

If you know a sensational staff member, a good news item or an interesting tale we should all hear about, please email okcommunications@interiorhealth.ca.

October 21st, 2009

Top News...

Brookhaven Wins "Psychologically Healthy Workplace Practice" Award!
Healthy Workplace Month – Week Four: Feeling Great Giving Back!

Other Headlines ...

New & Simpler Process for Reporting Employee Incidents / Accidents
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Top News ...

Brookhaven Wins 'Psychologically Healthy Workplace Practice' Award!

Congratulations to the team involved in Brookhaven Care Centre's Lil' Brooks Program, which recently won an award from the BC Psychologically Healthy Workplace Collaborative (PHWC), a standing committee of the BC Psychological Association. The award recognizes organizations for excellence in promoting psychologically healthy workplace practices, policies and programs. (For more info, visit: www.phwc.ca.)

The Lil' Brooks Club is a new resource available to children of IH employees who work at Brookhaven Care Centre. It is a challenging and rewarding children's club; it is *not* a daycare, but rather a volunteer opportunity for the employee's children to give back to their community while accompanying their parents to their worksite for the day. The program is implemented during school district pro-days, as well as summer, spring and winter breaks, from 7:00am to 4:30pm. Children ages 6-12 years are welcome to join.

Shannon Blanleil, Manager Leisure Services, Transport and Clerical for Central Okanagan Residential Services, says they've seen many benefits from this initiative. The children have an educational, safe and fun day at their parent's worksite, while gaining a better appreciation of what their parents do, and the important roles their parents play in other people's lives. Staff report experiencing a more positive workday knowing their children are safe, having fun and volunteering in their community. "We are also finding that casual staff are requesting to work at Brookhaven during Lil' Brooks days, as they often have difficulty finding care for their children when school is not in session." Kudos to all involved!

Healthy Workplace Month – Week Four: Feeling Great Giving Back!

Social responsibility is the focus for Week Four. Take part by volunteering for an important community initiative, such as: food bank drives; a blood donation drive; Habitat for Humanity; community clean-up; United Way initiatives or hundreds of other activities. It's a great way for individuals and organizations to give back to the community! More ideas for week four are described in detail at: <http://www.healthyworkplacemonth.ca/week4>. Also, be sure to visit IH's "[Little Give](#)" page (InsideNet > Employees > Employee Wellness > The Little Give).

Other Headlines ...

New & Simpler Process for Reporting Employee Incidents / Accidents

Effective **November 2nd, 2009**, Workplace Health & Safety will implement a **toll-free number** for all IH employees reporting a new workplace incident or accident. Calling **1-866-899-7999** will replace the process of completing an Employee Incident Accident Report Form (EIR).

Benefits include:

- direct and easy access for employees when reporting an incident;
- faster employer reporting to WorkSafeBC for claims consideration;
- more valuable data for Joint Occupational Safety & Health (JOSH) committee analysis; and
- environmental sustainability, as a result of reduction in paper forms.

Questions? Email workplaceinjury.prevention@interiorhealth.ca.

P.E.O.P.L.E. 34 Population Profiles Now Available

Did you know that the population of the Interior Health region for 2010 is projected to be 736,264 representing 16.3% of the province? Or that Interior Health's 65 and over population is projected to increase from 139,568 to 165,343 or 18.5% from 2010 to 2015?

Each year, BC Stats projects the population of the province based on demographic and economic trends, taking into consideration possible future changes. The latest cycle, just published, is known as [P.E.O.P.L.E. 34](#) (Population Extrapolation for Organizational Planning with Less Error). For IH, reports are available at the Local Health Area, Health Service Area, and IH-wide level. Interior Health uses this information to understand the demographics of our population to plan for health care programs and services.

Learn more about P.E.O.P.L.E. 34 on the InsideNet under Corporate Services > Info Support & Research > Strategic Info > [Population Profiles](#) or contact **Christine Hill**, GIS Analyst, at christine.hill@interiorhealth.ca or (250) 770-3408.

Reminder! Canada Payroll Savings Program 2009 Now Underway

The 2009 Canada Payroll Savings Plan campaign runs from Oct. 5th to 31st, 2009, and Interior Health is pleased to offer both permanent and casual employees the opportunity to systematically set aside savings through automatic payroll deduction. The plan offers a chance for you to start participating in the regular savings plan or the RRSP plan; add a new bond holder to your existing plans; or increase the annual amount of your contributions. And, it's easy to participate. Find all the details at:

<http://inside.interiorhealth.ca/NR/rdonlyres/F0E47557-F04D-4A16-80F1-70F8BCE4469F/48957/CSBCampaignMemo20091.doc>.

Questions? Email MOX: Payroll or payroll@interiorhealth.ca.

Regional Roundup ...

Sensational Staff Members

Read the following excerpts to discover why these Okanagan staff members are so special and see how they "live" the IH Values of **Quality, Integrity, Respect & Trust**:

"I would like to commend my co-worker **Carrie Norris**, who is an ACTIVITY AIDE at Westview Extended Care of Penticton Regional Hospital. This wonderful co-worker is ALWAYS friendly, cheerful, full of information and so thoughtful with all of our residents. Carrie is always immaculately dressed and such an inspiration to the rest of us working at Extended Care. We all need co-workers like Carrie Norris." – **Hildegard Schmidt**, Care Aide

From a letter to **Amanda Bartlett** and **Irene Ruel**, Community Physiotherapists, COK: "Jody, Tami and I are so grateful for the professionalism, gentleness and sense of humour you demonstrated in the care of our Mom...The three of us have had many conversations about the work you have chosen – and how it requires a special kind of individual." – The Schellenbergs

"I wanted to take a moment to tell you about my inspiring office mate **Teena Robinson**. I would describe Teena as one of the most competent, hardworking, empathetic social workers I have ever had the opportunity to learn from and work with. She works full-time as an Integrated Care Coordinator at VJH, part-time as a fitness instructor, is raising a three year old son and is training for triathlons in her "down" time. If all that is not enough, she spotted a copy of a VJH Foundation fundraising calendar that was published 10 years ago and thought that a 10th anniversary edition should be created. After months and months of coordinating, planning, phone calling, meeting, and arranging (all on her own time), we are about to have the privilege to purchase "2010: A Medical Oddity" calendar with all the funds raised going to the VJH Foundation...It is a unique person who wants to understand where the money comes from to fund our hospital system; it is truly a special person who then acts on this to raise the funds. I'm proud to say that person is my friend and co-worker Teena." – **Megan DeSimone**, Integrated Care Coordinator (For more info on the calendar, check out the October 7th edition of "[In the Loop](#)" on the InsideNet under News & Info > OHSA > In the Loop Archives.)

Quick Pics ...

... of the team on Medical South at Penticton Regional Hospital celebrating their 2009 BC Patient Quality and Safety Award for their Falls Prevention program. **Karen Fitzpatrick**, Nurse Manager, made the cake. View photos on the InsideNet under News & Info > HSA News > [OHSA News](#).

Managers having employees without regular access to e-mail should print and distribute accordingly.