



Achieving Health... Together

Regional Summit on Health for Francophones in Northwestern Ontario

*Healthy Francophones in our Communities: **Achieving Health Together**
A Focus on the Prevention and Management of Chronic Diseases*

The summit will bring together stakeholders from the five key health care sectors:

- Members of the Community
- Community Organizations
- Educational Institutions
- Health Professionals
- Healthcare Institutions & Organizations.

The Réseau francophone de Santé du Nord de l'Ontario in collaboration with the North-West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is innovating by organizing this important regional health summit. This summit will enable a solidification of promising collaboration between health partners.

Reserve your dates for this important summit

Thunder Bay, Ontario
March 6 - 7, 2008

NOTE: Simultaneous translation (French to English) will be available to all participants.

THE SUMMIT

The summit will bring together stakeholders from the five key health care sectors. Over 125 participants from the entire Northwestern Ontario region are expected:

- Members of the Community
- Community Organizations
- Educational Institutions
- Health Professionals
- Healthcare Institutions & Organizations.

The summit will provide a chance for each participant to learn more about three important aspects for healthy communities. By participating in the interactive working sessions, each participant will have the opportunity to be actively involved in the progression of these aspects:

- **The management and prevention of chronic diseases**
- **Health for Francophones and the importance of cultural competency**
- **Citizen engagement and participation.**

Key objectives of the summit will be:

- **The participation, mobilization and engagement of all health partners in achieving health together and promoting self-care**
- **The elaboration of innovative action taking mechanisms towards chronic diseases management and prevention.**



THE IMPORTANT TOPICS

Chronic Disease

Chronic Diseases

Chronic diseases are among the most common and costly health problems facing Canadians, they are also among the most preventable. Examples include cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, arthritis, asthma, and mental illness.

The Burden of Chronic Disease in Canada

- 16,000,000 live with chronic illness
- Chronic Disease accounts for 87% of disability
- Direct health care costs: 67% of total direct costs are expended on chronic diseases

Moving towards an integrated approach to chronic diseases

On the issue of "Integrated Non-Communicable Disease Prevention", the World Health Organization recently stated that:

"No longer can each chronic illness be considered in isolation. Awareness is increasing that they share common, usually related risk factors, and that integrated strategies can be effective for many different conditions."

Community interventions have demonstrated that they have a great effect chronic diseases prevention.

French Language Health Services

To fully appreciate the importance of language in accessing health care, and more generally the impact of language barriers on a population's health, it is necessary to understand the factors involved and the consequences when patient and provider do not share the same language. According to the literature, the link between language barriers and health care access is real and material.

Cultural competence is considered a valuable and essential asset in the delivery of quality service, which in turn leads to improved population health.

For more specific information with regard to this topic, please refer to pages 20 to 24 of *Setting the Stage Provincial Report*. http://santenordontario.ca/documents/PLT_P_eng.pdf

Citizen engagement and participation

The engagement and participation of citizens are key elements to the success of any wide span community initiative. We can no longer allow ourselves to initiate any initiatives of importance in health care without citizen engagement and participation.

How do we ensure that citizens will become involved? There are certain primary conditions that facilitate success:

1. Promote the development of a capacity building approach that allows citizen and the community to choose, take decisions and take action
2. Interact with citizens in a way that promotes equality and allows space for true participation
3. Promote the movement from the individual “I” to the collective “we”

Even if citizen engagement and participation offers great potential, there are several challenges:

1. The challenge of convincing a project leader to take this citizen engagement approach
2. The challenge of shared power or learning how to move from simple consultation to true joint management
3. The challenge of shared expertise or how to combine specialized knowledge and crude knowledge based on the insight and experiences of citizens
4. The challenge of promoting the participation of citizens from all social groups, or how to ensure that those people that are usually excluded will participate
5. The challenge of community engagement, or how to move from a strategy of mere representation to a true citizen mobilization
6. The challenge of changing bureaucratic culture, or how bureaucrats can learn to better work in collaboration with citizens.

