



## Successes achieved in 2009-10

With the completion of the Framework Document there has been a vital shift from planning to implementation. The Framework Secretariat has been working hard to engage stakeholders and help identify ways they can align with and integrate relevant parts of the Framework into their own work. Throughout this process stakeholders have identified areas where the Framework Secretariat can play a role, from looking for and promoting potential funding opportunities, to developing ways to support alignment and collaboration. Collectively we have achieved some success and are pleased to see tangible results. We will continue to move forward towards our collective vision of excellent respiratory health for all in Canada.

### **Funding Opportunities to Advance the Framework**

As the Framework moves into the implementation phase of the development process it continues to focus on identifying and promoting funding opportunities for lung health. Funding opportunities identified by the Framework Secretariat are available at [www.lunghealthframework.com](http://www.lunghealthframework.com). Two of the funding opportunities identified and promoted by the Framework Secretariat include the PHAC-Lung Health Program and CIHR-Population Health Intervention Research to Promote Health and Health Equity.

#### **PHAC – Lung Health Program**

In April, 2009, Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq announced a federal investment of \$10 million for initiatives that address gaps in lung health identified in the National Lung Health Framework. This injection of funds over three years (2009 – 2012) will include initiatives to increase awareness of prevention, early detection, and self-management of lung diseases, including potential risks from the environment, through public information products, with emphasis on high-risk populations, including children.

#### **CIHR - Population Health Intervention Research to Promote Health and Health Equity**

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support the prompt initiation of intervention research on rapidly unfolding programs, policies and resource distribution approaches that have the potential to impact health and health equity at the population level. This is an excellent opportunity for the respiratory health community to access funding for intervention research on programs, policies and resource distribution approaches that have the potential to promote respiratory health and health equity at the population level.

### **Stakeholder Led Strategic Planning**

An important aspect of the Framework implementation phase is its ability to foster stakeholder led strategic planning. Below you will see two circumstances in which stakeholders are using the Framework as a tool for their own strategic plan relating to individual priorities.

## **National Respiratory Research Agenda**

In November 2009, the Canadian Lung Association (CLA) and the Canadian Thoracic Society (CTS) in collaboration with the CIHR-Institute of Circulatory Respiratory Health convened a national workshop to consult and collaborate with a wide-range of stakeholder groups in order to strengthen its research program by creating a strong National Respiratory Research Agenda.

It was concluded that the future of successful respiratory research lies in establishing an effect agenda that promotes capacity for collaborative research, translational research, excellence in training of clinical and basic science researchers, and strong support for researchers at all career levels. Moreover, to attain this objective immediate strategic planning to establish and implement a national research action plan, with leadership from CLA/CTS, is essential. To read the full proceedings of this national workshop, please visit: <http://www.lung.ca/cts-sct/docs/proceedings.pdf>.

## **Provincial/Territorial Success**

We are beginning to see the impact of the Framework in Provinces and Territories through the expansion of new partnerships and further collaboration. It is also being used in the strategic planning of the development of individual frameworks as well as in workshops. Over the next year we will begin to hear about the progress and successes of stakeholder led initiatives.

## **Development of Stakeholder Tools and Resources**

The National Lung Health Framework seeks to promote lung health resources to all. The NLHF website, Respiratory Resources Canada, Researchers Database and Featured Programs are just a few of the tools used to keep stakeholders informed on respiratory health activities and resources available. All resources are available at [www.lunghealthframework.com](http://www.lunghealthframework.com)

## **Website – [www.lunghealthframework.ca](http://www.lunghealthframework.ca)**

The National Lung Health Framework website allows stakeholders and the public to stay current on Framework activities and activities in the field of respiratory health. The website is a central location in which to find information on such things as funding opportunities, provincial activities and resources.

## **Respiratory Resources Canada**

“Who is doing what, where?” This is the focus of Respiratory Resources Canada, an innovative stakeholder-drive database that provides access to information on projects, programs, initiatives and more from across Canada. The database is free to all stakeholders and allows them to search for resources and to add their own; it is designed to help facilitate opportunities for alignment, potential partnerships and the sharing of successful approaches and practices.

## **Researchers Database**

The National Lung Health Framework worked with the research community to develop a Researchers Database available through the Framework website. The Researchers Database is an interactive online tool designed for researchers; it will help facilitate new contacts, encourage and improve collaborations and identify and share opportunities for research and training. An ever growing tool, the Researcher’s Database continues to grow and with it the opportunities for development in lung health research.

## **Featured Programs Project**

The National Lung Health Framework is please to release its first five Featured Programs categories; Patient Support; Air Quality- Health Effects; First Nations, Inuit and Métis; Childhood Respiratory Health; and Partnerships. These key communication pieces will be promoted on the website, at

conferences and at workshops. The Featured Programs project highlights unique, innovative and exciting projects and programs taking place across Canada. They will encourage knowledge sharing and collaboration as well as promote Respiratory Resources Canada and its ability to bring the lung health field together.

### **Collaboration Centre**

Our online collaboration centre offers a secure environment for the posting and sharing of data and documentation. Stakeholder groups can register for free and use the collaboration centre's many tools to carry out their activities; tools include news and discussion boards, meeting and document managers, email notification, and custom-built sharing platforms.

### **Stakeholder Evaluation**

In order to evaluate the development of the Framework document an on-line survey was conducted as well as one-on-one interviews. Through this evaluation process it was discovered that the development process resulted in a greater amount of collaboration between organizations and initiatives. It also revealed the need for transparency and better information flow to the stakeholders. Input collected through the evaluation process is valuable and will play an important role as the Framework implementation process continues.

## **Next Steps**

As the Framework continues to grow and be implemented across Canada, the National Lung Health Framework will continue to promote activities within the Framework and the field of respiratory health. The Partnership Secretariat will work to encourage and support stakeholder involvement and encourage implementation of the goals and strategies developed by the respiratory health community.

### **Enhance tools for Stakeholders**

- *Featured Programs:* Over the next year we will continue to identify innovative, unique and successful projects and programs taking place across Canada in different sectors of respiratory health
- *Respiratory Resources Canada:* As information and resource gaps are identified, targeted environmental scans will increase the already robust database, providing stakeholders with current information on "who is doing what, where?"

### **Strengthen Communications**

- *E-newsletter:* This new feature will be used to keep stakeholders up to date on Framework activities and to promote research and activities within the lung health community.
- *Website:* As we continue to build on the website it will become more dynamic and up to date on current events in respiratory health.

### **Mobilise Communication to Implement Framework**

- *Provincial and Territorial alignment:* We will continue to work with our provincial and territorial partners to identify existing and planned strategies and activities to ensure continued alignment of the national Framework with local frameworks, strategies and initiatives
- *Stakeholder engagement:* We will continue to work with stakeholders to identify opportunities to align relevant components of the Framework into their own strategic plans, leveraging our collective work into greater impacts on respiratory health in Canada
- *Aboriginal Action Plan:* In order to allow for the effective implementation of the Framework in all regions of Canada, the Framework is currently developing an action plan specifically targeting First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities.

### **Measure, Monitor and Report on the Progress of the Framework**

As the implementation phase of the Framework continues we recognize the importance of being able to measure, monitor and report on the progress being made. The Framework continues to develop and work on existing tools which will help conduct these activities. These tools are developed with the following goal in mind: being able to share the results. As information becomes available it is vital that it is passed on to all stakeholders to help facilitate and promote their own implementation processes.

For more information or to be added to our listserv please contact [framework@lung.ca](mailto:framework@lung.ca)