

## **NLCAHR Research Affinity Group Oral Health**

Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 -1:30 pm  
NLCAHR Boardroom and conference call

### Present:

Dr. Peter Hornett (Co - Chair)  
Dr. Sharon Buehler (CO-Chair)  
Janice Butler (NLCAHR Rep and note-taker for this meeting)  
Other participants (see contact list for RAG on Oral Health)

### Membership:

- Gaps were noted in the current membership, including representation from dental support staff, hygienists, assistants, denturists, and dental therapists. These should be recruited for the next meeting.
- A Patey, Executive Director NLDA, will circulate an invitation to join in the next newsletter.

### Purpose of the RAG on Oral Health:

P Hornett presented a proposed statement of purpose and all present were in agreement. The statement reads as follows, and will be posted on the NLCAHR link to the RAG.

"The Oral Health Research Affinity Group will meet regularly to discuss oral health topics of significance in Newfoundland and Labrador. The primary purpose of the group will be to consider existing and potential oral health issues that may benefit from the implementation of applied health research. This group will promote, encourage and facilitate within its means, such research. The membership will include a range of stakeholders, representative of researchers, oral health professionals, policy makers, Government, and the broader community interested in the role of research in advancing oral health in Newfoundland and Labrador."

### Resources:

- Tyrone White of NLCAHR will post all meeting notices and agendas on the NLCAHR website
- Documents and resource material can also be accessed via this site. Anyone wishing to post material should send it to Tyrone at [tkwhite@mun.ca](mailto:tkwhite@mun.ca).
- Suggestion was made that a link to the ICOH homepage and final report be made available through the RAG website. Dr. Clovis of Dalhousie University to forward the materials to Tyrone.

### Frequency of Meetings:

- Meet quarterly
- Tyrone to send out a request for timing and time of day that suits most members.

### Updates:

- ICOH:
  - Dr. Joanne Clovis of Dalhousie University gave an update on ICOH.
  - Link to ICOH: <http://icoh.dentistry.dal.ca/>
  - Link to The Oral Health of Our Aging Population <http://tohap.dentistry.dal.ca/>
  - Reminder that on October 1-2, 2010, there will be a wrap-up forum on the ICOH project in St. John's, NL, and members of RAG are invited to attend. The PIs in the project will present their findings. Dr. Harry Ames of Health Canada will present on the results of the Canadian Health Measures Survey as it pertains to measures of oral health.
- Seniors' oral health in LTC facilities:
  - Derm Coady reported on the concerns regarding the lack of senior's oral health care in long-term care facilities. This concern was discussed at length and it was identified as a potential topic for future research by members of the RAG.
- Labrador Aboriginal Oral Health:
  - Dr. Mark Filiagio presented on a CIHR grant proposal that he is resubmitting. The proposed research is an intervention study applied to 12 communities in Labrador. This topic was identified as another potential topic for input by the RAG.
- NL Oral Health Plan:
  - Wanda Legge presented on the work of the Department of Health and Community Services to improve the oral health plan for the province (another possible topic for future research).
- Legislative Changes:
  - Proposed legislative changes for the regulation of hygienists in the province were briefly discussed. This item requires input from the Dental Board executive at future meetings.
- Canadian Health Measure Survey
  - The oral health component will be presented by Dr. Cooney on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Ames will review at the ICOH conference in October. Questions about the representativeness of the measures for the NL population were raised and will be discussed at future meetings. P Hornett agreed to provide on-line links to the Health Canada summary report.