



PRESS RELEASE

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2010 Community Health Assessment Report Released

Stonewall, MB - The Interlake Regional Health Authority is pleased to announce the release of the 2010 Community Health Assessment (CHA) Report. This report identifies and measures the health status of the population within the Interlake RHA. This report marks the third comprehensive Community Health Assessment undertaken within the region, with previous reports being released in 1998 and 2004.

The Community Health Assessment (CHA) is an on-going process designed to:

- identify the health needs and assets of the community,
- enable the community-wide establishment of health priorities, and to
- facilitate collaborative planning which is directed at improving community health status and quality of life.

This report and the findings will provide data for evidence-based decision making along with serving as the current benchmark for the upcoming strategic planning process which occurs within the region every five years.

The 2010 Community Health Assessment has identified some key areas of importance for us to work on such as:

- Chronic diseases, especially cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancers,
- Accessibility of health care - ensuring appropriate mix of services is available across the region,
- Healthy seniors and healthy youth - two important population groups,
- Population wellness focus - to keep people from developing chronic diseases and to help people manage with chronic diseases once they have developed.

“The results from this comprehensive Community Health Assessment will tell us many things, including how much work we have to do in helping people to manage their chronic diseases and how they can prevent them”, noted Interlake RHA Vice President Planning, Doreen Fey. “As well, our findings will form the basis of planning later this year for the development of our 2011-2016 Strategic Plan”, added Fey.

The 2010 Community Health Assessment Comprehensive report includes an analysis of many population health and health system indicators. It also includes a summary and analysis of the findings and a detailed review of the priority areas. Copies of the 2010 Community Health Assessment Comprehensive report as well as twelve (12) supporting reports are posted on our website at: www.irha.mb.ca, under the “Publications & Downloads” section. Copies will also be shared with our health partners and will be available at each Interlake RHA facility/site in the region.

For more information regarding the 2010 Community Health Assessment Comprehensive report, please contact Tannis Erickson, Health Systems Analysis Manager at 642-4522 or via e-mail at: terickson@irha.mb.ca.