

**NETworks** is the new CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET bulletin for Investigators, Trainees and other members of the NET community. Published near the end of every month, each edition will attempt to include news for and about the people of the CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET to help facilitate communication and collaboration between our partners.

# NETworks

## Moving into year five:

As we told you near the beginning of the year, the CIHR Cross Cultural NET is working hard to ensure your palliative, end of life and survivorship research findings translate into improved clinical practices. In doing so, we've made many great strides. For instance, the NET established a collaborative and multi disciplinary program of research and pan Canadian relationships to support new training opportunities and advance better understandings of how culture and palliative end of life care intersect. Yet, we can't travel this path alone and need your help to emphasize knowledge translation as a priority issue heading into the fifth and final year of the NET.

To date, our involvement has included a broad range of activities. Among other things, this includes conducting pilot projects, systematic literature reviews, peer reviewed publications as well submission of research findings and the dissemination of results at national and international conferences. In addition, the pilot project work has also contributed to assisting with several graduate theses including

PhD's, and trainees moving into graduate work in Statistics, Social Work, Psychometrics, an MD program and several NET Post Doctoral Fellowships. The NET is also collaborating with provincial conferences to assist in development of a national Advanced Care Planning policy and submitted successful grant applications that expand the palliative care research agenda into new areas like patient navigation, psychosocial interventions, supportive cancer care and survivorship. Put simply, together we've embarked on a journey that has major implications for necessary further work in this area.

Yet, despite these efforts, more work is needed. This is especially true in providing future students and researcher's exposure to palliative care research opportunities. Therefore, we need your help in attaining the deliverables set out by our funder, the CIHR. So, as we reach the end of our grant, our expectations from you are becoming explicit. In the end, let's all work together to build on our current experience and sustain the progress we've made so far.!

### Did you know?

The CHPCA suggests that only 15% of Canadians who need them, have access to high quality palliative care services. This is especially true in rural and remote areas. Therefore, only about one out of every seven people who die in Canada receives care that takes into account their physical, emotional, psychosocial and spiritual needs and the needs of their families.

*Hospice Palliative Home Care in Canada: A Progress Report, CHPCA 2008: 38.*

## Inside this edition:

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## Kudos - recognizing our accomplishments:

Congratulations to Dr. Kirsten Bell who has been a dynamo of deliverables of late. In addition to her most recent published work Kisten has also completed several other projects. For example, she has not only worked with the Family Practice Oncology Network publishing an article on Colorectal cancer screening in BC, but also put together a poster for the recent 2008 BCCA Conference. Keep up the great work Kirsten!



*To find out more about our CHIR Funded projects, please visit us online at: <http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/RES/ResearchPrograms/NET/default.htm>*

We also want to recognize the significant contributions of both the local and international planning committee for their help in organizing a very successful Pan Canadian Invitational Survivorship Workshop November 21st and 22nd in Vancouver BC. Thanks to their valuable donation of time and energy, the workshop was a great success!



## Mark your calendars - upcoming development opportunities & meetings

American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) 6th Annual Conference: February 5-8 2009 Charlotte, NC, USA.

<http://www.apos-society.org>

Centre for Health Services and Policy Research Annual Conference: "Health Innovation for Patients and Populations." 24-25 February 2009, Vancouver BC.

<http://www.chspr.ubc.ca/hpc>

Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology (CAPO): Survivorship: Transitions and Transformations. Vancouver, British Columbia. April 1-4th, 2008.

[http://www.capo.ca/eng/CAPO\\_conference.asp](http://www.capo.ca/eng/CAPO_conference.asp)

Community Cancer Control 7th National Summit, "Innovative Solutions for Rural and Remote Cancer Control Issues: Today and Tomorrow." June 11-13th, 2009. Prince George BC.

<http://www.cancersummit.ca/>

IPOS 11th World Congress of Psycho-Oncology (IPOS): Multi-disciplinary Perspectives in Psycho-oncology: Interaction and Integration. Vienna, Austria June 21 -25th, 2009.

<http://www.ipos-society.org/ipos2009/>

Multi National Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC): International Symposium. June 25 - 27th, 2009 Rome, Italy.

<http://www.mascc.org/content/4.html>

UICC Global Cancer Congress 2008: Geneva, Switzerland. August 27-31, 2009.

<http://www.controlcancer.ca/en/news/uicc-world-cancer-congress-2008>

### Find us on the web:

<http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/RES/ResearchPrograms/NET/default.htm>

## Request for updates

To help keep our partners informed of our progress, please provide us an update of your CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET research.

### Confirmed!

#### Next CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET Investigator Meeting

December 11th, 2008 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM PST

Please note this is an Investigator meeting only.

**To let us know about an upcoming event; to submit an article or posting; or, for more information please contact:**

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*"Palliative Care in a Cross-Cultural Context: A New Emerging Team (NET) for equitable and quality cancer care for culturally diverse populations" a CIHR funded five year grant. NET researchers are from the University of BC in Vancouver, the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Cancer Care Nova Scotia, and the BC Cancer Agency.*