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We Need Your Help

We want to ensure that these competencies resonate for you in your professional role. Do the draft education and tobacco competencies adequately cover the required skills and knowledge for you in your current role as a CAE, CCE or CRE? Will the new Certified Tobacco Educator competencies enhance your role in tobacco prevention and cessation? Have we missed anything? Does anything need to change or be removed?

There are three ways to help:

- 1
- Participate in our short validation survey. The survey covers both the health education and tobacco competencies. [fluidsurveys.com/s/compvalidationsurvey/](http://fluidsurveys.com/s/compvalidationsurvey/)
- 2
- Provide detailed feedback on either set of competencies. Please use the "track changes" feature in Microsoft Word or send detailed comments to Shaun at [svollick@cnrchome.net](mailto:svollick@cnrchome.net)
- 3
- Join our education or tobacco curriculum, item-writing or exam committees. We are looking for volunteers with a passion for health education or tobacco cessation that want to become more involved in the project, either by reviewing curriculum or joining our item-writing or exam committees. Please email [svollick@cnrchome.net](mailto:svollick@cnrchome.net) to express your interest.

Take on Tobacco!  
Will You Become a Certified Tobacco Educator?

By Cheryl Connors,  
Executive Director

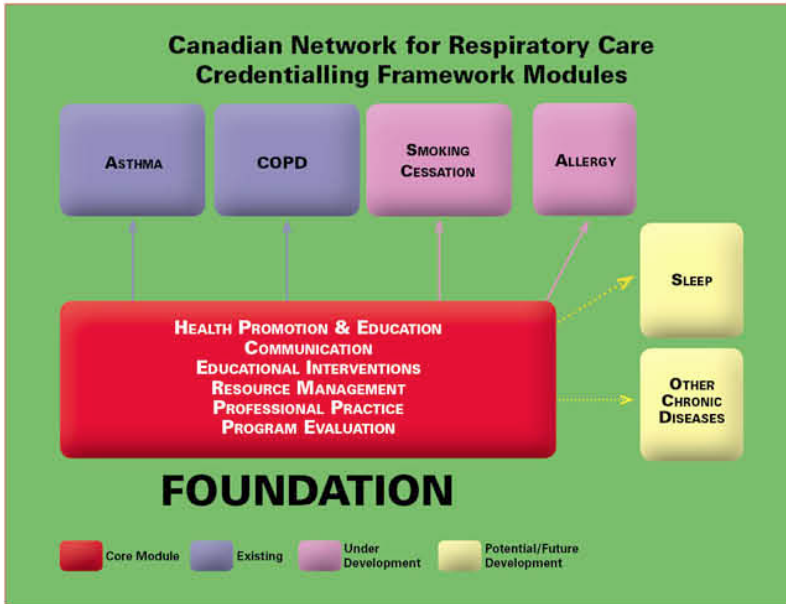
We are thrilled to announce that our new Certified Tobacco Educator (CTE) credential is well on its way to being launched. We anticipate that the very first CTE exam will be held this November.

The new Certified Tobacco Educator credential has been built upon CNRC's strong foundation in health education. In the same way that current CAEs can become CREs by taking a COPD management course and taking the shorter COPD-management exam, CAEs, CREs and CCEs will be able to take a shorter tobacco exam to become CTEs after taking a CNRC-approved tobacco course.

What Is Unique About the New CTE Credential?

While smoking cessation has been an important component of our respiratory educator credentials, the new credential will provide an opportunity to increase your level of competence and specialization in delivering current, evidence-based cessation interventions and prevention activities. The CTE credential will merge our strong health education principles with the motivational interviewing used primarily in smoking cessation programs developed in the addictions community. New educators will be required to demonstrate proficiency in motivational interviewing as well as having a strong foundation in health education.

Our credentials have always emphasized a multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary approach and we believe our smoking cessation and prevention work will be strengthened by working more closely with other healthcare professionals who do not work exclusively in respiratory care, including social workers and addictions professionals.



The Project

CNRC's Certification Management Committee has been overseeing the project. We have formed two working groups to develop the core competencies/learning objectives for the new credential – the knowledge and skills required. One group has focused on revising/updating our current foundational health education competencies and the other group has focused on the tobacco-specific competencies.

Foundation Health Education Competencies

You will see changes in these draft competencies that will hopefully move your practice forward including a stronger emphasis on education occurring as part of a comprehensive health promotion program and integrating technology into practice. Moving forward, all of our respiratory educators will be required to demonstrate motivational interviewing (MI) skills, not just understand how MI works in theory. We feel that MI is a powerful tool for respiratory educators working with clients with asthma and COPD, not just for cessation interventions.

These revised health education competencies are grouped around the following broad groups of competencies: Health Promotion and Education, Communication, Educational Interventions, Resource Management, Professional Practice, and Program Evaluation.

Download the draft Foundational Health Education Competencies here.



English



Français

Meet Our New Director, Programs  
Shaun Vollick

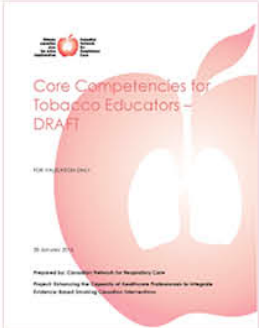


Taking the lead on our CTE project, we are pleased to introduce you to Shaun Vollick. Before joining the CNRC team,

Tobacco Competencies

The tobacco competencies are grouped around the following: Health Promotion & Tobacco Prevention, Tobacco Products and Use, Tobacco Use Disorder, Tobacco Cessation and Interventions, Assessment, Interventions, Diverse Populations, and Tobacco Programs and Systems.

Download the draft Core Competencies for Tobacco Educators here.



English



Français

Background

CNRC is collaborating with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's TEACH Project, Alberta Health Services tobacco program and other key national stakeholders working in tobacco prevention and cessation to develop a national certification exam and curriculum for healthcare professionals. CNRC is grateful to the Public Health Agency of Canada for providing us with the significant start-up funding to allow us to develop this important program.

In addition, CNRC is partnering with a number of private sector organizations in order to ensure sustainability of the program and increase reach.

As part of the project, CNRC has formed

