Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy & Safe Communities

Connections

News from the Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities

Volume 2, Issue 2 October 2006

Special points of interest:

- Learn about our new discussion forum called Stay Connected
- Artwork & DVD for sale on The Quaich's web site
- Get the update on the four ASI Provincial Networks

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2006 Atlantic Summer Institute at a Glance

The 3rd annual Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy & Safe Communities, held at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown, was another immense success!

This August 22nd-25th, people came from around the Atlantic Provinces to share information, learn more about the links between crime, safety, and health, embrace diversity, and explore collaborative opportunities for their respective regions.

Attendance was impressive this year, with almost 200 total registrants.

NB – 27
NL – 34
NS – 57
PEI – 68
ON – 2
QC – 2
Other – 2

The keynote speaker was Wanda Thomas Bernard from the School of Social Work at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS, who spoke on racism, violence, and health. Her keynote was based on a Canadian study on the impact of racism, violence, and health on Black men, their families, and their communities. Please note that the presentations from this and other workshops can be found online at http://www.upei.ca/si. Simply click on *Workshop Presentations* in the left-hand menu of the main page.

While it is still early after the Institute and the evaluation will be ongoing for some time, initial comments include:

"A great opportunity to learn, meet others who do good work and share what you've done."

"It was extremely well organized, people were fantastic and friendly, lovely sense of warmth. The organizers did a fantastic job."

and

"A great opportunity to learn about health promotion and crime prevention and the link/similarities between the two. High calibre speakers, presentations."

Keynote speaker Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard

National Crime Prevention Strategy Funding Confirmed!

Canada

In addition to all the great things that went on at this year's Institute, the organizers of ASI got some good news from the National Crime Prevention Centre this fall.

The Government of Canada's National Crime Prevention Strategy has confirmed three year funding for the Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities. The Advisory Committee appreciates the support of the National Crime Prevention Centre and looks forward to working with them over the next three years.

Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities

l'Institut d'été sur les collectivités sûres et en santé au Canada atlantique

Below: Participants involved in group work at the 2006 Summer Institute

2007 Atlantic Summer Institute: Dates Confirmed!

The 2007 Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities has been confirmed for August 21-24, 2007 on the University of Prince Edward Island Campus, Charlottetown, PEI. We hope to see you there!

Stay Connected Discussion Forum

Initial meetings are great but how do you stay connected in between PEI summers?

The Community Health Promotion Network Atlantic (CHPNA – see *Partner Profile* on page 4 for more information) has included a special section on their web site, www.chpna.ca, for Institute participants.

The Stay Connected discussion forum is meant to help people stay in touch in between Institutes.

Log on and find out what's happening in your area and beyond.

Above: Patsy Beattie-Huggan, *right*, presenting raffle prize to Rosie Augustine, *left*

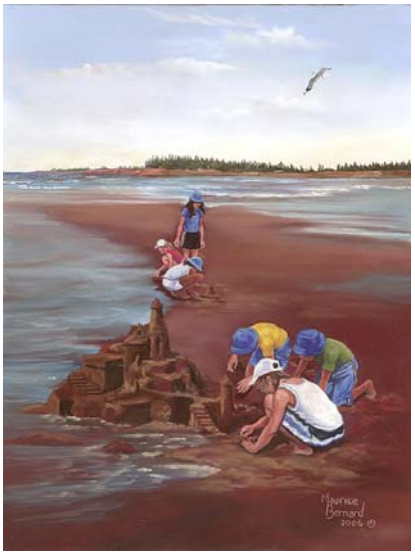
ASI Artwork

For those that attended the 2006 Summer Institute, you know that a raffle was held for a limited edition print which was created by a local Island artist, Maurice Bernard. This painting was based on a photo of a Children's Program activity in 2005. The winner of the raffle was Rosie Augustine from Elsipogtog in New Brunswick (see picture below).

Anyone who did not get a chance to purchase a limited edition print at the Institute can do so online from The Quaich's catalogue at http://www.thequaich.pe.ca/catalogue.asp. This would be a wonderful Christmas gift!

Also available from the catalogue is the Summer Institute's DVD, *The Many Faces of Health and Safety in Atlantic Canada*.

For only $10Cdn you will get a glimpse into the first Summer Institute in 2004. See how it all began and meet some of the people working in health and safety in the Atlantic region.



Above: Limited edition print by Maurice Bernard

Provincial Networks Update

ASI Provincial Networks are a project that was created by the ASI Advisory Committee to extend the reach of ASI deeper into Atlantic Canadian communities. Funded by the Population Health Fund of the Public Healthy Agency of Canada, the project aims to increase diversity & representation of excluded populations, to increase the opportunities for knowledge exchange, and to develop provincial networks committed to extending the skills, knowledge, and relationships developed at the ASI, in order to facilitate change in provincial policy and programs.

