

## **Glossary of Terms**

See also [Abbreviations](#) in this document

### **Advocacy**

The act of speaking or of disseminating information intended to influence individual behaviour or opinion, corporate conduct or public policy and law. (*Source: Volunteer Sector Forum, 2005*).

### **Best practices**

Best practices in health promotion/public health are those sets of processes and activities that are consistent with health promotion/public health values, goals and ethics, theories and beliefs, evidence, and understanding of the environment, and are most likely to achieve health promotion/public health goals in a given situation. (*Source: IDM Best Practices for Health Promotion, Public Health and Population Health, 2005*).

### **Capacity building**

Building partnerships, knowledge exchange, problem solving and infrastructure support in order to achieve a range of specific and generalized health outcomes. (*Adapted from: OCDPA, referencing University of Queensland, 2000*).

### **Chronic diseases**

Chronic diseases are diseases or conditions that are generally slow in onset and persist or progress over a long period of time. From: Cancer 2020 Steering Committee (2003). OCDPA currently focuses on the prevention of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, chronic respiratory diseases among others. (*Source: OCDPA*).

### **Chronic disease prevention**

Action or measures not only to prevent the occurrence of disease, such as risk factor reduction, but also to arrest its progress and reduce its consequences once established. Primary prevention is directed towards preventing the initial occurrence of a disorder. Secondary and tertiary prevention seek to arrest or retard existing disease and its effects through early detection and appropriate treatment; or to reduce the occurrence of relapses and the establishment of chronic conditions through, for example, effective rehabilitation. Disease prevention is considered to be action, which usually emanates from the health sector, dealing with individuals and populations identified as exhibiting identifiable risk factors, often associated with different risk behaviours. (*Source: OCDPA, adapted from World Health Organization, 1998*).

### **Collaboration**

Any activity supported by more than one individual or group working together to reach an agreed upon goal. (*Source: Public Health Agency of Canada, 2005*).

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### **Collaborative action and leadership**

A process of building substantive agreement, through which parties who see different aspects of a problem can constructively explore their differences and search for solutions that go beyond their own visions of what is possible. Collaboration involves joint problem solving and consensus decision making, inventing mutually agreeable solutions, and developing collective actions for implementation:

- Stakeholders are interdependent
- Solutions “emerge” by dealing constructively with differences
- Decisions are jointly owned
- Stakeholders assume collective responsibility for the future direction of the domain

(Source: OCDPA, adapted from Gray, as cited by Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada, 2003).

### **Continuous quality improvement (CQI)**

CQI is a management philosophy and system which involves management, staff and health professionals in the continuous improvement of work processes to achieve better outcomes of patient/client/resident care. It involves the application of statistical methods and group process tools to reduce waste, duplication, and unnecessary complexity in work. The goal of CQI is to consistently meet or exceed the needs of patients, families, staff, health professionals and the community. (Source: Harrigan M, 2000).

### **Current collaborative activity (collaboration)**

Established activity partnership (of more than one individual or group), which may involve ongoing activity maintenance, evaluation or further development.

### **Cybernetics**

The science of maintaining order in a system, i.e., the study of communication, feedback and control within biological, mechanical and artificial systems. (Adapted from: Wikipedia, 2005; World Reference, 2005; India Infoline, 2005).

### **Determinants of health**

The range of personal, social, economic and environmental factors (e.g., health behaviours, lifestyles, income, social status, education, employment and working conditions, access to appropriate health services, and the physical environments) which determine the health status of individuals or populations. (Source: OCDPA, referencing World Health Organization, 1998).

### **Environment**

Environment refers to air, water, land and the built environment as well as environmental exposures in communities and workplaces. (Adapted from: Federal, Provincial and Territorial Advisory Committee on Population Health, 2002).

### **Environmental scan**

The systematic, ongoing and collaborative effort to search for important cues about how one’s sector is changing and how these changes can affect the future. A broad range of issues should be examined with information gathered from a variety of sources and

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perspectives (e.g. literature and Web searches, and input from issue experts). (*Adapted from: Council on Foundations, 2005*).

