose
 - Explore how the two sectors can build on successes and work together most effectively using a CSH approach
 - Identify and guide enhanced supports to schools and districts/regions
 - Inform the development of a provincial framework for action to guide the implementation of CSH in BC



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Provincial Funding for HFBCS

Annual funding for HFBCS includes:

- Expansion of School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program - \$2.5 million
- Action Schools! BC - \$1.7 million
- Regional consultations, new tools and resources, CSH training - \$0.5 million



Resources

- Healthy Schools BC portal – www.healthyschoolsbc.ca
- Promoting Health in Schools – From Evidence to Action (IUHPE) - http://www.dashbc.org/upload/PromotingHealthInSchools-fromEvidenceToAction_WEBSITE.pdf
- Joint Consortium for School Health = www.jcsh-cces.ca
- DASH BC – www.dashbc.ca



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