It is important to learn more about this subject and to begin the discussion as to the next steps that need to be taken.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The preliminary program is currently available in a PDF version on our website:

www.santenordontario.ca

Please note that updates will be made regularly.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Location

The summit will take place at the Fort William Historical Park, in the *McGillivray Landing* room. The Fort William Historical Park is located at 1350 King St. in Thunder Bay.

www.fwhp.ca/homepage.html

1-807-473-2344

Meals

Meals will be served in the *McGillivray Landing* room as per the summit schedule. Meals included in the summit registration price:

- March 6 - Wine & cheese
- March 7 - Breakfast
 - Morning break
 - Lunch
 - Afternoon break

Carpooling

People from the same communities will be attending the conference; therefore, we strongly encourage carpooling. Participants who have indicated that they are interested in carpooling on their registration form will be provided with the names of others in their community who are also interested.

Accommodations

Room reservation is the participant's responsibility. A group of rooms have been put aside at the Travelodge Hotel for the summit. Your reservation should be made before February 22nd, 2008.

Travelodge Hotel Airline

www.travelodge-airlane.com

1-800-465-5003 or 1-807-473-1600

698 W Arthur St.

Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 5R8

\$94 / room (group rate)

Simultaneous Translation

Simultaneous translation (French to English) will be available to all participants.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

On-line registration

Register on-line at our website : www.santenordontario.ca. Click on the regional summit icon and complete the link with the registration.



A confirmation of your registration will be sent by email. A kit will be prepared and handed to you at your arrival to the summit, on March 6th, 2008.

Your registration will be valid upon reception of your payment. The deadline to register is February 22, 2008.

The registration rate of \$75* includes your participation to the summit (Thursday evening to Friday afternoon) and documentation. Meals and coffee breaks are also included in the price.

If you are unable to register online please complete the registration form and return it to Sophie Laflamme by email at slaflamme@ntl.sympatico.ca or by fax 705-372-0041.

*It is possible to attend only the opening evening for a cost of \$10. First come, first serve. Tickets will be available at the door.

ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The organizers wish to offer a registration fee reimbursement to non-profit community organizations and individuals who will be incurring travel and accommodation costs and whose financial resources are limited. However, the organizers cannot guaranty a reimbursement to all requests.

For further information please contact Sophie Laflamme (registrations):
slaflamme@ntl.sympatico.ca, 705-362-5720.

INFORMATION AND CONTACT PEOPLE

To receive further information about the regional summit, please contact us.

Réseau francophone de santé du Nord de l'Ontario

Tel.: 1-866-489-7484

Email: reseau@santenordontario.ca

www.santenordontario.ca

Lead event organizer:

Diane Quintas at 807-627-5103 or devouest@santenordontario.ca

Please address your **registration** questions to:

Sophie Laflamme: 705-362-5720 or slaflamme@ntl.sympatico.ca

THE ORGANIZATION AND THE PARTNERS

This summit is organized by a partnership of many organizations and is possible thanks to the support of various other partners.

The organization:

The Organizing Team: Jocelyn Blais
Sophie Laflamme
Diane Quintas

The Steering Committee:

Organizers:

Marc Bédard	Réseau francophone de santé du Nord de l'Ontario
Jocelyn Blais	Réseau francophone de santé du Nord de l'Ontario
Diane Quintas	Réseau francophone de santé du Nord de l'Ontario

Participants:

Jocelyne Bélanger	CSDC des Aurores Boréales
Chantal Bohémier	Centre grandir en français
Diane Breton	French Language Health Services Office
Angèle Brunelle	L'Accueil francophone de Thunder Bay
Denyse Culligan	Association des francophones du Nord-Ouest de l'Ontario
Heather Gray	North-West Local Health Intergration Network
Anita Jean	NorWest Community Health Center
Rose Viel	Centre des femmes francophones du Nord-Ouest de l'Ontario

The Partners:

