

PREVpectives

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Working Together for Children and Youth!

As we await the news of our NCE funding, the work of PREVNet carries on. Heartened by our collective accomplishments over the past five years and the constant encouragement from all of our partners and researchers, we remain committed to keeping our network active and productive, for now and for the future. With an eye to the future, we have been pursuing new project-based funding opportunities through government and foundation grants, as well as through corporate sponsorship.



Over the past months, we have been busy with a range of partner activities. Together with Big Brothers, Big Sisters Canada, Scouts Canada, and the Canadian Red Cross we have co-created the Healthy Relationships Training Module to fill a gap in the understanding and practice of those who work with children and youth. We have developed an Internet e-learning tutorial with Media Awareness Network in response to the growing importance of electronic communication for youth. Check out the PREVNet website – it has been remodeled, looks great and is easier to navigate! Together with Family Channel, we have been planning to augment our website with a new children's section and we are actively planning for the ninth Bullying Awareness Week for 2011. Mark your calendars – it is November 14th to 20th!! Think of what you might be able to do to promote healthy relationships and prevent bullying. We have also launched Volume Three of the PREVNet book series, *Creating a World without Bullying*. It is filled with wonderful information on bullying

prevention from the early years, through adolescence, into the workplace and for the elderly. If you don't have a copy, you can order one from our website.

Staying well connected and promoting our shared successes is essential to our success as a network. With our revamped website and a launch of PREVNet into the world of social media through Facebook and Twitter, we are working on building links and keeping knowledge flowing. Please keep us posted on all of your news so we can share it with our growing fan base!

We hope to have more good news to share with you over the next few months about how we are evolving to sustain our research-practice partnerships and network, to promote the important work that you do, and to find more opportunities to work together to promote healthy relationships and prevent violence for Canadian children and youth.

Debra Pepler and Wendy Craig

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE FEATURE!



We have revamped our website to make it easier for you to find resources. Simply click on one of the “books” and you’ll find a number of tools.

Here are some highlights! Come check us out at <http://www.prevnet.ca/>

For Everyone:

- More than 20 fact sheets about various bullying topics
- More than 20 current bullying research articles presented in an easy to understand summaries

For Kids and Teens:

- Tips for what to do if they are being bullied or bully others
- Tips for what they can do to “stand up” to bullying
- Videos

For Parents:

What you need to know about bullying if you have young children, elementary school children, teenagers, or Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, or Questioning Youth

- Information about cyberbullying
- What to do if your child bullies

Educators and Other Adults who Work with Children:

- What Recreation Leaders Need to Know
- What Primary Care Practitioners Need to Know
- Handbook for All Educators
- What Teachers of Adolescents Need to Know
- What Teachers of Elementary School Children Need to Know
- What Teachers of Young Children Need to Know
- What School Bus Drivers Need to Know

Community of Practice Update

PREVNet is founded on the understanding that healthy development in children and youth depends on the quality of their relationships with family, peers and community members. We strongly believe that participation in community activities, nonviolence educational programming and mentoring programs enhance positive youth development, which is why we are so pleased and grateful to have received funding from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada through the Social Development Partnerships Program, to create a Community of Practice amongst Canadian Red Cross RespectEd, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada, and Scouts Canada. All three organizations use adults and older youth to lead, mentor and guide younger youth. Working closely with these three organizations since January 2010, we have been very successful in creating a common evidence-based understanding and approach to promoting safe and healthy child and youth relationships. The three organizations have generously contributed time to this project, willingly shared training resources, and have been eager to engage in evaluation activities, all with the goal of enhancing practice.

To date, we have conducted extensive and comprehensive reviews of each organizations’ training programs for staff and volunteers (including older youth) who work directly with children and youth. We

have found that each organization provides extensive and high quality training content and processes, and we have made recommendations to ensure that these training resources and processes are consistent with current scientific literature. A gap was identified in the provision of *explicit* training related to fostering healthy relationships. Specifically, we collectively identified the need for training that addresses: How are relationships important for healthy development? What defines a healthy relationship? What are the components of a healthy relationship between adults and youth, between youth, and between adult colleagues? How do we promote healthy peer relationships for children and youth? How can we promote positive social climates and healthy group dynamics? How can we use relationship solutions for bullying problems? To address this need, the Community of Practice co-created the comprehensive Healthy Relationships Training Module (HRTM). The HRTM consists of a Facilitator’s Guide, power point, and Participant’s Handbook. The module has been extensively reviewed and revised over the last year, and is now ready for dissemination and evaluation within the community of practice. Two companion questionnaires have been developed to assess leader’s knowledge, confidence and skills in promoting safe and healthy relationships. We look forward to making these resources available to all of PREVNet’s members in the future, so stay tuned for further information!

