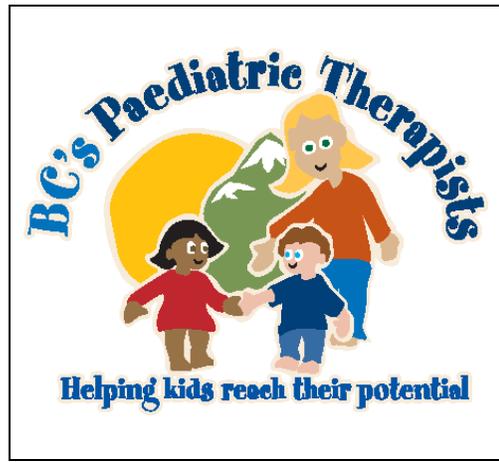


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PPTRRC Quarterly Update

January 2011

This is a 'quarterly report' from the Office of the Provincial Paediatric Therapy Recruitment and Retention Coordinator (PPTRRC). 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 Recruitment and Retention Coordinator for further discussion or clarification regarding the content of this update. This is the third quarterly report for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Promoting Manageable Workloads

Points Based Caseload Measure update

A message from Kathy Davidson:

Many of you are aware of, and have participated in, ongoing research in the development of a points based caseload measurement tool. This tool is designed to be used by Early Intervention, community based paediatric therapists (OTs, PTs and SLPs) in British Columbia, and its development is a three phase project. The caseload measurement tool takes into account the many factors that contribute to workload, including the complexity of clients, their families and their teams, client maturity (how new the client is to the therapist), frequency of visits, time necessary for facilitation/supervision of groups, years of paediatric experience, and travel. The measure is somewhat subjective, with therapists using clinical reflection coupled with their experience to assign complexity points to each client. The same client may be more or less complex to a therapist with different experience and expertise. For this reason intra-rater reliability, rather than inter-rater reliability, was explored in Phase 2 and this phase is now complete.

Results from this study show test-retest and intra-rater reliability for the Points Based Caseload Measure were found to be at the adequate to excellent rating level in all targeted correlations. Additional positive correlation relationships were seen between the component scores and the total scores, supporting the inclusion of each component score in the development of the measure. With these encouraging results, the measure can be confidently used in further research. Phase 3 will set the goal of establishing statistically supported points-based guidelines, taking into account the factors influencing the

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manageability of caseloads in the early intervention paediatric therapy context in British Columbia.

If you have questions about the measure and its development please contact Kathy Davidson at kathydavidson1@gmail.com.

Paediatric Update Symposium - February 28th/March 1st, 2011

- The theme for the 2011 Update Symposium is 'Building a Brighter Future – In Our Clients, Our Families, Our Communities and Ourselves.' The event will feature speakers such as Annette Manjemer (McGill University), Ellen Pope (University of Kansas), and Nancy Thomas-Stonell (Bloorview Research Institute). Several BC therapists/researchers will be sharing their knowledge in profession specific break-out sessions featuring a Handwriting Protocol, the new BC Children's Hospital CP Clinic, Treadmill Training, and Specific Language Impairment. There will also be panel presentations featuring 2-3 speakers on a particular theme followed by a Q&A session, poster presentations (we have received 28!), exhibitors, and a reception featuring live entertainment, awards from the PPTRRC, and more!

Update Symposium Registration

- The **early bird rate of \$210 has been extended to midnight January 15th**! Visit the link to register: <http://eplievents.com/Symposium>. Don't miss out on this fantastic education and networking opportunity! The Conference brochure is available via the 'What's New' box or the 'Upcoming Events' box on the homepage of www.therapybc.ca. Please share this news with your colleagues!

- **Attending from out of town?** We have secured a conference rate of \$175 per night at the Marriot Pinnacle hotel downtown. Just a couple blocks from the Waterfront Canada Line station. Reserve via the following link:
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/yvrdt?groupCode=tbctbca&app=resvlink&fromDate=2/26/11&toDate=3/1/11>

Or call 1 (800) 207-4150 and use the group code "TBCTBCA".

