Safe Community Monthly News

May 2009

Re-designation: Calgary as an International Safe Community

On Wednesday, March 4, 2009, Safe Communities Canada, in its capacity as a Certifying Centre for the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, re-designated Calgary as an International Safe Community.

The re-designation ceremony was one of the highlights of the annual Calgary Safety Expo, an event which brings over 3500 school students to a special interactive safety exhibit and learning event in Calgary’s convention centre. The goal of the Safety Expo, which was inaugurated in 2003, the year of Calgary’s original designation, is to make young Calgarians, aware of the importance of safety as a constant frame for their lives.

The Calgary Safety Expo is a Safe Community legacy for the city as it was first put on as a part of the original designation ceremony for Calgary back in 2003, and it has become an annual event since then. The Safety Expo also provides Calgary with a tangible demonstration of the strength and depth of the collaborative relationship that exists amongst its injury prevention and safety promotion partners.

A group of students attending the expo were invited to come and be a part of the re-designation ceremony and they gave it energy and a real focus, as the safety of its children is a key priority for Safer Calgary.

With a population of just over one million citizens, Calgary is the largest International Safe Community in Canada and one of the largest in the world.

Safe Communities Canada was delighted to represent the Collaborating Centre as this dynamic and very successful Safe Community again accepted the challenge to ensure a safe life for each one of those million citizens.

Alderman Bob Hawksworth signs the re-designation agreement on behalf of the City of Calgary. Standing behind him from left to right, and between the honour guards are: Rick Hanson, Calgary’s Chief of Police, John Dalzell, Chair of the Board, Safe Communities Canada, Bob Lang and Carol Eamer, Co-Chairs of Safer Calgary, and Bruce Burrell, Calgary’s Fire Chief (photo right).

Manning Safer Calgary’s booth at the Safety Expo are, from the left, volunteers Dave Fergus and Ted Currie (photo left)

Reporter: Ron Waldie, Canada
Safe Cycling Promotion in Sai Kung Healthy & Safe City, Hong Kong SAR

Sai Kung District, including Sai Kung countryside and Tseung Kwan O new town, is located to the south-east of the New Territories of Hong Kong. With over half of the sub-districts in Tseung Kwan O new town linked up by cycle tracks, bicycles have become a very popular means of transportation and leisure for local residents. In view of some sub-districts lacking cycle tracks, the Sai Kung Healthy & Safe City Working Group on Road Safety Campaign remains committed to working closely with the police to promote road safety. Among others, the safety initiatives included the cross-sector recruitment and training of Road Ambassadors to participate in road safety promotional activities.

In 2005-2007, Sai Kung Healthy & Safe City inspected the cycle tracks district wide and rolled out various measures including improving the design of cycle tracks, reducing potential risks latent in cycle tracks, erecting signage's, painting road signs and connecting cycle track network etc. In 2007, Sai Kung District Council appropriated funds to build the Tiu Keng Leng Temporary Cycling Park. The ultimate aim was to provide a safe and fun environment for young cyclists in areas with insufficient cycle track facilities. Upon the opening of the temporary cycling park last year, there arose a need to further strengthen the promotion of bicycle safety. To this end, February, 2009 saw the hosting of a Safe Cycling Carnival at the park. This event included a kick-off ceremony of bicycle safety promotion, bicycle parade, a bicycle safety kit wearing contest, safety skills test, plus booth games and artistic bicycle performances and distribution of promotional materials. Informative educational materials themed around general road traffic safety, things to remember when riding bicycles or safety messages on school buses will be produced for public distribution. Passengers on public transport will be invited to select their ‘Model Driver’ to recognize drivers of buses, mini-buses, school buses or taxis who are considerate to take care of other road users such as cyclists. Representatives of the Hong Kong Police will also be invited to deliver talks on road safety.

More children’s lives could be saved in the EU

European Child Safety Alliance with the support of Commissioner Vassiliou, Commissioner Kuneva and MEP Chair of Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee Arlene McCarthy, released Child Safety Report Cards for 24 Member States in Europe and the Child Safety Report Card 2009 (6 May 2009).

The Child Safety Report Cards are part of the assessment undertaken in the Child Safety Action Plan initiative being conducted through funding and partnership with the European Commission, Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL), UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO) and the national partner organisations in 26 Member States.

The main purpose of the review was the opportunity it provides to assess where a country is at in terms of adoption, implementation and enforcement of policy that supports child safety as a baseline for national action planning. The review identified gaps in current policy that could then be addressed by participating countries as part of action planning. While countries were interested to see how they scored in relation to one another, the international comparison was not the aim of the review. Countries included in the review: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Portugal, Scotland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Wales.

