

# National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

## Mandate

The National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (NCCEH) focuses on how environmental factors such as drinking water, food, air, and shelter can affect human health, and identifies evidence-based interventions to reduce risks from environmental hazards.

## Goals

- ◆ Synthesize, translate, and exchange knowledge for practitioners and policy-makers in Canada
- ◆ Identify key gaps in research and practice knowledge
- ◆ Build capacity through networks of practitioners, policy-makers, and researchers in environmental health in Canada and internationally

## Work to Date

- ◆ Carried out an environmental scan with extensive input from practitioners, policy-makers, and researchers in Canada and completed a comprehensive “Needs, Gaps, and Opportunities Assessment” to identify priority needs
- ◆ Established a national advisory board to advise on the work of the centre
- ◆ Launched a bilingual website to provide a vehicle for sharing information and making connections

## Current Activities 2007-2008

- ◆ Producing reviews and guidance documents in collaboration with practitioners and policy-makers on topics such as small mercury spills, clandestine drug labs, environmental tobacco smoke, home drinking water filters, and indoor radon
- ◆ Identifying key research gaps in environmental health
- ◆ Offering secondments and practica
- ◆ Developing a summer course in environmental health
- ◆ Enhancing our new website with, e.g. a project matching service for policy-makers, practitioners, and researchers and an inventory of environmental health training programs
- ◆ Conducting a multi-year project to enumerate past cases of waterborne illnesses in Canada and identifying drinking water system risk factors associated with them
- ◆ Planning a summer institute on knowledge synthesis, translation, and exchange in collaboration with the other NCCs and PHAC
- ◆ Developing an evaluation framework for the NCCEH and conducting a baseline evaluation

## Host:

British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

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