



Healthy people, thriving communities
Des gens en santé, des communautés florissantes

Health Nexus Bringing a Canadian Perspective on Health Promotion to the World

Health Nexus receives invitation to participate in the 9th Global Conference on Health Promotion, co-organized by the WHO and the People's Republic of China

November 17, 2016 TORONTO – More than 1,000 global leaders in health and development will gather in Shanghai on November 21-24 for the 9th Global Conference on Health Promotion. Health Nexus is pleased to be bringing a Canadian perspective to the proceedings, including upholding the Call for Action developed as part of the 6th Global Forum on Health Promotion which took place in Charlottetown on October 16th and 17th.

“Canada has a duty to maintain its leadership role in the field of health promotion,” says Barb Willet, Executive Director of Health Nexus. “Thirty years ago the first ever global health promotion conference resulted in the signing of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion. Today we must continue to build on this legacy.”

The 9th Global Conference on Health Promotion will explore how health promotion will play an integral role in the achievement of the United Nations’ 17 sustainable development goals adopted as part of the 2030 Agenda.

“So much, to do with our health, is determined by factors outside of our control, including race, gender and early childhood development,” continues Ms. Willet. “Health promotion has proven to be an effective approach to achieving health and well-being by addressing inequity, empowering urban and rural communities and individuals.”

Health promotion action means building healthy public policy, creating supportive environments, strengthening community actions, developing personal skills and reorienting health services. Harnessing civic engagement and the leadership afforded by civil society organizations will play a crucial role in advocating, mediating, enabling, and implementing health promotion strategies to bring about global change.

“The health of our planet is linked to the health of the next generation,” concludes Ms. Willet. “Viewing health promotion as a contributing factor to sustainable development, and necessary to the achievement of the ambitious goals set by the United Nations, allows us to see how what happens in our communities is connected to and impacts on the rest of the world. By sharing a Canadian perspective we can help build a more prosperous and sustainable future.”

About Health Nexus

[Health Nexus](#) is a leader in health promotion, a bilingual organization that supports individuals, organizations and communities to strengthen their capacity to promote health. Their broad approach to health includes health equity, chronic disease prevention and early child development. Over the last 30 years, they have been supporting health services workers and health promotion organizations to develop and implement strategies to improve the health of their communities. Their services include consultations, training events and a large collection of resources.

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