



Atlantic Centre of Excellence
for Women's Health



National Collaborating Centre
for Determinants of Health

Centre de collaboration nationale
des déterminants de la santé

**Enhancing Knowledge Synthesis, Translation and Exchange:
Women's Health and Gender Equity
in Public Health Programs and Policy
Workshop
March 19-20, 2008
Halifax, Nova Scotia**

Objectives and Workshop Design

Overall Goal of the Workshop

- To engage key health and public health sector practitioners, policy-makers and researchers in the development of a community of practice in gender equity in public health.

Detailed Objectives

- To raise awareness of gender based analysis as a tool for enhancing public health policies and programming and improving women's health in order to achieve gender equity;
- To identify priorities for policy and practice as well as tools that would facilitate gender equity and enhance public health policies and practices;
- To build on existing networks and encourage and facilitate the development of a network (community of practice) to share and disseminate knowledge about the social determinants of health in general, and specifically, women and gender equity and public health.
- To share knowledge and build momentum about the WHO Commission Social Determinants of Health

Agenda and Process

Day 1, March 19, 2008

7:30 Coffee and Muffins -- Meet and Greet

8:30 I. Opening

Welcome and Purpose of Workshop and Introductions

Barbara Clow, PhD, Executive Director, Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health
Hope Beanlands, MN, MPA, Phd (c) Scientific Director, National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health

- Introductions and Background Materials, Debbie Castle, Facilitator

9:15 II. Setting the Stage

"If hips and knees are sexy, are they also gendered?"

Keynote speakers:

Beth Jackson, PhD, Manager, Research and Knowledge Development, Strategic Initiatives and Innovations Directorate, PHAC
Ann Pederson, Manager Policy and Research, British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health

10:15 Break

10:30 Open Forum

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for participants to share their own perspectives about gender equity in public health and identify issues related to this topic.

12:00 Lunch

13:00 Panel: Gender Equity: Looking at it through a different lens Opening Comments, Barbara Clow

1. The need for sex disaggregated data as a critical first step in gender analysis
Margaret Haworth-Brockman, Executive Director, Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence
(15 minutes)
2. Interaction of gender with other determinants of health:
Barbara Clow
(15 minutes)
3. It's not just about women
Erika Burger, HIV AIDS Projects Coordinator, ACEWH
(15 minutes)

13:50 Discussion:

- a. *Considering what you have just heard, what would you add to the definition of gender equity that you developed this morning?*
- b. *At this stage in our deliberations, what concerns you most with regard to gender equity in public health in Canada? Where do you feel are the biggest opportunities and needs?*

14:30 Break

15:00 IV. Conducting Gender-Based Analysis: Case Studies

Concurrent Case studies (1-1.5 hours)

- Overweight and obesity
Barbara Clow
- HIV/AIDS
Erika Burger and Larry Baxter, Chairperson, Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS
- Aboriginal peoples health
Ellisa Johnson and Karen Roach, Bureau of Women's Health and Gender Analysis

16:30 Reflections Panel: Application to Programs and Practice

17:00 Adjournment

18:00 Networking Reception (hot and cold Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar available)

Day 2, March 20, 2008

7:30 Hot Breakfast Buffet

8:30 Taking Stock and Moving forward

Opening Panel

1. WHO Commission Social Determinants of Health: Perspectives from the Canadian Reference Group and *key messages from WHO Commission Social Determinants of Health Knowledge Network on Women and Gender Equity* Hope Beanlands

2. From Global to Local, Margaret Haworth-Brockman (*presentation on application of WHO gender sensitive health indicators in one Canadian context – how well do they work, what do we need to do differently*)

Open Forum

Purpose: To integrate what has been learned up to now and to engage participants in identifying the needs, gaps and opportunities (priorities)

Questions for small groups:

- a. *What stood out for you in yesterday's session on case studies? What have you learned about gender equity analysis that may affect what you do in your own work?*
- b. *What promising public health policy and practices are you aware of that are making headway in relation to gender equity?*

- c. *What are the big (critical) issues/problems/challenges/gaps in public health that need to be attended to if gender equity is to be achieved?*

10:00 Nutrition Break

10:20 Identifying priorities

Process: The facilitator will seek validation of the themes emerging from the earlier discussion and then proceed to priority identification.

Lead question: *Considering the various issues that you identified this morning as being critical, what are the top three or four priorities that, if attended to, will make the most strategic gains toward gender equity in public health?*

11:00 Exploring Ways of Moving forward

Facilitated discussion:

- *What kinds of things need to happen to move forward on each of the three or four priorities?*
- *Is there place for (or value in) building a network or community of practice related to gender equity in public health? What would be the primary role of such a network/community of practice?*
- *What approaches could be taken to move toward a community of practice? Concretely, what needs to happen to make this a reality?*
- *What commitment are you in a position to make to building such a network or community of practice?*

12:00 Closing Remarks and Next Steps: Creating a Community of Practice

Hope Beanlands and Barbara Clow

12:30 Adjournment

- Boxed Lunch available for departure