



Health 201

A Knowledge-to-Action Framework for Creating Healthier Built Environments

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Presented at: Housing + Transportation + Health Workshop, Surrey, BC,

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HBE Work at PHSA: History & Background

- Who is the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)?
 - PPH Team & HBE Alliance
- This document is part of PHSA's Healthy Built Environment Initiative. Find references and other resources at <http://www.phsa.ca/HealthProfessionals/Population-Public-Health/Healthy-Built-Environment/default.htm>
- Other resources include:
 - “Foundations for a Healthier Built Environment”
 - “From Strategy to Action”
 - “Planning 101” – Introduction to Land Use Planning for Health Professionals: Workshop Reader
 - “Five Things Planners & Design Professionals Need to Know About Health and the Built Environment”

Health 201: Target Audience & Purpose

Target Audience:

- Architects
- Planners
- Design Professionals
- Engineers
- Government Decision-makers
- Parks & Recreation
- Health

Purpose:

- To assist planners, design professionals & local gov'ts to assess their capacity and take action towards working with health professionals on healthy communities
- Offers resources to help organizations work together from whatever stage they are currently at
- Conversation starter!

Health 201: Getting Started

Process to initiate HBE work in your agency or department:

- Confirm your mandate
- Define what problem you are trying to solve
 - Need? Mandate? (should do)
 - Necessary resources and expertise? (can do)
 - Commitment and support? (want to do)
- Consult further sources for ideas and action plan

Health 201: Three Elements

- Team Self-Assessment Guide
- HBE Primer
- References & Resources

Components	Level D	Level C	Level B	Level A
Leadership (an executive level "champion") for healthy design	... does not exist in our agency or there is little interest.	... is reflected in vision statements and plans, but no resources are available for this work.	... is reflected by senior leadership commitments with dedicated resources (dollars and personnel).	... is resourced as part of the agency's long term strategy, with specific people held accountable.
Score	0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10 11
Informing elected officials about designing for public health	... is not done	... happens on request or through agency publications and reports.	... is done through the briefing process for each project.	... includes specific training for elected officials to describe their role in building a healthier community.
Score	0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10 11
Organizational goals for designing a healthier built environment	... do not exist or are limited to one-off issues or isolated departments.	... exist organization-wide on paper but are not actively pursued or reviewed.	... are comprehensive, measurable and reviewed by senior staff and elected officials.	... are implemented routinely, reviewed routinely, and linked to other agencies' plans.
Score	0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10 11
Senior leaders in our organization and potentially collaborating agencies	... discourage collaboration with other agencies	... do not consider collaborative efforts for healthy design a priority.	... encourage collaborative efforts to make the built environment a healthier place.	... visibly collaborate in improvement efforts for a healthier built environment.
Score	0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10 11

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THE SELF-ASSESSMENT FINDINGS?	
If your priority is	Then consider these sources and activities
Building leadership around healthy design in your organization	PHSA's Foundations for a Healthier Built Environment: Summary Report explains the link between health and the built environment and calls for improved collaboration between the health and planning sectors. If there is no commitment of resources and senior champion for HBE, you may need to create the "burning platform" yourself.
Informing elected officials about designing for public health	PHSA provides a 30-minute presentation: PHSA Healthy Built Environment that aims to engage elected officials as well as planning and design professionals. It could be delivered by any planning team member using the accompanying themed references. It is also suitable for web-based viewing. BC's Climate Change Charter is top of mind for many elected officials just now. Here are some ideas to link HBE with this issue: An Action Plan for Public Health – Initial Recommendations for Involving Public Health in Climate Change Policy .
Developing organizational goals for a healthier built environment	Good zoning supports the development of attractive, prosperous communities. Zoning Talking Points explains how elected officials can help create healthy communities through zoning. See "Municipal Checklist – Ideas to Execution" in Planning by Design . This guide from Ontario provides details on integrated approaches to planning. The Service Plan from BC's Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport contains goals that may help in framing your plan.

