



at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health  
University of Toronto

# What's New at THCU?

Summer 2010 Edition

## New and Updated Resources

### General Skills for Health Promotion

- **Skills for Health Promotion (planning, evaluation, policy, health communication) Toolkit**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1283](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1283)
- **Health Promotion Skills, Essential Resource Tour (updated)**  
[www.thcu.ca/workshops/hpskillsresourcetour.htm](http://www.thcu.ca/workshops/hpskillsresourcetour.htm)

### Planning

- **Situational Assessment. Excerpt from THCU's New Edition of Planning Health Promotion Programs Workbook (draft)**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1281](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1281)
- **Setting Priorities-Strategic Techniques for Groups**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1237](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1237)
- **Priority-Setting-Four Methods for Getting to What's Important**  
[www.ohpe.ca/node/11169](http://www.ohpe.ca/node/11169)
- **Orientation Webcasts about the Online Health Program Planner**  
[www.thcu.ca/videos/ohpp\\_tutorials.htm](http://www.thcu.ca/videos/ohpp_tutorials.htm)
- **Evidence to Support Planning Decisions, Collection of Links**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/planning\\_resources\\_soe.cfm?ownership=ALL](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/planning_resources_soe.cfm?ownership=ALL)

### Evaluation

- **Critique of Sample Outcome and Process Indicators**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1233](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1233)

### Comprehensive Workplace Health Promotion

- **Workplace Mental Health Promotion, A How-To Guide**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1276](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1276)

### Sustainability

- **Sustainability at a Glance**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1232](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1232)

### Health Communication

- **Overview of Developing Health Communication Campaigns Toolkit (updated)**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1008](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1008)
- **Collection of Articles about Effectiveness of Health Communication**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm?resourceID=1282](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm?resourceID=1282)

### General Tools

- **Literature searches done for our clients**  
[www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/lit\\_reviews.cfm](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/lit_reviews.cfm)

## Events

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Dates for our two-day Skills for Health Promotion Workshops have been set for October and November 2010. Find out more at [www.thcu.ca/mass\\_emails/2010/2010\\_03\\_22\\_web.html](http://www.thcu.ca/mass_emails/2010/2010_03_22_web.html).

In September, 2010 our webinar series will begin. Between September 2010 and March 2011 we will offer dozens of sessions on topics such as HP 101, Orientation to the Online Health Program Planner, Policy Development at a Glance, Evaluating Health Promotion Programs, and more! Check our website frequently to find out about upcoming sessions, at [www.thcu.ca/events/index.cfm](http://www.thcu.ca/events/index.cfm).

## Coming Soon

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- Catalogue of Situational Assessment Tools – Updated with new additions
- HP 102: Workplace Health Promotion – Online resource and webinar series
- Online Business Case Creator
- OHPE article on Social Media
- Ongoing upgrades to the Online Health Promotion Planner [www.thcu.ca/ohpp](http://www.thcu.ca/ohpp)

## THCU Partnership News

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We are very pleased to be working closely with a variety of partners to offer you capacity-building resources in the most efficient, effective and innovative ways possible. Our most active partnerships at this time are with:

- The Intervention Mapping (<http://interventionmapping.com/index.php?q=node/22>) authors at University of Texas, Drs. Kay Bartholomew and Maria Fernandez to develop a prototype for an intervention mapping online decision support system.
- The Ontario Health Communities Consortium and Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion to support Healthy Communities Fund grant recipients and Healthy Communities Partnerships.
- Various Ontario Public Health Units to develop twelve completed examples of program plans (using the OHPP) to support the recently released Ministry of Health Promotion Guidance Documents.
- The National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools to develop an Online Business Case Creator.
- Health Nexus to continue to provide and improve the Online Health Promotion Email Bulletin.

## Interesting Statistics

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- In our first year of launching the Online Health Program Planner, 8000 people visited the planner and 1350 created accounts!
- Last year, 10,000 resources were downloaded from THCU's Online Resource Database.

## En Français

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This was a big year for THCU and French Language Services. We translated all of the components of our Skills for Health Promotion Toolkit. This included four training slideshows (planning, evaluation, health communication, policy development) as well as the following resources:

- Planning Lessons from Everyday Life
- Objectives Game Answer Key and Game Cards
- Objectives Critique Exercise
- Planning Situations and Solutions - Challenges from the Field
- Type of Evaluation Decision Table
- Indicator Assessment Exercise
- What's Wrong with This Questionnaire Handout and Answer Key
- They Say/We Say Evaluation Challenges
- THCU's Roadmap to Policy Development
- Planning At a Glance
- Policy Development at a Glance
- Evaluation at a Glance
- Health Communication at a Glance

These resources were used at a *Skills for Health Promotion Workshop* for Francophones this year. They are currently being compiled into one toolkit that will be available for downloading on our website.