### **Evidence-based**

Evidence is information that is used to inform decision-making. Links between population and public health and clinical practice decisions and actions are explicitly linked to underlying evidence that demonstrates effectiveness. The nature of evidence may vary from scientific evidence (e.g., randomized control trials) to peer-reviewed study results and experiential observations in chronic disease prevention interventions. (*Adapted from: Truman, et al, 2000*).

### **GIS**

A Geographical Information System database that helps manage and visualize large amounts of biophysical and socioeconomic data that is spatially referenced. The database can be used to draw maps illustrating distribution of production, environmental, marketing or socioeconomic problems. Such maps may help decision makers to analyze and prioritize problems. GIS can also be used to define homogenous regions, which can be used to target research efforts or to define similarities between regions. (*Source: International Service for Agricultural Research, 2003*).

### **Inclusion**

A society where everyone belongs creates both the feeling and the reality of belonging and helps each of us reach our full potential. The feeling of belonging comes through caring, cooperation, and trust. We build the feeling of belonging together. The reality of belonging comes through equity and fairness, social and economic justice, and cultural as well as spiritual respect. We build the reality of belonging together by engaging our society to ensure it. (*Source: Fay, M, 2004*).

### **Information dissemination**

Wide-spread sharing of knowledge and information with stakeholders in an equitable, timely manner using multiple dissemination channels (e.g. print material, media, internet). (*Source: OCDPA*).

### **Knowledge capital**

Knowledge capital refers to capabilities, competencies, information and knowledge base of human capital that resides in the minds of an organization's employees in either explicit or tacit form. Explicit knowledge includes information and skills that are easily communicated, documented and conveyed to others. It is the knowledge that is collected, stored, distributed and shared primarily as electronic or paper documents. This knowledge can therefore be formally expressed and transferred. Tacit knowledge is experiential and intuitive. It is subjective and experience-based knowledge that cannot be expressed in words or sentences and it also includes cognitive skills such as beliefs, images, intuition and mental models as well as technical skills such as craft and know-how. Implicit knowledge is a subset of tacit knowledge that can be transformed into explicit knowledge. Implicit knowledge can be codified if subjected to some type of a

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mining or translation process (e.g., environmental scan). (*Adapted from: Kothuri S., 2002*).

### **Knowledge exchange**

Knowledge exchange is collaborative problem-solving between researchers and decision makers that happens through linkage and exchange. Effective knowledge exchange involves interaction between decision makers and stakeholders (including researchers) and results in mutual learning through the process of planning, producing, disseminating, and applying existing or new evidence in decision-making. (*Adapted from: Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, 2005*).

### **Management Information System**

An ongoing data collection and analysis system, usually computerized, that allows timely access to service delivery and outcome information. An MIS is a system using formalized procedures to provide management at all levels with appropriate information, based on data from internal and if desired also external sources, to enable them to make timely and effective decisions for planning, directing, and controlling the activities for which they are responsible. (*Source: International Service for Agricultural Research, 2003*).

### **Networking**

Interactions among grouping of individuals, organizations and agencies organized on a non hierarchical basis around common issues or concerns, which are pursued proactively and systematically, based on commitment and trust. (*Adapted from OCDPA, referencing World Health Organization, 1998*).

### **Partnership**

An alliance among two or more parties that pursue a set of agreed upon goals. Partnership building often involves negotiation among the different partners in the definition of goals and ethical ground rules, joint action areas, and agreement on the form of cooperation reflected in the partnership. (*Source: OCDPA, adapted from World Health Organization, 1998*).

### **Potential collaborative activity (collaboration)**

An activity partnership that has not been initiated yet.

### **Risk factor**

Social, economic or biological status, behaviours or environments which are associated with or cause increased susceptibility to a specific disease, ill health, or injury. (*Source: OCDPA, referencing World Health Organization, 1998*).

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### **Social marketing**

Social marketing is the application of commercial marketing technologies to the analysis, planning, execution, and evaluation of programs designed to influence the voluntary behavior of target audiences in order to improve their personal welfare and that of their society. (*Source: Andreasen AR (1995), as cited by Lagarde (1998) on Health Canada Web site, 2005*).

### **Surveillance**

Tracking and forecasting any health event or health determinant through the ongoing collection of data, the integration, analysis, and interpretation of that data into surveillance products and the dissemination of that resultant surveillance product to those who need to know. (*Source: Health Canada, 1999*).

