

least three venues throughout the province this fall. Already in 2006, the curriculum has been offered in four venues to a total of 47 participants, primarily public health practitioners. The overall evaluation of these events has been extremely positive, and there continues to be a demand for more curriculum sessions. As well, new facilitators have been trained to deliver the curriculum, in Toronto, Perth, Halton, Sudbury, North Bay/Parry Sound and Ottawa.

We have had interest and are tentatively planning to offer the course in Toronto, Thunder Bay and Sudbury in September and in Ottawa in November. Dates are confirmed for the curriculum to be offered in London at the Lamplighter Inn on Oct. 25-26 (with a half-day expanded curriculum session on advocacy offered as part of the "Not by Accident Conference" on Oct. 24).

Before we confirm other dates and locations, we'd like to hear from you. Please e-mail [learning@smartrisk.ca](mailto:learning@smartrisk.ca) if you are interested in taking the 2.5-day curriculum. Let us know which location and approximate dates you'd be interested in attending. We'll try to accommodate as many requests as we can.

CIPCC is a unique resource developed by the Canadian Collaborating Centres for Injury Prevention and Control, consisting of over 300 pages of curriculum

focused on injury prevention and control theory and practice. The curriculum is the first of its kind targeted to community-based practitioners. It is built on Canadian content and uses real Canadian examples to illustrate concepts.

The sessions are delivered in a standardized format that include references to preparatory reading material; a participant manual including goals and objectives and handouts for each section; and 10 modules to introduce participants to the public health approach to injury prevention and key strategies for injury prevention and control.



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## ONTARIO STAKEHOLDERS

NEWS  
JULY/AUG. 2006

### Featuring...

- Learning Series topics sought..
- OSN now on the web.....
- Barriers identified.....
- Curriculum offered in fall.....
- Tipping the Scales in London..

### Help plan **SMARTRISK** Learning Series

We invite you to send us your suggestions for topics and speakers for the upcoming season of the SMARTRISK Learning Series, available free to Ontarians, thanks to funding from the Government of Ontario. As we put together our plans for the 2006-2007 season, we are interested in hearing if there are particular topics you would like to learn more about. Your suggested topics may focus on injury research or programming. E-mail [learning@smartrisk.ca](mailto:learning@smartrisk.ca) for more information or to send suggestions.

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### **Find OSN on the web; change to pdf an option**

We have now made the Ontario Stakeholders News available on our website, the SMARTRISK Navigator. A key finding from our recent evaluation of communications products was that many of you are looking to move away from paper and receive electronic versions of our newsletter only.

In response, some of you took us up on our offer to switch your subscriptions from the paper copies to a pdf version. If you didn't get around to doing so last time but you would prefer to get an e-mailed version of OSN, it's not too late to let us know. Simply send an e-mail to [osn@smartrisk.ca](mailto:osn@smartrisk.ca) with "Change OSN to pdf" in the Subject line. Include your name, mailing address and e-mail address. Or, if you would like an e-mailed pdf in addition to a mailed paper copy, put "Add OSN - pdf" in the Subject line.

To find OSN on the Navigator, visit us at [www.smartrisk.ca](http://www.smartrisk.ca). Go to "About Us", then "Publications" and you'll find OSN along with our other publications. We have posted pdf versions of all the 2006 OSNs as well as the 2005 OSNs and will continue to post back issues as time and resources permit.

### **Barriers to participation in fall programs studied**

Ontario injury prevention practitioners have identified falls among seniors as an increasingly important issue, especially given the aging of our population. As a result, many falls prevention programs have started up in recent years. Developing an effective program is one challenge; getting people to participate in it is another. Under the direction of SMARTRISK, University of Toronto medical student Yashi Yathindra has completed a research project that investigated socio-economic barriers to senior citizens benefiting from falls prevention programs in Ontario.

Yashi began by searching the Catalogue of Ontario Injury Prevention Programs, located on the SMARTRISK website, for falls prevention programs. She started with a sample of a couple dozen falls prevention programs that had not been updated in the Catalogue recently. This allowed her both to update the program for the Catalogue and to answer the research question. Eleven program leaders consented to participate in this qualitative study and speak at length over the phone.

Highlights of her findings follow.

-The biggest barrier to participating was transportation, 10 of 11 respondents said, particularly in rural areas. Public transportation is either not available or difficult to access or even intimidating for some seniors to use.

-The program leaders noted that fees charged were either very small (\$2 per session) or non-existent so having a low income should not prevent anyone from taking part. However, paying to make home modifications as suggested by an assessment could be a barrier.

-Although they designed their programs to be understood by people with low levels of literacy, the respondents noted that the programs flourished more in educated/wealthy areas than less advantaged ones. Also, while open to both genders, women tended to use the programs much more than men did.

Suggestions from participants for overcoming these barriers included more funding to subsidize home modifications and equipment, funding to provide better public transit or a special bus or van to pick seniors up and funding to provide more translated resources. It was suggested that men be specifically invited or that separate men's programs be set up to make them feel comfortable.

On a related note, we encourage injury prevention practitioners to ensure their injury prevention programs are registered and updated on the Catalogue. To view the catalogue, visit [www.smartrisk.ca](http://www.smartrisk.ca) then go to the Practitioners page.

### **Tipping the scales at Not by Accident 2006**

The Southwest Injury Prevention Conference, Not By Accident, takes place on Oct. 24 at the Lamplighter Inn in London, Ont.

The theme, Tipping the Scales...What Will It Take? will be tackled by plenary speakers Dr. Michael Cuisimano, neurosurgeon at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, Dr. Barbara Morongiello, Director of the Child Development Research Unit at the University of Guelph and Frances Wdowczyk, executive director of the Student Life Education Company. Dr. Phil Groff, SMARTRISK's director of research and evaluation, will lead an afternoon workshop on advocacy and policy change.

### **Injury prevention curriculum offered this fall**

The Canadian Injury Prevention and Control Curriculum will be offered in at