PREVpectives

PREVNet and PHAC : A Partnership for Advancing Work in Violence Prevention



Over the past year and a half, PREVNet has been collaborating with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), represented by the Canadian Best Practices Initiative (CBPI) and the Family

Violence Prevention Unit, to develop and launch a new violence prevention stream of the Canadian Best Practices Portal (CBPP) – an online compendium of community interventions related to chronic disease prevention and health promotion that have been evaluated, shown to be successful, and have the potential to be adapted and replicated by other health practitioners working in similar fields.

The goal of the partnership is to provide all front-line workers engaging with children and youth at schools, non-government or

community-based organizations with easy online access to the best available violence prevention information and programs. In turn, this will help to support, guide and enable effective decision-making and program implementation.

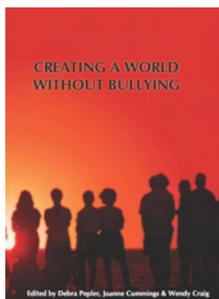
PREVNet researchers and graduate students have been busy systematically reviewing and synthesizing scientific knowledge about effective violence prevention and healthy relationship programs in Canada – many of which have come from our partners. PREVNet has committed to uploading a total of 38 recommended interventions onto the Portal. New additions will fill existing gaps in knowledge in relation to (prevention of) violence among children and youth in Aboriginal communities, bullying, dating violence, and child abuse and neglect.

In addition, PREVNet is developing a needs assessment tool kit for stakeholders to guide program selection, as well as a self-evaluation tool kit for stakeholders interested in submitting a program.

If you have or know of a violence prevention program that you believe should be considered for the Portal, please let us know. This is an excellent opportunity to broaden awareness and uptake of your program throughout Canada and internationally.

We will be hosting an exciting launch event in Ottawa in November to celebrate our partnership and to officially launch and showcase the new violence prevention stream of the Portal as an effective source of online information and programs. An invitation with more details will be coming your way in October – please stay tuned!

PREVNet Volume 3 Now Available!



The 3rd volume in the PREVNet book series, ***Creating a World without Bullying*** has been published and has arrived in our PREVNet offices.

The volume's 11 chapters are based upon presentations from PREVNet's 3rd and 4th conferences given by leading Canadian scholars and practitioners who have generously shared their expertise and most current research findings.

The book is available to order through PREVNet for \$29.95 (plus shipping). Please see our homepage (www.prevnet.ca) for ordering information, as well as a complete chapter listing

For additional information or questions, please email us at prevnet@queensu.ca or reach us by telephone (toll-free 1-866-372-2495).

Partners in the News:

Respect in Sport teams up with Hockey Canada

This July, Wayne McNeil and Sheldon Kennedy announced that Respect in Sport has officially started working with Hockey Canada on the development of an individualized Respect in Sport Parent Program that will continue to promote a positive environment for players, refs and coaches.

If you have news, PREVNet would like to hear about it!

Please send us your news so we can share it with the network!
(prevnet@queensu.ca)



PREVNet Student Executive Committee: Commitment and Leadership

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Student Executive Committee for taking a lead role in many initiatives over the past years with PREVNet, especially organizing the Graduate Students Networking Activities at our Annual Conferences. We thank the outgoing members, Catherine Cappadocia (York), Lina Darwich (UBC), Ashley Legate (Queen's), and Joanne Sue (Queen's) and wish them all of the best in their future endeavours.

And we thank Christine Blain-Arcaro (Ottawa), Danielle Quigley (Carleton), and Samantha Yamada (York) for continuing to broker new projects and engage our student network. Our expansion of the student executive will be based on a successful outcome of our NCE KM application.

**@PREVNet is on
Twitter! Come
"tweet" with us!**



CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS WITH NETWORKS OF CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE



**Networks of Centres
of Excellence**
**Réseaux de centres
d'excellence**
2005 - March 2011

As our five year funding partnership with the Networks of Centres of Excellence New Initiative (NCE-NI) came to a close in **March, we'd like to celebrate some of our key accomplishments.** Our primary focus of the NCE-NI was to build collaborative and trusting relationships within the network, and to enhance bullying prevention knowledge and the practice of adults involved with children and youth.