* Please note there are a limited number of rooms available at this group rate. If you try to reserve a room and are told the room block is sold out, please let me know ASAP and I will work on having more rooms added to the block. Email consultant@therapybc.ca or give me a call at 1-866-597-2547.

Poster Presenters

- You should have received an email in mid-December confirming your submission has been accepted or not accepted for the 2011 Symposium. If you submitted

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a poster but didn't receive an email please contact me ASAP. I want to make sure I have an accurate email list for poster presenters that have been accepted as I will soon be sending out details regarding size and when you will be expected to defend. **Also, remember to register for the conference!**

Videoconference Attendees

- Planning to attend via videoconference at one of the sites identified in the conference brochure? Great! **But please REGISTER!** The PHSA telehealth office has graciously worked with our planning committee to facilitate set-up of these locations; however, these sites are in high demand by other user groups. If a site does not have any participants registered to attend the Symposium via videoconference by midnight of January 15th, 2011 then we will have to cancel that site's participation in the event (thus freeing it up for other user groups). At this point there are several sites with zero participants currently registered. Visit the brochure to view site locations, and **use the online registration form to register.**

Other Initiatives

New to BC Paediatrics Support Doc

The intent of this document will be to provide a quick reference guide for provincial therapy resources. Information about provincial networking groups (e.g.- paediatric therapy councils), resources (e.g.- www.childdevelopment.ca), and programs (e.g. – At-Home, EIT guidelines manual, etc.). The PPTRRC will encourage employers to include this document when orienting therapists who are new to paediatrics in BC and a copy will also be readily available on the therapybc website. Currently in a draft stage, we hope to finalize this document within the next couple of months.

Contact Page

The PPTRRC frequently receives requests from therapists regarding what agency delivers service for a particular community. This is typically due to a family moving and the therapist wanting to connect to discuss the file transfer, or may be a provincial resource discharging a child back to their home community. To help make this an easier process we are currently developing a page on the therapybc website to address such requests. Should be ready to go live by spring, and we will let therapists know via the next quarterly report and provincial therapy council meeting minutes.

Pepsi Refresh Grant Program

Let's help out our colleague Courtney Hilderman of the BC Centre for Ability.

A message from Courtney:

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A couple years ago, I combined my passion for dance with my therapy work, and started an adapted creative movement class for our Early Intervention Therapy clients called “The WeeDance Program”. This program allows children with special needs to fully engage and participate in a dance class, while working on gross motor, communication, and social development. Unfortunately, the WeeDance program funding currently only allows for four 6-7week sessions per year, and children are only allowed to attend once as there is a long waitlist for clients wanting to attend the program.

The BC Centre for Ability has put in an application to the PEPSI REFRESH GRANT PROGRAM to try and obtain more funds. We are applying for the \$25,000 category - This money would be used to develop and implement a training program for new WeeDance instructors and volunteers, and to help with rental space costs in 5 communities – Van East, Van West, Richmond, Burnaby, and the North Shore. We would like to expand the program to run more frequently and for longer sessions throughout the year, and bring it to a variety of communities.

The Pepsi Refresh Grant Program allocates money to applicants by having the Canadian public vote on ideas they like best. The WeeDance Program has been accepted as an applicant for the JANUARY 4TH to FEBRUARY 28th voting cycle. We need your help to vote EVERY DAY!!

Please take some time to visit the site and vote!! Please forward this email to yourself at home, and start spreading the word to everyone you know through your email and Facebook networks!

VOTE HERE (every day until Feb 28): <http://www.refresheverything.ca/weedance>

Learn more here: <http://centreforability.bc.ca/?page=98>

Let me know if you have any questions! Thank you for your support!

Courtney (childerman@centreforability.bc.ca)

www.therapybc.ca

- Please, make sure your colleagues and employees are registered in the therapybc database (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 PPTRRC will ensure they are informed of any new initiatives generated by this Office.