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## **PPTC Quarterly Update** **July 2009**

This is a 'quarterly report' from the Office of the Provincial Paediatric Therapy Consultant. The intent is that this update will increase awareness amongst stakeholders involved in paediatric therapy services in BC of the activities of this Office. Feel free to contact the Provincial Paediatric Therapy Consultant for further discussion or clarification regarding the content of this update. This is the first quarterly report for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

### **Main Initiatives**

#### **Promoting Manageable Workloads**

- The latest resource available as part of the Promoting Manageable Workloads initiative is the first phase of the 'eLibrary' project. This phase of the eLibrary provides agencies and therapists with different referral management strategies designed to assist agencies seeking to revamp their referral management process. There are four strategies provided, and the intent is for agencies to review the four strategies and use aspects of each to form a referral management process that meets the needs of their specific agency. The eLibrary can be accessed by selecting the 'eLibrary pages' link at the following address: [http://www.therapybc.ca/promoting\\_manageable.php](http://www.therapybc.ca/promoting_manageable.php)

- The Office of the Provincial Paediatric Therapy Consultant is also involved as an agency sponsor supporting the work of Kathy Davidson's Master's project on a points-based caseload management tool. It is hoped that further development of this tool will provide additional resources to continue to work towards manageable workloads for BC's paediatric therapists. Kathy's project is a great addition to the resource created in the past fiscal year related to the Promoting Manageable Workload initiative, the document 'Preferred Practice Guidelines for BC Paediatric Therapists' located at the following link: ([http://www.therapybc.ca/promoting\\_manageable.php](http://www.therapybc.ca/promoting_manageable.php)).

#### **eLearning Fund**

- Funding continues to be available to support BC therapists and agencies utilizing technology to access continuing education opportunities. Funds to assist in the costs of continuing ed. via videoconferencing, telehealth/tele-CDR, etc. all qualify. Application forms and further details available at: [http://www.therapybc.ca/clinician\\_elearning.php](http://www.therapybc.ca/clinician_elearning.php)

- The PPTC is currently facilitating the organization of videoconferencing sessions for the North, Interior, and Vancouver Island regions. eLearning funds will be

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used to subsidize bridging costs for agencies in the respective region to access the call.  
The schedule is as follows:

Interior	September 17 <sup>th</sup> 1-4	Case Study Presentations
North	September 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1-4	Outreach Models
Van. Island	September 30 <sup>th</sup> 1-4	Developmental Coord. Disorder

The bridging request forms for these events will be submitted soon, so if your agency would like to access the call for your region please submit the name of your site, and the room number and ISDN/IP address of your videoconferencing equipment by July 13<sup>th</sup> so I can fill out a bridging request form. You will be responsible for reserving the equipment for that day. Submit the information via emailing [consultant@therapybc.ca](mailto:consultant@therapybc.ca) with the subject line 'regional videoconferencing.'

### **eMentoring Project**

- The PPTC has collaborated with Sue Stewart and Sunny Hill Health Centre to develop an electronic mentoring program for BC therapists. The program operates on a cost recovery basis, so agencies will be charged a reasonable fee to provide support to a therapist at their agency via an eMentor. We are confident this program will significantly contribute to the recruitment and retention of paediatric therapists in BC. Please contact Jason Gordon at [consultant@therapybc.ca](mailto:consultant@therapybc.ca), or via phone at 1.866.597.2547 for further details. At this point, the program has a small pool of trained eMentors to select from. However, in the event we require additional eMentors we will be placing out a call via the therapybc email database. So if you are keen on becoming an eMentor keep on the lookout for this announcement later this year.

### **Paediatric Update Symposium**

- The 2009 Paediatric Update Symposium proved to be a tremendous success. Several of the presentations have been recorded as audiocasts, and work has begun on posting the audiocasts with the corresponding power point presentations from the conference. This should be available through the therapybc site by the fall. The PPTC would also like to start facilitating preliminary planning for another Paediatric Update Symposium in 2011. If you are interested in participating on the planning committee for the 2011 Symposium please contact Jason Gordon at [consultant@therapybc.ca](mailto:consultant@therapybc.ca).

### **[www.therapybc.ca](http://www.therapybc.ca)**

- The therapybc website consistently receives more than 2,200 hits a month! It is advertised across Canada via professional association websites and newsletters, and is well positioned in the various search engines. In short, there is simply no better place to advertise your vacant paediatric therapist position, or look for paediatric job opportunities in BC!

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- Do you know of a web techie looking for some part-time work? [www.therapybc.ca](http://www.therapybc.ca) is looking for a web support person! Must be programming language savvy, and be able to devote 4-6 hours a month towards therapybc website development and changes. Interested parties should contact Jason Gordon at [consultant@therapybc.ca](mailto:consultant@therapybc.ca) ASAP!

- Make sure your colleagues and employees are registered in the therapybc database ([http://www.therapybc.ca/clinician\\_register.php](http://www.therapybc.ca/clinician_register.php)). Therapists who have registered their email information with the site and have chosen to receive updates from the PPTC will ensure they are informed of any new initiatives generated by this Office.

- There is a now a 'continuing education/upcoming events' box on the therapybc homepage. Submit details to the PPTC to have your event posted on the site (no charge for this service), and visit the site regularly to keep aware of any upcoming events in your area. Therapists may also select the 'receive email notification' option for upcoming events when registering their email information with the site.

### **Student Initiatives**

- The UBC OT, PT, and SLP job fair is took place on Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Thea Koerner House - Graduate Student Centre on UBC Vancouver campus. It was a very well attended event by the graduating OT and PT class, and there was significant interest in paediatrics. If you are an agency posting positions on therapybc make sure you aren't dissuading this next generation of paediatric therapists with statements such as 'require 2 years paediatric experience' in your job postings. With initiatives through the PPTC such as the eMentoring program we can provide these new grads with the support they require to excel in paediatric therapy. Attendance from the SLP class was poor due to the timing (they were out on clinical placement at the time), but I did the chance to address the graduating SLP's earlier in the year.

- The UBC OT Capstone Conference takes place on Friday August 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 4:45pm. The Capstone Conference is an opportunity for the 2009 Master of Occupational Therapy graduates to present their research to their upcoming colleagues and promote discussion amongst both professionals and students. This year's conference is taking place at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC -- 6265 Crescent Road, Vancouver, BC. Register at the following site: <http://www.chd.ubc.ca/ot/capstone>.

- The University of Alberta hosts a Health Sciences Career Fair in late September. The PPTC is registered to attend, and will be representing all public sector agencies delivering paediatric therapy services. I will be bringing an updated list of job postings from the website to the Career Fair.