

Call for Graduate Student Research / Project Posters

Submission deadline: Monday October 31st by 5:00PM. Thank you.

“The Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion: Critical Engagement from a Health Equity Perspective”

November 28 & 29 (Monday, Tuesday), 2011

8:30AM – 5:00PM

Executive Airport Plaza Hotel & Conference Centre
7311 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC V6X 1A3

Are you a graduate student who would like the opportunity to showcase your work in relation to health promotion and the reduction of health inequities?

Do you have a practicum or research project that you would like to share?

15 graduate student poster spots are available at the 2011 PHABC Conference.

A poster walk-about session on Tuesday November 29th would allow you to talk about your poster with participants in a casual, interactive environment.

Please forward an e-copy of your poster or poster outline to education@phabc.org in addition to a 3-4 sentence summary of how your poster applies to either the overarching theme of the conference or one of the key action areas of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion.

Posters will be evaluated and successful candidates will be contacted by November 7th. Thank you for your interest. Background information with regards to the 2011 PHABC Conference can be found below.

Best,
Kayla Pompu
2011 PHABC Conference Coordinator

Graduate Poster Submission Requirements

Evaluation Criteria

Due to limited space and the need for the most relevant and highest quality program, the Conference Program Committee (CPC) has outlined several criteria by which the quality and relevance of posters submitted will be judged.

1) **Action:** We are aware of the tendency of the public health community to slip back into a ‘description’ of health inequities, even when intending to address the need for action. Abstracts that not only emphasize, but also outline how they have, or intend to address the concept of ‘action’ on health inequities will be judged as more relevant.

2) **Innovation:** The challenge of addressing health inequities requires innovation and inventiveness. While the CPC will consider familiar interventions and approaches, it encourages new ideas and modes of action be presented in order to foster debate and

dialogue about the most promising ways forward.

3) Partnerships, Collaboration and Inter-sectorality: While these three concepts are not synonymous, they share a common thread that emphasizes participation and inclusiveness. We are particularly interested in novel and successful attempts to involve consumers, community members, multiple sectors, multiple levels of government, community-university partnerships and other forms of collaboration aimed at addressing health inequity.

4) Assets and Strengths: The CPC encourages submission of abstracts related to a variety of public health approaches to addressing health inequities; however, it is particularly interested in approaches that explicitly focus on reservoirs of strength and resilience, even in the most disadvantaged communities, as 'assets' for health. This is particularly the case for our Aboriginal communities who often feel they have been 'pathologized' by public health research and wish us to focus more on how deeply embedded cultural and spiritual capacities are resources for improving health and reducing health inequity.

The conference organizers request that graduate students submit research or project posters that relate to the overarching theme of the conference or the five key action areas of the Ottawa Charter:

- a. Building healthy public policy
- b. Creating supportive environments
- c. Strengthening community action
- d. Developing personal skills
- e. Reorienting health systems

In addition, please consider how your submission may align with other significant elements of the Charter:

Values and Principles:

- Participation
- Empowerment
- Equity

Prerequisites for Health:

- Peace
- Shelter
- Education
- Food
- Income
- A stable eco-system
- Sustainable resources
- Social justice, and equity

Strategies:

- Advocate
- Enable
- Mediate

Additional Conference Background

The Public Health Association of British Columbia has planned a conference to explore the role of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion in reducing health inequities. This two-day event will challenge participants to look beyond the now abundant evidence that widespread inequities in health exist in British Columbia (and elsewhere), to new and innovative forms of action aimed at reducing these inequities.

As the foundation document for health promotion, the Ottawa Charter can offer a potential framework for developing more concrete strategies for reducing health inequities. While the Charter itself aspired to address this issue from the very beginning, with hindsight we can now critically address a series of key questions:

- Has the Charter succeeded in helping to address health inequities and if so, how?
- What is the future potential for the Charter's principles, strategies and action areas to tackle these inequities?
- What new elements need to be considered in order to improve upon the Charter's foundation?
- How do the new emphases on the social determinants of health and globalization, fit with the Charter's framework?

The conference has explicitly structured its program around the notion of 'critical engagement' with the Ottawa Charter, giving conference attendees a real opportunity to develop a collective assessment of the past, present and future of the Charter and its role in pushing forward a progressive agenda for the new public health.

Thank you for your interest in the 2011 PHABC Conference. More information can be found online at www.phabc.org.