

**TITLE:** An interagency provincial health promotion system that works

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**ABSTRACT BODY:** A key Ontario health promotion strategy is to empower local communities. Ontario has identified capacity areas and the Provincial Government funds 23 health promotion resource centres and related programs that share common process and outcome objectives. Many of these programs and organizations were established prior to and independent of Government funding. In 2000, the Ontario Health Promotion Resource System (OHPRS) was formalized. The system includes dedicated funding for system coordination; establishment of system goals and objectives; networking and communication processes (e.g. member forums, common website, intranet); committee structure with associated activities (e.g., evaluation, needs assessment, service tracking, communication, improvement of services to Francophones and new Canadian communities), and facilitation of collaborative member projects (e.g. a web-based health promotion course). System-level actions and evaluation are robust.

This presentation will detail early objectives and negotiation between community agencies and government; the developmental stages; accomplishments, successes and impacts; and challenges of working systematically at a provincial level. It will draw upon system-level strategic planning, assessments and evaluation, including results of an independent review of the OHPRS slated for completion in February 2007. This presentation will be of interest to health promotion organizations, independent health promoters, researchers and government officials.