



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET  
Department of Public Health Sciences  
Division of Social Medicine



WHO COLLABORATING CENTRE  
ON  
COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION

## SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

No. 5

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\*\*\*\*\* LETTER FROM THE EDITOR \*\*\*\*\*

Welcome to the fifth issue of Safe Community Weekly News in 2006, the electronic Safe Community Weekly News is edited by the European Safe Community Network, International Safe Community Support Team and the WHO CC on Community Safety Promotion on behalf of Safe Communities Network.

### WHAT IS NEW AT SAFE COMMUNITIES?

In this issue:

**CO-OPERATION: Future co-operation with Ministry of Health in Mexico**

**MEETING: Discussing safe communities with Faculty and students of SPH in Mexico**

**VISIT: Visiting three communities in Chile**

**RE-DESIGNATION: 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wood Buffalo Safe/ Healthy Community**

**PROGRAM: Safe Rules Implementation in Třeboň Czech Republic**

**CONFERENCE: 9th National Safe Communities Conference, Canada**

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Future co-operation on Safe Communities discussed with Ministry of Health in Mexico on the 2nd of February



The Health Promotion leaders of the General Directorate of Health Promotion meeting Dr Leif Svanstrom from The WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion (left).  
From left to right: Julian Mendoza, Margarita Mava, Carlos Santos-Burgoa (DG), Yolanda Arango and Lucero Rodriguez Cabrera (Director of Healthy Communities)

The General Directorate of Health Promotion is situated within The Vice Ministry of Prevention and Health Promotion. Professor Leif Svanstrom met the staff involved in the development of Health Promotion. Mexico at the National level has well developed strategies and policies for Healthy Cities and for community based intersectoral work for Health Education. The focus is on Healthy and Safe Schools, hospitals and workplaces. The prioritised populations are children, indigenous people and migrant families. The Key targets are the mayors of the communities locally, the regulators and the civil society (NGOs and Health Committees).

The Group under the leadership of Dr Carlos Santos-Burgoa (Director General of Health Promotion) agreed upon to start co-operation with the safe community movement ([www.phs.ki.se/csp](http://www.phs.ki.se/csp)) especially during the next- coming two years preparing a number of conferences, seminars and travelling seminars on safe communities. Special focus would be Safe Schools, Safe Children and Safe Work. Indicators on health and safety promotion will also be in focus.

Rapporteur: Leif Svanstrom

## Discussing safe communities with Faculty and students of SPH in Mexico



Professor Martha Hajar in front of the SPH

The School of Public Health is situated in a beautiful surrounding in Guernavaca 2 hours drive outside Mexico City.

On the 3rd of February on the initiative by Professor Martha Hajar who is responsible for Injury and Safety research at The National Institute of Public Health/School of Public Health in Guernavaca outside Mexico City the issue of Safe Communities worldwide was discussed. Professor Leif Svanstrom at the WHO CC Community Safety promotion initiated the lecture. This can be seen as increasing the awareness of the concept of Safe Communities and a preparation for the World Conference on Injury Prevention/Safety Promotion in Mexico 2008.

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## Visiting three communities in Chile



During a visit in Chile, Dr. Bo Henricson visited three communities around Santiago talking about The Safe Community Network.. Two of the communities, Peñaflor and El Monte had been working several years with safety promotion in the local community and are doing very well.

Dr. Henricson reports a very dedicated work in the two communities and as this is to be considered site visits, plans are made to appoint the two communities as “Safe Communities” in the beginning of 2007, where Peñaflor and El Monte are going to become the first Spanish speaking communities in the Network. I am very pleased with the safety promotion work and the networking I saw and we are looking forward to see more communities from the Latin Americas joining the network, Dr. Henricson says.



## WHO Safe Community Re-designation

Empowering Our Community  
December 2005



### Purpose:

1. To achieve re-designation status as a WHO Safe Community- this event initially evolved through the desire to recognize the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wood Buffalo Safe/ Healthy Community Network for being the 1<sup>st</sup> North American City to be designated as a WHO Safe Community, it became apparent that it was necessary to publicly acknowledge and recommit our energy through a re-designation process.
2. To provide a networking opportunity for community representatives (business, community organizations, community at large) to discuss issues and concerns pertaining to the safety, health and wellness of residents and visitors within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.
3. To develop a Community Action Plan from the information, ideas and suggestions gathered from participants throughout the day.

