

Inventory of Activities of the Provincial Healthy Built Environment (HBE) Alliance Members 2009/2010

Background/context: This information was collected during the Roundtable at the October 14th, 2009 Healthy Built Environment Alliance meeting. The intent of the list is to provide a snapshot of the work being done across BC by the Alliance members. We've also included activities from non-HBE members both locally and nationally we thought would be of interest. For further information about activities please contact the individual organizations. For questions about the inventory please contact Jane McCarney, HBE Alliance Secretariat, PHSA, jmccarney@phsa.ca.

PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS	
Ministry of Healthy Living & Sport (MHLS)	Contact: Matt Herman (matt.herman@gov.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, the Union of BC Municipalities, 2010 Legacies Now: Measuring Up program, the Measuring Up The North Initiative, and Smart Growth BC are developing a resource that provides guidelines and examples of best practices to help local governments develop age-friendly and disability friendly Official Community Plans (OCPs). This online resource will give local governments advice on how to use their OCP to make their communities more accessible and inclusive for people of all ages and abilities. The resource will be released in December 2009. 	
Ministry of Healthy Living & Sport (MHLS)	Contact: Dr Brian Emerson (brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has presented at various events (PHABC Annual Conference and the HBE Alliance October 14th meeting) the new BC Public Health Act and how it may be able to support healthy built environment initiatives. 	
Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	Contact: Marilyn Chiang (mchiang@civicnet.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey to local government on food security with PHSA Forming a new healthy communities committee 	
BC Recreation & Parks Association (BCRPA)	Contact: Cara Fisher (cfisher@bcrpa.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsored the workshop <i>Linking Planning and Health</i> delivered by Smart Growth BC for the Northern Health Authority. Developed a workshop for the real estate development community <i>Health and Prosperous Homes: LEED ND, Active Transportation and the Real Estate Market</i>. Hosted the third Built Environment Summit in Terrace BC on <i>Planning for Winter Communities</i>. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-fund the SFU City Program lecture series <i>"Shifting Gears II: Transportation, Health and the Built Environment"</i>. • Lead organization developing a course for engineers and designers titled <i>Bicycle Facility Design</i>. • Website www.physicalactivitystrategy.ca. 	
BC Recreation & Parks Association (BCRPA)	Contact: Eva Cheung Robinson (erobinson@bcrpa.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk BC until Sept 2010 • Soft launch of interactive website - http://walkbc.ca/ to promote walking in communities across the province. Provides an interactive map of walking routes and location of facilities for planning walks. 	
Ministry of Transport	Contact: Erin Moxon (Erin.Moxon@gov.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike BC program - \$31 million over 3 years but not sure if funding will continue. • "Green Roads" like LEED standards but for roads. • Adaptation internally responding to climate change. • Working on the development of a course for designing bike facilities with BCPRA. • Reduce gas emission. 	
ActNowBC	Contact: Del Nyberg (del.nyberg@gov.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing post 2010 five year strategy. Looking at cross government action, legislation, taxation, program development, engagement of communities, continued partnership development. • Accountability framework (horizontal service plan) signed off by March 2010. • ADM Committee with representation from each agency and ministry – look at what individual ministries are doing for Healthy Living and across ministries. • Opportunity for Alliance – letters of expectation from ministries – expanding to GRE's. • Looking at policy and legislation. 	
NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS	
Smart Growth BC	Contact: Cam Brewer (cam@smartgrowth.bc.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with Hearth and Stroke Foundation Canada, Urban Public Health Network, Canadian Institute of Planners, and the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy to submit a proposal to CLASP (Coalitions Linking Action and Science for Prevention). • Partnered with NHA to present <i>"Linking Planning and Health"</i> workshop videoconferenced from PG to Terrace and Dawson Creek, September 2009 • Looking at working with IHA as a follow up from the PHSA workshops last winter. • Smart Growth BC Conference October 20-22, 2009 in Vancouver. • Prince George adopted Smart Growth on the ground. 	

