

## National Prevention Strategy Group

Location: Teleconference Meeting hosted by SickKids Hospital.

Date: March 20, 2012. 1pm – 2 pm (EST)

Host: Gail McVey (SickKids)

Attendance: Gail McVey (Host/Chair, SickKids), Katie Walker (SickKids), Heather Harrison (SickKids), Manuela Ferrari (Sickkids), Sari Simkins (Toronto), Shelly Russell-Mayhew (U of Calgary), Joanne Beyers and Lesley Andrade (Sudbury & Region Health Unit), Erica Di Ruggiero (CIHR), Mary Forhan (McMaster University), Marie-Claude Paquette (Institut national de santé publique du Quebec), Leigh Underhill (Dairy Farmers of Canada), Anne Wareham (Janeway Lifestyle Program, Nfld), Karen DeGagne (St-Joseph's Care Group, Thunder Bay), Connie Coniglio and Kiera Ishmael (BC Mental Health and Addictions Services), Jill Anne McDowall (Community Nutrition Services, PEI), LeAnne Petherick (Memorial University, NFDL), Pamela Ward (Memorial University, Centre for Nursing Studies, NFDL), Saskia Ramsay (Public Health Association of Canada-PHAC), Jo-Anne Gilbert (Health Canada), Michelle Hooper (Health Canada).

Regrets: Jess Haines (U of Guelph), Elaine Murkin (Ottawa Public Health), Chris Hoeschen (Government of Manitoba), Natalie Beausoleil (Memorial U, NFDL), Joanne Gusella (IWK, Halifax), Nancy Malcolm-Sharratt (Health and Wellness, PEI), Veronique Provencher (Universite de Laval), Mary Fodor O'Brien (Public Health Ontario), Debra Pepler (York University/SickKids), Hasan Hutchinson (Health Canada), Sara Kirk (Dalhousie University), Lee Ford Jones (Sickkids).

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- Gail welcomed new members to our national prevention group: Pam Ward and LeAnne Petherick from Memorial University, Saskia Ramsay from PHAC, Jo-Anne Gilbert and Michele Hooper from Health Canada
  - Joanne Beyers from Sudbury & District Health Unit presented details of briefing documents that were submitted to Public Health Ontario for purposes of feedback for their Child and Youth Health Indicator Project (see attached). Jo described the rationale for providing this feedback (to recommend the broadening of obesity-related health indicators to include the psychosocial factors that underlie overweight/obesity). Similar recommendations have been made to committee members working on the development of the CCHS 2015 survey items (see attached).
  - Gail mentioned that there is a “call for proposals” by CIHR for team grants in primary health care research. She has written a first draft of the letter of intent and is circulating this for review and input, as a first step, among the LENS Ontario-Alberta research team members. There is opportunity for involvement by members of this National Prevention Group (please contact Gail if you are interested). What is being proposed is a program of research that extends the pilot research that was completed in Ontario between 2009-2010 by the LENS research team, and that aligns with the relevancy of this CIHR rfp re: chronic disease prevention. Pilot research conducted on the *LENS professional development system*

(Leveraging Equitable Non-Stigmatizing health promotion delivery) shows promising trends in terms of reducing anti-fat/weight bias attitudes and increasing sense of self-efficacy to address weight bias among workshop participants e.g., public health professionals (McVey et al., 2010).

- The overarching goal of the LENS training and the implementation research is to help health promoters gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of obesity including an understanding of the association between social determinants of health and health outcomes, and how to adopt a broader more comprehensive understanding to prevention. Our LENS research team is committed to finding the most optimal way to accelerate the application of evidence-informed chronic disease prevention (CDP) practice. The program of research focuses not only on the identification of the critical elements (the “what”) required to deliver effective CDP but also on the equally important goal of identifying what type of knowledge translation mechanism best supports scaling up practice change among these front line health promoters (the “how”).
- Gail has garnered the support of national organizations such as Canadian Obesity Network (CON) on her past grant applicants with the LENS team, and will continue to liaise with Mary Forhan about this upcoming proposal submission.
- Next, there was a discussion held during the teleconference meeting about training that is underway to help public health professionals gain a better understanding of the new growth chart system. This represents an opportunity to sensitive public health professionals about weigh bias/unintended consequences of weight-focused messaging. Newfoundland is working on the development of tutorials for this purpose, and Alberta is seeking out similar possibilities for training. There was expressed interest to search for ways to translate the LENS professional development model to provinces other than Ontario including Alberta, Newfoundland, PEI, and BC. This knowledge translation goal is embedded in the programmatic research grant that Gail is leading together with members of the LENS team.

#### **Other business**

- Karen Degagne from the Eating Disorder Program in Thunder Bay shared details of an upcoming launch for a photo voice project developed by a group of youth recovering from EDs (see attached brochure).
- Jo recommended that we consider, as a future meeting topic, the current status of the FPT Curbing Childhood Obesity and how is this being rolled out across Canada and within the different provinces. It was recommended that Gail connect with Bonnie from PHAC about this.

Next Meeting: TBD (Gail will send out a doodle invitation for the April, 2012 meeting)