Growth and Excellence of the Network

- PREVNet began as a network of 21 researchers, and over the subsequent five years expanded to 62 researchers from 27 Canadian universities. This is a growth of 195%! Over the past five years, **PREVNet's researchers have been very productive.** Researchers have written more than 675 journal articles, 230 book chapters, 30 books, and 120 reports. PREVNet researchers delivered more than 800 presentations and workshops in Canada and internationally. Additionally, the NCE-NI program has enabled PREVNet researchers to secure more than \$36 million in new grants.
- We encourage researchers to engage graduate students in PREVNet activities. We began with a strong group of 29 graduate students, which expanded to

56 graduate students, a 93% increase! In addition, there is a Student Advisory Committee which consists of seven graduate students and is responsible for organizing student events, advising Executive Committee, and generating new ideas student activity in network.

- When we applied for NCE-NI funding, 30 national youth-serving organizations agreed to join. From the original 30, we have expanded to 56 PREVNet partners, a growth of 87%, with representation from the industry sector (n=5), federal agencies (n=3), provincial agencies (n=1), and NGOs (n=47). Over the NCE-NI grant period, PREVNet partner organizations have provided more than \$2.1 million in cash contributions and close to \$1 million in in-kind contributions!

Development of Knowledge Mobilization Resources and Tools

Through our network activities, we developed a research-positive culture among our partners in which evidence-based knowledge and practice are viewed as necessities and vital to organizational effectiveness and advancement. In Canada and beyond, PREVNet is now recognized as the authoritative voice for the prevention of violence and the promotion of healthy relationships.

We'd like to celebrate some of our key accomplishments with our partners! We have:

- worked with 100% of our partners over the past five years.

- co-created more than 80 organization-specific bullying prevention initiatives, including educational presentations, activities, and resources.
- created eight working groups that serve as catalysts for knowledge mobilization and grant applications including: Education and Training, Assessment, Prevention and Intervention, Policy, Social Aggression, Aboriginal, Cyber Risk, and Workplace Harassment. Over the past five years, 92% of researchers, and 69% of partners, and 60% of students have participated in one or more working groups.
- hosted five annual general meetings with our researchers and partners, followed by a full-day conference for community professionals with more than 24 workshops to choose from. We have had consistently high ratings from attendees for the content in our conferences. More than 1,500 people **have attended the "public day"** conferences over the past five years.
- created a website, which in its four years of operation, has welcomed more than 175,000 site visits from 181 countries with visitors downloading materials more than 29,000 times. Over 99.9% of users who downloaded resources found the information helpful.

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Promoting Relationships to Eliminate Violence

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS WITH NETWORKS OF CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (CONTINUED)

PREVNet's resources have taken many forms including: training tools and manuals (n=31), brochures (n=5), tipsheets (n=30), literature reviews (n=4), articles for partner associations (n=8), and computer games (n=2). Some examples of tools that we have co-created with our partners include:

- Creation of a *Healthy Relationships Training* module to train all adult volunteers for Big Brothers, Big Sisters (which mentored more than 30,000 children last year), Scouts Canada

(with 24,000 adult volunteers and 78,000 children participating), and Canadian Red Cross (reaches over 122,000 adults and 180,000 children/youth per year).

- Handbook for Principals (*Bullying in Schools: Guidelines for Prevention and Intervention*) available to more than 14,000 principals across Canada
- Creation of cyber bullying resources for Canadian **Teachers' Federation** for more than 220,000 teachers across Canada

- Created teachers' guide for three of Family Channel television shows which reach more than 5.8 million children
- Created *Girls United Training Module and e-learning module with Girl Guides* delivered to 22,000 guide leaders who will interact with 85,000 guides.
- Created training manual for Kids Help Phone counselors who help more than 5,600 children/year



THANK YOU!



We want to extend our gratitude to all of the children, youth, parents, teachers, leaders, coaches, mentors and others who work every day to promote safe and healthy relationships for healthy development. When we collectively rise up to this challenge in our moment-to-moment interactions and program delivery, we can create a safe, secure, and equitable society that actively fosters and nurtures healthy relationships and effectively works toward eliminating violence. We are grateful to the Networks of Centres for Excellence for funding PREVNet for five years and to the PREVNet Board of Directors for their unwavering support and guidance.

PREVNet is successfully creating social-cultural change in Canada regarding the use of power and aggression in relationships and the importance of healthy relationships for children and youth. By promoting healthy relationships, PREVNet and its partners are laying the foundation for long-term economic, health and social well-being for Canadians.

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Networks of Centres of Excellence
Réseaux de centres d'excellence

2005-March 2011

