



British Columbia  
Environmental and Occupational  
Health Research Network

# BC Environmental and Occupational Health Research Network

## Annual General Meeting

Funded by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research



Michael Smith Foundation for  
**Health Research**

# Overview

## Purpose:

We support BC's environmental and occupational health researchers by building linkages to foster a new approach to province-wide collaboration that will generate groundbreaking knowledge



# Overview



## Goals:

- To increase the awareness of one's collaborative community
- To help members of the community come together
- To attract and retain top quality researchers in the community.
- To increase EOH research activity in BC.
- To foster new knowledge to protect human health from threats arising in the environment and the workplace.

# What should we hope to accomplish

- A network is.....
  - Not large research consortia
  - Not a club of like-minded enthusiasts
  - Not helping the same folks be better at the same things they have always done with the same people
- About creating novelty
  - Increasing the probability of accidental productive partnerships
  - New teams, new thinking, new opportunities

# Fishing net model



- Well connected (knots) with many paths to others
- Provides a background of connections
- When the need arises, there is a peak in the net
  - The team that comes together via the connections
  - Lies flat when once the issue is dealt with

# BCEOHRN Board

- Craig Stephen, Malaspina University-College (Chair)
- Ray Copes, BCCDC
- Melissa Friesen, Student, UBC
- Rick Gallagher, BC Cancer Research Centre, Vancouver
- Henry Harder, UNBC
- Gabrielle McHugh, Student, UNBC
- Jack Nickel, Health Canada, Vancouver
- Corinne Ong, BCCDC
- Eleanor Setton, Student, UVic
- Kay Teschke, UBC



# BCEOHRN People

- Launched January 2005
- Part time Scientific Director (Nanaimo) and Associate Director (Prince George)
- Full time Executive Director (Victoria)



# Update: Membership

As of Nov. 3, 2005

200 members (154 researchers or students)

10 post-secondary and 27 other institutions

70% Lower Mainland



# Accomplishments

- On track for all items in the work plan
- Year 1 Goal – finding the materials for the net and starting to weave
  - Personal contacts
  - Newsletter, brochure and poster
  - New website launched October 31
  - Start some team building (AGM, grants, workshop)
  - Membership increased from ~150 to ~200

# Using funds to bring people together

\$7,200 awarded for 11 travel bursaries to attend this meeting

\$20,000 for 2 research capacity development grants



# Planning for the Future

- Program planning
  - Team Building
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> round of research development grants
    - Mentorship program
  - More detailed map of the community
    - Database of interest and expertise
  - More intimate engagement of members
    - More sub-committees, less board
    - More opportunities to come together
      - 2006 major conference?

# Planning for the Future

- Philosophical planning
  - How to evaluate the network
    - For members, for funders, for users
    - No right way for jello to jiggle when prodded
  - Clear articulation of “why a network”
    - Help to refine tasks and plans
  - Fostering novelty and creativity in a conservative system
    - Make members and funders comfortable with new ways of working together

# BCEORHN

Working to make BC a  
national leader in  
occupational and environmental  
health research

New Website!

Web: [www.bceohrn.ca](http://www.bceohrn.ca)



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# Day's Agenda

Business 9:30-11:00

Posters and Networking Lunch 11:00-1:30

Workshop 1:30-5:00

Details are in your package.

# Housekeeping

- Washrooms, coat racks, phones, informal format
- Lunch will be delivered at 11:30
- Afternoon coffee break at 2:30

# Agenda Item 2: Board Members

Terms of Reference in your package

Discussion and ratification

Balance/Representation

½ turn-over per year

Volunteers at AGM

# Agenda Item 2: Board Members

## Current Composition:

	ToR	Current	Available
Students	3	3	
Researchers	6	5	1
Research users	3	1	2

# Scientific Director position

Review and ratification of selection process

Call for applications (1)

Recruitment of Volunteers (1)

Next steps

# Agenda Item 4: 2005 BCEOHRN awards

2005 Award recipients:

Carla MacLean, UVic

Glenys Webster, UBC

Call for 2006 Awards

# Agenda Item 5: Funds Disbursement

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total Salaries & Benefits	118,000	114,960	173,359	132,620
Total Operating Costs	41,300	32,000	29,500	21,938
Total AGM*	20,000	24,830	24,830	17,319
Total Workshops*	5,700	24,250	22,672	7,875
Research Capacity Grant Fund	82,000	82,000	215,000	161,250
Total Budget	267,000	278,040	465,361	351,001

\* includes travel bursaries

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# Agenda Item 6: Mentorship Program

Discussion to strike working group  
to develop a mentorship program.

# Agenda Item 7: Needs assessment

Your feedback is important to the Network's future direction.

Please take 2 minutes to complete and return.

# Business Meeting Concludes

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