BC Healthy Living Alliance (BCHLA)	Contact: Samantha Hartley-Folz (shartleyfolz@bchealthyiving.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched SDOH paper September 2009; "<i>Healthy Futures for BC Families – policy recommendations for improving the health of British Columbians</i>". 	
BC Healthy Communities	Contact : Jodi Mucha (jodi@bchealthycommunities.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsored a two day climate change boot camp for municipalities – links to HBE http://www.toolkit.bc.ca/program/climate-action-local-government-bootcamp. • Partnership with group in Abbotsford "<i>Food for Thought</i>" project – looking at food security with immigrant youth. • National proposal with other healthy committees. 	
HEALTH AUTHORITIES	
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH)	Contact : Claire Gram (Claire.Gram@vch.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with FH to present to the Technical Advisory Committee (all the Directors of Planning) of Metro Vancouver to do two things: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Raise the case for HBE and articulate the links with; i) climate change, ii) chronic disease prevention, and iii) social justice 2) Suggest that the Health Authorities can be partners in the <i>planning processes</i> in addition to the functional ways we currently interact. <p>We will be meeting again with them in the fall 2009 to look at ongoing opportunities for collaboration.</p> • Partnering on a pilot with the District of North Vancouver on their Official Community Planning process – to determine the most effective ways for the HA to participate. Examples might be; i) participation on the planning committee, ii) presenting at public forums, and iii) providing background material for documents they produce. • Leading a collaborative to support the inclusion of food security responses in social housing. The initiative is addressing both policy advocacy as well as research. • Support communities across VCH with food security networks through CFAI, AHIP and SMART funds. Many of these groups are working closely with their local governments on a variety of issues. 	
Fraser Health Authority (FHA)	Contact: Jami Brown (Jami.Brown@fraserhealth.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthier Communities Partnership Committee – 20 mayors. • Abottsford will be the pilot city for a comprehensive obesity reduction strategy similar to the EPODE study from France. • MHO's writing PH report in response to PH Act aligning with PH Core Functions. • Healthy Community Environments Core Program – starting the gap analysis. • Vision – long-term relationships with municipalities versus one hit projects. • Partnering with VCH, VIHA, Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC on the CLASP project. 	

Interior Health Authority (IHA)	Contact : Pam Moore (pam.moore@interiorhealth.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding presence in the Okanagan Service Area; i) held an intro to HBE and planning, ii) getting requests for involvement in GHG reduction strategy. • Provided guidance papers and staff training on 7 principles of healthier built environments. • Developed position papers on topics such as Injury Prevention, etc. • Starting Healthy Community Environments gap analysis. • This position continues to internally develop partnerships with all of the programs associated with the seven health topics used in land use reviews. Educate staff on the built environment and its link to health and how this link might become part of their job. • IHA is now sitting at a number of stakeholder tables in various communities. 	
	Contact: Don Corrigan (Don.Corrigan@interiorhealth.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding cuts have meant a decreased ability to respond to HBE, need to focus on high risk areas, developed a process to assess and prioritize focus of work. • Air Quality work more focused, specialist in place, radon policy focusing on schools, daycares. • Talking with staff around moving to higher level. • Tool to asses prioritizing activities/tasks/roles in development – PH risk reduction. 	
	Contact: Roger Parsonage (roger.parsonage@interiorhealth.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed "<i>Land Development Health Review Tool</i>" as a Masters project (reviewed at October 14th HBE Alliance Meeting). The tool was designed for Environmental Health staff to use in the field. It was tested on a development in Kelowna and reviewed in a focus group with regional directors of health protection from 4 out of 5 HA's, 2 local planners and PH professionals to provide feedback and improvements. • Roger would like to develop and pilot a user guide to accompany the tool and looking for an organization to partner with on this. 	
Northern Health Authority (NHA)	Contact: Julie Kerr/Doug Quibell (Julie.Kerr@northernhealth.ca / Doug.Quibell@northernhealth.ca)
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with SmartGrowthBC to present a videoconference forum that brought together Planners, EHOs as a follow up to "Planning 101". Three sites participated. • "Road Health" initiatives to reduce motor vehicle crashes, including a video entitled "Impact." In October, there was a conference on road Health held in Prince George. • "Measuring up the North" – ongoing work in the area of accessible and age-friendly communities. • Innovative Food security projects funded through HEAL seed grants and working in partnership with communities (e.g., portable community garden in repurposed broken city garbage containers on a lot zoned for development. Can be moved easily to another site once building begins.) 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality work, with NH providing support to PGAIR (air improvement roundtable) and air shed tables in other communities (i.e. Quesnel, Buckley Nechako etc). • “HEAL for Your Heart” grants initiated through PHS Cardio-Vascular prevention funding. Lots of projects focused on active transport, recreation access, etc. One example: Burns Lake – a young group of women in the community started free hockey for women, and girls and then started softball in the spring (after the baseball diamond had some upgrades this year to replace the wooden fence with a chainlink fence). Wood from fence being repurposed for community garden raised beds • “Everyone Active” workshop in Terrace. • HEAL Trainer receiving CAAWS Train the Trainer for encouraging physical activity among older women in Ottawa. • School of Planning – Greg Halseth spoke to NH Population Health Council which led to formalized partnering with UNBC. • Community development model being used in First Nations communities to identify and address such issues as mould, overcrowding, inadequate housing, lack of recreation facilities, etc. 	
Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)	Contact: John Millar/Lydia Drasic (jmillar@phsa.ca / ldrasic@phsa.ca)
<p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHSA is sponsoring an <i>Obesity Reduction Strategy for BC</i> that will be developed through an intersectoral expert task force. It is meant to be a comprehensive strategy that will result in a number of policy and intervention recommendations. • Train-the-Trainer project (a continuation of the Planning 101 workshops held in the HA’s winter 2009) deferred until funding available. • Health 201 for Planners project was approved as a primary prevention project under the Centres for Population and Public. The purpose of the project is to develop a learning module for planners to provide an orientation of the health sector and how to engage health in planning decisions. • Primary Health Care Strategy – by end of the fiscal year this project will have established indicators for 80% of what community would want including i) health care utilization, ii) population health data. 	
BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)	Contact: Tom Kosatsky (Tom.Kosatsky@bccdc.ca)
<p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional partners with Environmental Health protection folks – continue to work with this group to keep them thinking of public health broadly. 	
Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA)	Contact: Fiona Lawson (fiona.lawson@viha.ca)
<p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VIHA is part of the CLASP proposal with SGBC, PHN, VCH, etc. • Air Quality monitoring in a few communities. • Food Security Atlas – an online atlas will be launched early 2010. Content will include community gardens, farmers markets, food banks, free lunch programs, etc. • Comox Strathcona – profiles and consultation on OCP. 	