### **Technical assistance and training**

Providing the tools and educational opportunities to help people acquire and enhance skill sets necessary to implement certain activities. (*Source: OCDPA*).

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### Abbreviations

3M or 3-M	Technology Company
ACCU	Aboriginal Cancer Care Unit (within Division of Preventive Oncology at Cancer Care Ontario)
ACS	Aboriginal Cancer Strategy
ACT	Action in your Community against Tobacco
AGCO	Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario
alPHa	Association of Local Public Health Agencies
AMO	Association of Municipalities of Ontario
AO	Addictions Ontario
AOD	Alcohol and Other Drugs
AOHC	Association of Ontario Health Centres
APN	Alcohol Policy Network
APRG	Alcohol Policy & Research Group (at Centre for Addiction and Mental Health)
ARAPO	Association to Reduce Alcohol Promotion in Ontario
ASAP	(Ontario's) Anti-Smog Action Plan
AS	Asthma Society
ASPHIO	Association for Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario
ATS	Aboriginal Tobacco Strategy
ATSWG	Aboriginal Tobacco Strategy Working Group
BBBSC	Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Canada
BEAM	Central Vacuum BEAM systems
BMI	Body mass index
BP	Best practice
CAAP	(Ontario's) Clean Air Action Plan
CAAWS	Canadian Association for Advancement of Women in Sports
CAHPERD	Canadian Association for Physical Education Recreation and Dance
CAL	Coalition for Active Living
CAMH	Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
CAMO	Canadian Association of Medical Oncologists
CAMRT	Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists
CANO	Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology
CANSPANN	Canadian School Physical Activity and Nutrition Network
CAP	Clean Air Partnership
CAPiO	Canadian Association of Pharmacy in Oncology (abbreviation used elsewhere)
CAPO	Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology
CARO	Canadian Association of Radiation Oncologists
CA2020	Cancer 2020 (Action Plan)
CBCF	Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation
CBRPE	Centre for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation
CCHS	Canadian Community Health Survey
CCO	Cancer Care Ontario

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CCOHS	Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety
CCS	Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Division
CD	Compact disc
CDA	Canadian Diabetes Association
CDC	(U.S.) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDeA	Canadian Dermatology Association (note: CDA abbreviation was already used for the Canadian Diabetes Association)
CDO	College of Dietitians of Ontario
CDP	Chronic Disease Prevention
CDPAC	Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada
CDPM	Chronic disease prevention and management
CEHO	Centre for Environmental Health of Ontario
CEOLA	Canadian Environmental Law Association
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CF	The Change Foundation
CFA	Community Food Advisor
CFLRI	Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute
CHAP	Community Health Awareness Program
CHC	Community health centre
CHIS	Consumer Health Information Service
CHMS	Canadian Health Measures Survey
CHN	Community Health Network
CIHI	Canadian Institute for Health Information
NACRS	National Ambulatory Care Reporting System
DAD	Discharge Abstract Database
NRS	National Rehabilitation Reporting System
CIHR	Canadian Institutes of Health Research
INMD	Institute for Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes
CMHA	Canadian Mental Health Association
CMHC	Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation
CMRTO	College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario
CODA	Council on Drug Abuse
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPCHE	Canadian Partnership for Children's Health and the Environment
CPE	Continuing professional education
CPMA	Canadian Produce Marketing Association
CPs	Community partners
CPSO	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
CQCO	Cancer Quality Council of Ontario
CQI	Continuous quality improvement
C.R.E.A.T.E.	Communities Ready for Eating-Healthy, Active-Living and Tobacco-Wise Environments
CSBRC	(Ophea) Curriculum and School-based Resource Centre
CSCC	Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control
PPAG	Primary Prevention Action Group
CSEM	Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism

