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PPTRRC Quarterly Update

January 2012

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 2011-2012 fiscal year.

The 2012 PPTRRC Awards

Our office received some fantastic nominations for the 2012 PPTRRC Awards, thank you. The PPTRRC Steering Committee will be reviewing nominations over the next couple of months, and 2012 Award recipients will be announced in early April of this year.

Recruitment and Retention Initiatives

Webinar Series – The PPTRRC was pleased to deliver Dr. Jim Tanaka's presentation: 'Facing Up to Autism: New Technologies for Different Minds' just before Christmas, and was even more pleased by the number of you able to participate. We continue to work on other opportunities this winter/spring, and will be posting them on the therapybc Upcoming Events board as they are confirmed. Let the PPTRRC know if you have any ideas for other topics, and/or if you are interested in being a presenter: consultant@therapybc.ca.

UBC – The PPTRRC headed to Vancouver prior to Christmas and presented to UBC OT and SLP upcoming graduates on why they should choose paediatrics as a practice area once they enter the workforce. There is a tremendous amount of interest in paediatric practice, so please help sustain this interest by offering to supervise a student practicum experience! Visit the therapybc 'Take a Student' page for more information: http://www.therapybc.ca/employer_take_student.php.

Dalhousie – The PPTRRC also had the pleasure of making a visit to the Maritimes in early December. Managed to present to both the graduating PT class and the graduating SLP class, and convinced them why they should strongly consider switching coasts after graduation.

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Other Resources

The Physiotherapist Association of British Columbia (PABC) librarian, Deb Monkman, continues to uncover some fantastic resources for therapists working in paediatrics. One of her latest recommendations is the Cincinnati Children's James M. Anderson Center for Health Systems Excellence; in collaboration with the Center for Professional Excellence and the Pratt Library provide evidence resources. They have created evidence-based guidelines for a number of conditions and topics such as:

- Craniosacral therapy for children with Autism and/or Sensory Processing Disorder
- Autism Motor evaluation
- Cerebral Palsy Lower extremity orthoses
- Wheelchair delivery evaluation
- Intensive partial body weight supported treadmill training
- Management of idiopathic toe walking

You can find this information via the following link:

<http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/service/j/anderson-center/evidence-based-care/evidence-based-guidelines>

PABC continues their great work supporting physiotherapists working in paediatrics. If you aren't already a member, contact Jesse Royer at info@bcphysio.org for membership information to make sure you don't miss any of their great resources.

Also, visit the TherapyBC Upcoming Events board for two fantastic Tele-health opportunities offered by Sunny Hill:

- On January 19th Duncan Campbell will be presenting on the program 'Changing Minds, Changing Lives,' an outreach program aimed at educating front line service providers (e.g. healthcare professionals) and other key influencers about the Paralympic Movement, the associated social and health benefits of regular sport activity, and the potential that resides in all Canadians living with a physical disability.

- On April 19th and 20th Sunny Hill is sponsoring a work shop by internationally renowned expert on feeding and swallowing disorders, Joan Arvedson. Register by Feb 29, 2012 for early bird registration rates to attend this workshop. Tele-health option is available (out of town sites will have priority) so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity!