

Following the *Évaluation des besoins en services et en soutien dans le domaine de la promotion de santé* (Evaluation of Service and Support Needs in Health Promotion) overseen by the Ontario Health Promotion Resource Centre (OHPRC) in 2004-2005, four (4) members from different health promotion resource centres decided to jointly create an initiative bringing together Francophones stakeholders for a day of training.

The four (4) resource centres involved are:

- Program Training and Consultation Centre: Anne Meloche,
- Ontario Prevention Clearinghouse: Hélène Roussel
- Best Start: Ontario's Maternal Newborn and Early Child Development Resource Centre: Mario Corbeil
- Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition: Monique Beaudoin

Objectives of the Tournée francophone

- Increase knowledge about promoting health
- Provide tools for implementing effective health promotion strategies
- Overcome barriers to the participation of Francophones
- Offer networking opportunities
- Increase knowledge about the OHPRC and related service resource centres.

Activity Description

The committee of four (4) resources centres involved have set up training days, using the concept of a toolbox, on various subjects in regions with a large concentration of Francophones. The principle of the tour is in response to the desire to bring together the communities in which the stakeholders live and thus minimize their costs and travel time while responding to the specific needs of each area.

The committee of consultants/experts worked closely with local partners to identify the needs, plan the day and carry out activities for the Tournée francophone. The Tournée francophone took place in four (4) communities in the province, namely Alexandria, Kapuskasing, Sudbury and Thorold;

Ten (10) agencies and organizations took on the role and responsibilities of organizing partner for the four (4) stops;

One hundred and twenty-four (124) people received training in French as part of the Tournée francophone.

Results

The Tournée francophone brought together one hundred and twenty-four (124) Francophones in Ontario from different sectors of activity (health, social services, education, etc.) to be trained in health promotion practices.

Thirty-three percent (33%) of the participants evaluated the creation of partnership opportunities to be "good", half the participants (50%) evaluated the awareness of problems as being "good", and forty-five percent (45%) saw the information for the available resources as being "good".

The evaluation of spin-offs for community partners was even greater. Fifty-seven percent (57%) believed the creation of partnership opportunities to be “good”, and twenty-nine percent (29%) as being “excellent”. Awareness of problems was rated as “good” by one hundred percent (100%) of community partners. Moreover, fifty-seven percent (57%) of partners noted that the information on available resources was “good” and forty-three percent (43%) as being “excellent”.

Participants and community partners are looking to invest and get involved in a culture of reciprocity with the resource centres to respond to local interests and needs. All participants and community partners want to re-invest and build their health promotion practice.