For more: vincenten@childsafetyeurope.org
Course

RESEARCH EDUCATION Course 2009
6th International Course - A Ph.D. Course: Research in Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion: Designs, Methods & Analysis, October - November 2009 (5 weeks)
Stockholm, Sweden, 7.5 Credits
Application deadline: 1 May 2009
Course Organizer: Reza Mohammadi, MD, MPH, PhD
Email: Reza.Mohammadi@ki.se, Phone: +46 8 524 80142, Fax: +46 8 30 73 51

Courses 2009/ 2010
4th International Ph.D. Course on Internet
INJURY SURVEILLANCE AND CODING
1 October 2009 - 31 March 2010 (25% rate)
7.5 Credits
Course Organizer: Professor Lars-Gunnar Hörte, lars-gunnar.horte@ki.se

Forthcoming Safety and Injury Conferences

2009
1st Regional Southeastern Europe Conference on Safe Community "Safe Children in Safe Communities" 22-25 June 2009
Novi Sad, Serbia
Before March 31, 2009 Submit an registration form
Before April 15, 2009 Submit an abstract
Before May 15, 2009 Submit the full paper
For more information www.bezbedna.zajednica.org, Contact: Miroslav Bakich bezbedna.zajednica@gmail.com

The 14th International Conference on Circumpolar Health, July 11-16, 2009 Yellowknife, Canada
Abstract deadline: 20 February
Injury Prevention has always been a concern for the IUCH (International Union for Circumpolar Health) and injuries are a very heavy burden on the health of indigenous people living in the circumpolar regions.
Contact Jody Butler Walker butlerwalker@gmail.com, www.icch2009.com

www.injuryprevention2009.com
Abstract submission closes on 10 November 2008.

18th International Conference on Safe Communities Safe Policies as an axis for development
August 13 – 15, 2009 Cali, Colombia
Date for Abstract submission deadline: New date 30 April!
http://www.pbs.ki.se/csp/pdf/Conferences/cali10april.bmp
Call for abstract: http://safe2009.univalle.edu.co/, www.cisalva.univalle.edu.co
For information: Martha Lucia Castarieda, maluca68@gmail.com. Julian Santaella, julian_santaella@hotmail.com

5th Asian Regional Conference on Safe Communities (ARCSC) Safety, Health, Harmony
18-20 October 2009 Beijing, China
China Occupational Safety & Health Association (COSHA), http://www.cosha.org.cn
Before June 30, 2009 Submit the full paper
Before June 30, 2009 Early bird registration
After June 30, 2009 Full registration
Contact persons: Ms Wu Yanhua and Mr Liu Yan, E-mail: 2009ascc@cosha.org.cn
21, Hepingli Beijie, Dongcheng District, Beijing , China 100713 , Tel: +86-10-64463609/64463339, Fax: +86-10-64463609

Senior Safety- future challenges Nordic Conference, 21 -22 October 2009 Karlstad, Sweden
First Announcement and Call for Abstracts
Abstract deadline: 15 May 2009, For information: Dr Tommy Rosenberg, Head of Knowledge Centre for Senior Safety, Karlstad, Sweden tommy.Rosenberg@Karlstad.se
2010
19th International Safe Communities Conference *Sustainability of Safe Community Programs*
23-26 March, 2010 Suwon, Korea
For information: ipcho@ajou.ac.kr

The Second European Regional Safe Community Conference Incorporating the 7th Nordic Conference on Safe Communities 19-20 May, 2010 Reykjavik, Iceland

*How to develop Safe Communities in Europe using the Nordic experiences.*
- Re-establishing a European Network of Safe Communities.

[www.publichealth.is/SC-Iceland2010/](http://www.publichealth.is/SC-Iceland2010/)

Contact: Rósa Thorsteinsdóttir, rosa@publichealth.is, Tel: +354 5800900 / +354 8400906 , Fax: +354 5800901

Public Health Institute of Iceland, Laugavegur 116, 105 Reykjavík, Iceland

10th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, 21-24 September, 2010 London, UK

The first formal announcement for Safety 2010 will be issued in January 2009

Early bird rate before 30 April 2009 £450.00
Contact: Karen Hughes, Email: k.e.hughes@ljmu.ac.uk , Tel: +44 (0) 151 231 8723
Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University, Kingsway House, 5th Floor, Hatton Garden, Liverpool L3 2AJ, UK, Tel: +44 (0) 151 231 4510 | Fax: +44 (0) 151 231 4515

**New Journal:**

**Books and websites of interest**


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**WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Safety Promotion**
Karolinska Institutet
Department of Public Health Sciences
Division of Social Medicine
Norrbacka 2nd Floor, SE-171 76, Stockholm, Sweden.
Communication: **Koustuv Dalal** (Email: koustuv.dalal@ki.se)