We also translated our Online Health Program Planner (OHPP) Orientation tutorial slides and our OHPE article on Priority-Setting for Le Bloc Notes.

THCU's Online Resource Database is now available in French, from the French side of our website at [www.thcu.ca/index\\_f.htm](http://www.thcu.ca/index_f.htm). A few terms and resource descriptions have yet to be translated. These are now with our translator and will be put online by fall 2010.

We are very excited to report that we applied for and received a \$6000 grant as a part of a Canada-Ontario matching grant, to enhance our French Language products and services. Because of this grant, we were able to contract with two bilingual consultants to offer more consultation and training services to our French clients. We are pleased to welcome Danielle Cote and Sophie Rosa to our roster of consultants.

To find out more about Danielle and Sophie, and our French Language Services, please read our *What's New at THCU-French Edition* at [www.thcu.ca/index\\_f.htm](http://www.thcu.ca/index_f.htm).

## Consultations

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Our team is available to work with you on health promotion challenges related to:

- Health Promotion Program Planning
- Health Promotion Program Evaluation
- Healthy Policy Development
- Health Communication
- Sustainability

To request a consultation, please visit our website at [www.thcu.ca/consultation.htm](http://www.thcu.ca/consultation.htm).

## New THCU Funding Arrangement

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As of April 1, 2010, the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) took over responsibility for the contract management of The Health Communication Unit, formerly funded by the Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP). For more information, please read the joint [MHP/OAHPP announcement](#).

## Comprehensive Workplace Health Promotion (CWHP) Project

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As of July 30, 2010 CWHP will no longer exist as a project separate from other THCU core services. Some CWHP services will continue while others will be modified or discontinued.

### *The reasons for these changes are many*

An integration of core THCU and CWHP projects will increase our effectiveness and alignment, and decrease costs. We have been working on this integration for the past year.

In response to emerging priorities of the OAHPP and MHP (including the Guidance Documents tied to the Ontario Public Health Standards and the Healthy Communities Fund ), THCU has been directed to provide broader products and services relating to planning, evaluation, communication and policy, in response to these priorities.

### *What will stay the same*

Our popular workplace resources and on-line catalogues will continue to be made available through THCU's online resource database ([www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource\\_display.cfm](http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/resource_display.cfm)).

### *What will change*

The workplace team – Jessica Elgie, Giovanna Ferrara, and Nancy van Boxmeer – will not continue their existing roles beyond July 30, 2010. We were pleased to honour their contributions at the recent Symposium. The focus of THCU's core consultation service will continue to be on program planning, program evaluation, policy development, health communication and sustainability within a variety of settings, including the workplace.

We will also wind down our support to the Ontario Healthy Workplace Coalition ([www.ohwc.ca](http://www.ohwc.ca)). This wind down is not unexpected, as it was part of a three-year transition plan already put into place. The OHWC is still alive and well, with tremendous support from CMHA (Ontario).

### *What will be discontinued*

In light of the above, we have no plans to hold a workplace symposium in the spring of 2011 and we will not produce new resources, or update older ones.

The workplace website [www.thcu.ca/workplace](http://www.thcu.ca/workplace) will be amalgamated with the Core THCU site [www.thcu.ca](http://www.thcu.ca) over the summer of 2010.

### *Moving forward*

It has been very rewarding to watch the workplace project grow and flourish over the past 10 years. We will continue to await and encourage new opportunities for resources and policy to address the critical role workplaces play in the health of our communities.

We give our heartfelt thanks to all those who have been involved in our Workplace Project, including Project Advisory Committee members, Situational Assessment Review panelists, Symposium speakers, event participants, previous and current staff and everyone who had graciously supported our efforts over the years.

## New Contact Information for Our Service Coordinator

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We would like to acknowledge the contributions of Cathy Duerden, our current Service Coordinator, who has been with THCU since 2003. Cathy will be retiring at the end of June 2010. Congratulations Cathy!

To replace Cathy, we welcome Patty Staring to our team. Patty will coordinate all of our consultation and workshop services as of July 1, 2010. She can be reached by email at [hc.unit@utoronto.ca](mailto:hc.unit@utoronto.ca) or by phone at (705) 327-0018 or 1-877-404-THCU (8428).