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CTCRI	Canadian Tobacco Control Research Initiative
CTUMS	Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey
CVD	Cardiovascular Disease
DC	Dietitians of Canada
DHP	Determinants of Health Partnership
DSR	Designated smoking rooms
DPO	Division of Preventive Oncology (at Cancer Care Ontario)
EEO	Environmental Education Ontario
EHC	Environmental Health Committee
EHWG	Environmental Health Working Group
EMT	Executive Management Team
ENAC	(OHPRS) Evaluation Needs Assessment Committee
ETS	Environmental tobacco smoke
FHN	Family health network
FHT	Family health teams
FASD	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
FHN	Family Health Network
FHT	Family Health Team
FLS	French Language Services
FRC	FOCUS Resource Centre
FSA	Farm Safety Association
GANIS	Geographical and Information Systems project of SPNO
GCA	Green Communities Association
GIS	Geographic Information System
GTA	Greater Toronto Area
HC	Health Canada
HH	Heart Health
HHC	Heart Health Coalition
HHN	Heart health network
HHRC	Heart Health Resource Centre
HP	Health Promotion
HPV	Human Papillomavirus
HSFC	Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
HSFO	Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario
HTML	Hypertext Markup Language
HWHL Health Report)	Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives (2004 Chief Medical Officer of
IAPA	Industrial Accident Prevention Association
ICES	Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences
IDM	Interactive Domain Model
IM	Information Management
IPC	Integrated Pan-Canadian
IPCHLS	Integrated Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy
ISPIT	(MOHLTC) Internal Stroke Planning and Implementation Team
JCC	Juravinski Cancer Centre (Hamilton, Ontario)
JDRF	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

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JOACC	Joint Cancer Care Ontario–Aboriginal Cancer Committee
JSSWG	Joint Stroke Strategy Working Group
KF	Kidney Foundation
LCBO	Liquor Control Board of Ontario
LGBTT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual and Transgendered
LHIN	Local Health Integration Network
LIN	Leisure Information Network
LRDG	Low-risk drinking guidelines
MADD	Mothers Against Drunk Driving
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
MAG	Ministry of Attorney-General
MCBS	Ministry of Consumer and Business Services
MCD	Major chronic disease
MCI	Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration
MCSS	Ministry of Community and Social Services
MCYS	Ministry of Children and Youth Services
MEDU	Ministry of Education
MF	Ministry of Finance
MHAF	Mental Health Accountability Framework
MHPSG	Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines (1997 version)
CDP	Chronic Disease Prevention
EDC	Early Detection of Cancer
IP	Injury Prevention Including Substance Abuse Prevention
MIS	Management Information System
ML	Ministry of Labour
MLEOA	Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association
MMAH	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources
MOE	Ministry of Environment
MOH	Medical Officer of Health
MOHLTC	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
CDPHPB	Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Branch
CIB	Communications and Information Branch
PHD	Public Health Division
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Master of Public Administration
MPH	Master of Public Health
MPIR	Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal
MPP	Member of Provincial Parliament
MSc	Master of Science
MTCU	Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
MTO	Ministry of Transportation
MTR	Ministry of Tourism & Recreation
NAQLC	North America Quit Line Consortium
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases

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NCD INFOBASE	Non-Communicable Diseases Surveillance INFOBASE (Public Health Agency of Canada)
NCIC	National Cancer Institute of Canada
NCTH	National Clearinghouse on Tobacco and Health
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NHDN	Northern Health Diabetes Network
NPAO	Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario
NPHS	National Population Health Survey
NRC	Nutrition Resource Centre
NRG	Nutrition Resource Group
NSAID Day	National Students Against Impaired Driving Day
NSRA	Non-Smokers' Rights Association
NSSC	National Sun Safety Committee
OA	Occupational Asthma
OAMRT	Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Technologists
OAP	Osteoporosis Action Plan
OASW	Ontario Association of Social Workers
OBSF	Ontario Breast Screening Program
OC	Osteoporosis Canada (as of June 2005; formerly Osteoporosis Society of Canada)
OCA	Ontario Coaching Association
OCAP	Ownership, Control, Access, Possession
OCAT	Ontario Campaign for Action on Tobacco
OCCID	Ontario Community Council on Impaired Driving
OCCPHC	Ontario Centre for Collaborative Primary Health Care
OCDPA	Ontario Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance
OCFP	Ontario College of Family Physicians
OCGHE	Ontario Collaborative Group on Healthy Eating
OCGN	Ontario Cancer Genetics Network
OCOG	Ontario Clinical Oncology Group
OCR	Ontario Cancer Registry
OCRN	Ontario Cancer Research Network
OCSCG	Ontario Cervical Screening Collaborative Group
OCSP	Ontario Cervical Screening Program
OCWA	Ontario Clean Water Agency
ODAP	Ontario Drug Awareness Partnership
OEN	Ontario Environment Network
OFCMHAP	Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addictions Programs
OHA	Ontario Hospital Association
OHCC	Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition
OHCOW	Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers
OHHN	Ontario Heart Health Network
OHHP	Ontario Heart Health Program
OHPE-mail Bulletin	Ontario Health Promotion E-mail Bulletin
OHPRS	Ontario Health Promotion Resource System