At the 2006 Summer Institute, each of the four provincial networks met to discuss a variety of issues, including how best to develop the networks, benefits of membership, and next steps.

Newfoundland & Labrador
Seventy-five percent of those who attended the Newfoundland/Labrador network meeting were new to the network. Plans are being made to bring together the regional Wellness Coalitions and crime prevention networks at the next meeting. The organizers are currently putting together a newsletter for the group, which they hope to publish monthly, with events, resources, conferences, etc.

Nova Scotia
During the Nova Scotia network a backgrounder on the network was distributed for those new to the group. The purpose of this meeting was to network with other organizations in Nova Scotia to promote collaboration and how to get other organizations involved, so that they might attend next year's Summer Institute. Benefits of ASI attendance were also discussed.

Discussions about other networks led to realization that much local networking is already being done. There was a suggestion to choose a success story from this local networking, from each province, to highlight at next year's Institute. Other suggestions for next year's ASI were:

- Success stories of networking at the local levels
- List of policies and legislation relevant to health promotion, crime prevention and social development
- Links to relevant reports
- Brief blurb on upcoming community activities and conferences that are taking place shortly after ASI.

A post-Institute NS network meeting was held in late September, in Truro to continue these discussions.

New Brunswick
Highlights of the New Brunswick network meeting discussions include: a need for better marketing to let people know the network exists, multicultural groups should be included, a possible partner could be the NB Minister responsible for Immigration and Repatriation, the need to continue to maintain English-French links, and the possibility for the Francophone community to tap into Quebec for people and tools to highlight in the ASI program. No future meeting date has been set to date.

Prince Edward Island
The PEI network meeting was a mix of current network members and new participants. Some participants at this meeting are involved in other networks as well. There was enthusiasm for the PEI Network including having the ability to pool resources, being creative, and having a common vision leading to political will and strength in numbers. No meeting date has been set but it will likely be in early spring 2007.

If you would like to be involved with the provincial network in your region please contact Lisa Pike at l_pike@nf.sympatico.ca.

Above: Children's Program Moment of Fame, 2006 Summer Institute

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Thank You to All Volunteers!

The organizers of the Atlantic Summer Institute would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that put forth their time and resources to make the Institute possible. This includes volunteers throughout the Institute days, committee members, and the Advisory Committee.

An appreciation barbecue was held for the volunteers in September at Patsy Beattie-Huggan's home in Charlottetown. Patsy is the Coordinator of the Institute. As the pictures show, all who attended had a wonderful time.

Thank you again! We couldn't have done it without you!

2006 ASI Volunteers at the Volunteer Appreciation BBQ

What is the Summer Institute?

The Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy & Safe Communities is a learning institute that is held each year in Charlottetown, PEI. It brings together people from health promotion, justice/crime prevention, safety promotion and social development to share knowledge and begin to collaborate on programs, services, and policy, in order to build a stronger, safer, healthier Atlantic Canada. **Find out more on the web site: www.upei.ca/SI.**

Partner Profile *Each issue will feature a different partner involved with the Atlantic Summer Institute. This month's feature is CHPNA.*

Community Health Promotion Network Atlantic Cooperative Limited (CHPNA) is a not-for-profit cooperative, owned by members and governed by an elected Atlantic Region Board of Directors. From its beginning in 1996 CHPNA was envisioned as a simple organization with a clear mission:

> *To share health promotion information among individuals, groups, and communities in the Atlantic Provinces*

CHPNA supports health promotion by providing access to tools, knowledge and expertise. They provide an opportunity for connectivity through an e-newsletter (Health Promotion Atlantic), web site (the network's virtual office), listserve, CHP Notes, office staff, and a network of groups, researchers, and consultants.

The result is a virtual community of people throughout the Atlantic Region who share information, build knowledge, and learn from one another through their everyday activities and projects. CHPNA has become experienced in facilitating communication, information sharing, and collaboration across the four Atlantic Provinces. With over 300 members they continue to grow steadily and currently have over 3,000 visitors to their web site monthly.

CHPNA operates under the direction of Lisa Pike, Executive Director from the Newfoundland and Labrador office. Also based in NL is Christine Morrissey, Executive Assistant. CHPNA board co-chairs are Randy Hatfield (NB) and Jeannine McNeil (NS).

You can visit their web site, www.chpna.ca, for more information.