### Overview:

On Wednesday, December 7, 2005, a total of 64 participants representing 33 community organizations, businesses and the community at large gathered at the Sawridge Inn and Conference Centre in Fort McMurray to share information and to examine ways in which we can collaborate and share resources to promote a safer and healthier community.



Kathy Belton gives opening address, representative of the WHO CC and co-Director of ACICR



Judy Corcoran, Chair of WBSHCN receiving Injury Prevention recognition award from Patti Stark, ACICR

The Opening Address was delivered by Kathy Belton, Co-Director of the Alberta Centre For Injury Control and Research. She spoke about the term “Empowerment”, what it means, and it’s significance in today’s society. Her presentation demonstrated how empowerment is a process that does not happen over night- it is an ongoing process that focuses on involving self and others, understanding that there are differences, that perspectives may vary, and that it involves commitment. Kathy’s opening address set the tone for the day emphasizing that we all have choices and we share the responsibility to make change.

## Safe Rules Implementation in Třeboň Czech Republic

Mgr. Michaela Lavičková



In the end of the year 2004 the local government of the South Bohemian town Třeboň in the Czech Republic decided to begin with applying safe rules along the strategy of WHO project Safe Community.

Třeboň is a relatively small town in the south of the Czech Republic with approximately nine thousand of inhabitants. Interesting about Třeboň is its location. This town is between two big cities surrounded with many ponds. Třeboň is well known for its spas. The spas are mostly famous for the treatment of locomotive organs. During the year 2004 the project Safe Community was introduced many institutions in the town, such as in schools, surgeries, Police institutions, nongovernment organisations operating in Třeboň and of course as well to residents. The safety team of specials was created and the cooperation of many specialists and institutions were settled. We cooperate with South Bohemian University in České Budějovice, Health and Social Faculty, Police, elementary schools and health institutions, mainly with surgeries.

For the year 2005 there were stated some goals to be achieved within safe promotion. Firstly, the activities on the field of safety were incorporated into the program Safe Town as one of the most important parts. We prepared strategy plan and started to inform inhabitants though the local newspaper about activities and also we wanted to make them to start thinking about their community, their own health and behaviour.



In the course of the year 2005 many injury preventive actions took part in the town. We concentrated above all in the area of children and seniors injury and among these groups in the field of traffic, domestic and violent injuries.

We also started with injury data collection from the doctors' ordinations in the town. The data are now analyzed and will be used this year for safety promotion already focused on the main hazards which caused the bigger amount of injuries here.



## *Honour our Roots, Celebrate our Future* 9<sup>th</sup> National Safe Communities Conference

October 1-3, 2006, Chatham-Kent, Ontario

### Call for Abstracts

**Abstract submission deadline: March 25, 2006**

The Conference Program Committee invites you to submit abstracts for the 9th National Safe Communities Conference, co-hosted by the Safe Communities Foundation and the Chatham-Kent Safe Communities Coalition.

The 2006 conference theme, *Honor Our Roots, Celebrate Our Future*, acknowledges the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Safe Communities Foundation, and encourages participants to reflect on the past, present and future of the Safe Communities movement in Canada. Local community and national partners, like-minded community agencies and businesses, workplace safety associations, service clubs, health professionals and other not-for-profit groups are encouraged to join with representatives from Safe Communities across the country for this unique opportunity to discuss lessons learned, engage in networking opportunities, plan for the future and reflect on questions such as:

- What does it mean to be a “Safe Community?”
- What is Canada’s role in the international Safe Communities movement?
- What impact on injury do Safe Communities have locally, regionally, nationally?
- How have we evolved as a national network? How are local coalitions evolving?

### Submission deadline

The Conference Program Committee must receive abstract submissions by **March 25, 2006**.

Completed abstracts should be emailed to the Conference Program Chair, Nadine Gudz, at [ngudz@safecommunities.ca](mailto:ngudz@safecommunities.ca) by **March 25, 2006**.

**Please send your activities, programs and reports via post/ e-mail to the editor:**

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