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OHSPR	Ontario's Health System Performance Report (2002)
OILN	Ontario Inclusion Learning Network
OLA	Ontario Lung Association
OMA	Ontario Medical Association
PCN	Primary care networks
ONCP	Ontario Nutrition and Cancer Prevention (Survey)
ONMEID	Ontario Network for Nutrition Monitoring, Evaluation and Intervention Development
OPA	Ontario Physiotherapy Association
OPC	Ontario Prevention Clearinghouse
OPHA	Ontario Public Health Association
EHWG	Environmental Health Working Group
Ophea	Ontario Physical Health Education Association
OPIS/CPOE	Computerized Physician Order Entry (For Drugs)
ORCS	Ontario Respiratory Care Service
OSC	Osteoporosis Canada (formerly Osteoporosis Society of Canada)
OSDUS	Ontario Student Drug Use Survey
OSGN	Ontario Smart Growth Network
OSNPPH	Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health
OSS	Ontario Stroke Strategy
OSSN	Ontario Sun Safety Network
OSSWG	Ontario Sun Safety Working Group
OTN	Ontario Tobacco-Free Network
OTRU	Ontario Tobacco Research Unit
OTS	Ontario Tobacco Strategy
OTSMN	Ontario Tobacco Strategy Media Network
OWH	Ontario Women's Health
OWHC	Ontario Women's Health Council
OWHN	Ontario Women's Health Network
PAD	Parent Action on Drugs
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PARC	Physical Activity Resource Centre
PCPSC	Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council
PDF	Portable Document Format
PEBC	Program in Evidence-Based Care
Pfizer	Pfizer Canada Inc.
PHAC	Public Health Agency of Canada
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PHRED	Public Health Research, Evaluation and Development Program
PHU	Public Health Unit
PIMS	Pathology Information Management System
PM2.5	Particulate matter no greater than 2.5 micrometers in diameter
PMH	Princess Margaret Hospital
PMO	Project Management Office
PRO	Parks & Recreation Ontario
PSA	Public service announcement

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PSOC	Provincial Sport Organization Council
PTCC	Program Training and Consultation Centre
QRL	Quit4Life
RC	Resource centre
RCC	Regional Cancer Centres
RCPSC	The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
RCPSN	Regional cancer prevention and screening network
RD	Registered Dietitian
REPS	Rehabilitation Education Program for Stroke
RNAO	Registered Nurses Association of Ontario
RRFSS	Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System
SADD	Students Against Drunk Driving
SAO	Sport Alliance of Ontario
SEII	Social and Economic Inclusion Initiative
SFOS	Smoke-free Ontario Strategy
SHAF	Smoking and Health Action Foundation
SHAPES	School Health, Action, Planning & Evaluation System (Ontario)
SHL	Smoker's Helpline
SHRC	Self Help Resource Centre
SNO	Stewardship Network of Ontario
SOADI	Southern Ontario Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative
SPI	Stroke Prevention Initiative
SPNO	Social Planning Network of Ontario
TAFHL	Take Action for Healthy Living
TC	Tobacco control
TCANS	Tobacco Control Area Network
TCPC	Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition
EOCWG	Environmental and Occupational Carcinogens Working Group
UVRWG	UVR Working Group
TF	Trillium Foundation
THCU	The Health Communication Unit (at the Centre for Health Promotion, University of Toronto)
THM	Trihalomethanes
TPA	(Community-based) Transfer payment agencies
TPH	Toronto Public Health
EPO	Environmental Protection Office
UV or UVR	Ultraviolet radiation
WHCO	Women's Health Council of Ontario
WHO	World Health Organization
WSIB	Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
WTO	World Trade Organization
YATI	Youth Action Training Initiative
YTV	Youth Television