

14th August, 2012

Re: Changes to the coordination of the NutriSTEP® program

Dear Colleague and Public Health Partner,

As a follow-up to the letter released by the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) on 13th July 2012, OPHA and the University of Guelph are pleased to announce that the University of Guelph will continue to advance NutriSTEP® throughout the province as the Nutrition Resource Centre (NRC) transitions away from a coordination role commencing 30th September, 2012.

OPHA and the University of Guelph are committed to ensuring that a smooth transition takes place, with minimal disruption to the NutriSTEP® program.

- The University of Guelph will maintain the current website (www.nutristep.ca)
- The University of Guelph will maintain the online community (http://www.nutristep.ca/en/online_community.aspx)
- The toolkit and resources will remain available for download from the NutriSTEP® website (www.nutristep.ca)
- Toddler NutriSTEP® (for ages 18-35m) will be available 1st September 2012
- Licenses for both the original NutriSTEP® and the Toddler NutriSTEP® will be available from www.Flintbox.com
- The original NutriSTEP® is available in eight languages; Toddler NutriSTEP® will initially be available in English and French
- Service Ontario will distribute the remaining original NutriSTEP® materials already in print until inventory is depleted at which point they will not print anymore (current stock is likely to last another 2-3 years) (www.serviceontario.ca; 416-212-2207)
- English and French versions of both the original and Toddler NutriSTEP® questionnaires, for online completion for parents, will be available as nutri e-STEP™ on the Dietitians of Canada website in the spring of 2013 (www.dietitians.ca)

OPHA will continue to communicate with you to keep you informed of any other changes to NutriSTEP® up until the transition date, 30th September, 2012. We thank you for your patience in times of change and we look forward to continuing to work with you in advancing the healthy eating and nutrition agenda within Ontario.

Should you have any questions regarding the transition of NutriSTEP[®], please do not hesitate to contact Ashley Ecker at 416-367-3313 x232 or aecker@opha.on.ca up until 30th September 2012. After this date you may contact Janis Randall Simpson at 519 824-4120, ext 53843 or rjanis@uoguelph.ca at the University of Guelph.

Sincerely,



Siu Mee Cheng
Executive Director
Ontario Public Health Association

and



Janis Randall Simpson, PhD, RD
Associate Professor & Associate Chair
Dept of Family Relations & Applied Nutrition
University of Guelph

c.c. A. Ecker, Program and Policy Coordinator, NRC, OPHA

c.c. N. Muhammad, Program Manager, NRC, OPHA

c.c. L. Belfie, Manager, Health Promotion Division, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care