



January 23, 2007

In October, the Partners in Planning for Healthy Living distributed a document that described the principles and goals of the Partnership (see attached copy). The purpose of this letter is to bring you up to date on Partner activity and to extend a formal invitation to join the partners group.

The Partnership received a lot of positive attention at the Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada meeting in Ottawa this past November. Dexter Harvey made a presentation during a panel discussion and Tannis Erikson shared her poster presentation. We met with Barb Riley of the Center for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation (CBRPE) of the University of Waterloo and together crafted a research proposal to the CIHR competition on "Partnerships for Health System Improvement". The proposal had letters of support from Manitoba Health, Culture Heritage and Recreation, and Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (see attached copy).

The prevention work going on in Manitoba is of high interest. The Partners group also met with Roy Cameron and Steve Manske of CBRPE, to explore other potential partnerships including their interest in an expanded and more cost effective use of the SHAPES tool. The relationship with the University of Waterloo has been most helpful and we anticipate that the interest will expand to include Manitoba researchers in the near future.

Since our October communication, four regions have indicated an interest in joining the partnership group and partnership activity is occurring in North Eastman, Burntwood and Assiniboine Regions. CCMB is working on an agreement for data sharing, and Heart and Stroke is working on a process for accessing their grants to assist with data collection. The regional work is occurring in tandem with the work that is occurring under the CDPI banner, as it involves many of the same people and because the values and objectives are shared between the members of the Partners group and the more formal CDPI initiative.

Current partners are working on the following objectives:

- Estimates for province wide community level data gathering and analysis costs
- Funding support for province wide community level chronic disease risk factor surveillance data
- Increasing interest in prevention from Manitoba researchers
- Increased opportunities and commitments from various program funders to authorize integration of community initiatives at the community/regional level

- Establish a framework that will create a chronic disease risk factor data warehouse for Manitoba

We are requesting that the commitment to become part of the Partnership in Planning for Healthy Living be more formal than a notification of interest and to that end a form is attached to this letter. Forward the completed form to me, as the current chair, and we will arrange a teleconference or meeting with current partner members and your organization to see how we can jointly advance your regional, organizational, or departmental objectives and how you can begin to share your talents and experience.

The Partners for Planning in Healthy Living are also planning an annual meeting, similar to the May 11, 2006 event, and we will share the details as they become available.

We recently lost the leadership provided by Louise Hutton, through the Alliance for the Prevention of Chronic Disease. Louise remains connected to the healthy living community through her work with the CDPI project, and of course the Alliance remains a founding partner. As Chair, I am temporarily acting as the contact person. You can reach me via phone at 787-4182; mail at 675 McDermot, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 0V9; or via email at [linda.venus@cancercare.mb.ca](mailto:linda.venus@cancercare.mb.ca).

We look forward to an increase in the organizations interested in joining the Partners in Planning for Healthy Living, and to the growth of our community led, integrated, and sustainable prevention programs.

Sincerely,

Linda Venus  
Chair, Partners in Planning for Healthy Living

Addressees: Planning Network  
Health Programs and Services Executive Network  
Mr. Harvey Bostrom, Deputy Minister, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs  
Ms Marcia Thomson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Healthy Living and Health  
Ms Ann Hultgren-Ryan, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Culture,  
Heritage and Tourism

c.c: Partners in Planning for Healthy Living  
Kelly McQuillen, Unit Manger, Healthy Living and Health Programs  
Annette Willborn, Director, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism

att: PPHL process for engagement  
PPHL document  
CIHR research proposal



## New Partners Process for Engagement - Letter of Understanding

The Partners in Planning for Healthy Living have developed an integrated model for planning healthy living programs. The Partners welcome new partners who share our belief in the value of community-led programs.

### ***As a partner, you agree to:***

- Make a commitment to support healthy living primarily through tobacco reduction, physical activity, and healthy eating - but also by addressing priorities that may be of particular importance to individual communities.
- Gather health data at the community level through surveillance and utilize data to identify healthy living priorities and plan healthy living initiatives.
- Identify, select, and develop, health promotion programs based on the data collected.
- Evaluate program results and modify programs based on their evaluations.
- Share your knowledge and experience with the Partners.
- Appoint a representative to attend Partners meetings.
- Participate as described in this document for an initial commitment of 3 years.

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature /Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Senior Management)

Primary Contact /Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Partners in Planning for Healthy Living - Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: Linda Venus  
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