Theme, description and why planners should care about this	Selected references and resources in addition to those available on PHSA's website
1. The impact of preventable illness and injury on our health care system and society	BC's Health Authorities develop internal reports (e.g. Social Determinants of Health on Vancouver Island , Interior Health Healthy Community Environment reports). These provide local detail and data suitable for writing the business case for investments in HBE.
Increasing levels of chronic illness have had a significant effect on our health system. In addition to individual disability and suffering, society suffers from loss of workers and escalating costs of care. Ultimately these costs could make our publicly-funded health care system unsustainable. Understanding the causes and impact of chronic illness will help planners to tackle the connection between "the fence at the top of the cliff and the ambulance at its foot".	BC Ministry of Health also offers many excellent resources, including community-specific data on chronic illness and reports like The Evolution of Falls Prevention Programs in BC . The BC Injury Research & Prevention Unit offers resources on the human and financial burden of injury and evidence-based literature and best practices around injury prevention (www.injuryresearch.bc.ca). An on-line tool with an easy-to-use system provides hospitalization and mortality data as well as BC hospital utilization cost data. The Geography of Wellness and Well-being across BC has been developed in response to the ActNow BC health promotion initiative. This provides maps for over 50 wellness and well-being indicators from the combined 2007 and 2008 Canadian Community Health Survey. Data show the 16 Health Service Delivery Areas for BC.

Health 201: Team Self-Assessment Guide

- Answer from the perspective of your agency
- Rows represent 8 key components of designing HBEs
- High scores mean the components are fully developed; low scores mean components are less fully developed
- Use scores to assess agency's progress and identify areas for improvement

TEAM SELF-ASSESSMENT GUIDE: DESIGNING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH												
Components	Level D			Level C			Level B			Level A		
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Organizational goals for designing a healthier built environment	... do not exist or are limited to one-off issues or isolated departments.			... exist organization-wide on paper but are not actively pursued or reviewed.			... are comprehensive, measurable and reviewed by senior staff and elected officials.			... are implemented robustly, reviewed routinely, and linked to other agencies' plans.		
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Health 201: HBE Primer

- Intended to help you move forward from the self-assessment
- Organized by the priorities identified in the self-assessment guide
- Primer offers links to different sources and activities to help you address the points of change for your organization

HBE PRIMER

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THE SELF-ASSESSMENT FINDINGS?

If your priority is

Building leadership around healthy design in your organization

If there is no commitment of resources and senior champion for HBE, you may need to create the "burning platform" yourself.

Then consider these sources and activities

PHSA's [Foundations for a Healthier Built Environment: Summary Report](#) explains the link between health and the built environment and calls for improved collaboration between the health and planning sectors.

[Valuing Health: Business Case Literature Review](#) explains how investing in preventative public health also makes sound business sense.

[Bringing Health to the Planning Table](#) was produced by the Healthy Living Issue Group of the Pan-Canadian Public Health Network. The report profiles case studies within 13 Canadian communities across Canada that used collaborative approaches to improve health outcomes.

Informing elected officials about design for public health

Councils are often the best organizations to take a comprehensive overview of the needs and priorities of their local communities and lead the work to meet those local needs.

PHSA provides a 30-minute presentation: [PHSA Healthy Built Environment](#) that aims to engage elected officials as well as planning and design professionals. It could be delivered by any planning team member using the accompanying themed references. It is also suitable for web-based viewing.

BC's Climate Change Charter is top of mind for many elected officials just now. Here are some ideas to link HBE with this issue [An Action Plan for Public Health – Initial Recommendations for Involving Public Health in Climate Change Policy](#).

Good zoning supports the development of attractive, prosperous communities. [Zoning Talking Points](#) explains how elected officials can help create healthy communities through zoning.

Developing organizational goals for a healthier built environment

See "Municipal Checklist – Ideas to Execution" in [Planning by Design](#). This guide from Ontario provides details on integrated approaches to planning, community assessment and action planning.

The [Service Plan](#) from BC's Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport contains goals that may help in framing your plan.

Health 201: References & Resources

- List of background information available on a variety of topics (links to specific documents & general internet links)

REFERENCES AND RESOURCES FOR HEALTH 201

Theme, description and why planners should care about this

Selected references and resources in addition to those available on PHSA's website

1. *The impact of preventable illness and injury on our health care system and society*

Increasing levels of chronic illness have had a significant effect on our health system. In addition to individual disability and suffering, society suffers from loss of workers and escalating costs of care; ultimately these costs could make our publicly-funded health care system unsustainable. Understanding the causes and impact of chronic illness will help planners to tackle the connection between "the fence at the top of the cliff and the ambulance at its foot".

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Completing the Self-Assessment Guide

- Please take a few moments to complete the self-assessment guide from the perspective of your agency
- Keep your agency's strengths and priority areas of improvement in mind for discussion in the next agenda item....speed networking