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

University of British Columbia (UBC) <i>(School of Community & Regional Planning)</i>	Contact: Larry Frank (ldfrank@interchange.ubc.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larry announced his Bombardier Chair position is now jointly appointed to the Faculty of Environmental Health and the School of Community and Regional Planning. This is the first joint appointment of its kind that Larry knows of in North America. • The Active Transport Lab at UBC has collected an extensive amount of data on health in the built environment over the years. The data is currently used for internal research projects and is subject to confidentiality rules. Larry is open to partnering with health authorities, working within confidentiality limits, to do analyses to benefit public health in BC. • Larry is currently developing a rigorous software tool to assist with assessing planning developments through a health lens and sees a benefit to the 'in the field' tool that was developed by Roger Parsonage as an accompaniment. • For further research the lab is working on please refer to their website: http://www.act-trans.ubc.ca. 	
CONSULTANT	
Lees & Associates	Contact: Erick Lees (elees@elac.bc.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared <i>"Bringing Health to the Planning Table - A Profile of Promising Practices in Canada and Abroad"</i> for PHAC (can be found online at http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hl-vs-strat. Please disseminate widely.) 	

Non-HBE Alliance Members Activities 2009/2010

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (NCCEH)	Contact: Mona Shum (mona.shum@bccdc.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NCCEH (in partnership with PHSA) is organizing a half day workshop on the built environment at the 11th World Congress on Environmental Health held in Vancouver, September 5-10, 2010. 	
Capilano University	Contact: Alison McNeil (amcneil@capilanou.ca)
Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MATI – COMMUNITY PLANNING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALS, week long residential courses for local government planners involved in planning decisions, but have no formal background or training in planning. See website for more information: http://www.capilanou.ca/programs/local-government/mati-programs.html 	

National Initiatives (report from Cara Fisher BCRPA)

Contact: Cara Fisher
(cfisher@bcrpa.bc.ca)

Activities:

Cara attended a TDM Summit conference in Toronto (<http://www.actcanada.com/en/Conference2009/Default.aspx>) and learned of great public health initiatives coming from the province of Ontario:

- The Ministry of Health Promotion, Recreation Unit is working on Built Environment Indicators. After research and deliberation, they chose to focus on the indicators project on physical activity, as using all built environment characteristics was too huge and daunting of a task (and created more work). (Contact information: Donna Howard, Policy Advisor, Sport & Recreation, Health Promotion, Recreation Unit, Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion).
- The Ministry of Transportation Ontario is leading an Inter-municipal Group on Active Transportation which has been created to explore what different ministries are doing and to identify overlap. This is in relation to active transportation being identified as the overlap point between health promotion and transportation. While the committee has met once to date, this is another interesting initiative worth following to see how we can model this here in BC.
- The "Toronto Diabetes Atlas" project is really amazing and you may have heard about it already. This is a powerful tool being used by the City's Planning and Transportation Services Departments to set priorities and guide improvements in the built environment. http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/crich/diabetes_atlas.php
- There were a few great presentations (via video conference) from the UK on projects that link travel planning with health and physical activity outcomes.

Cara is available for further questions about the Summit or the presentations on health promotion and the links to transportation.