

### Enhancing the Role of School Health Nursing Through the Use of Offsite Technology

Presented by:  
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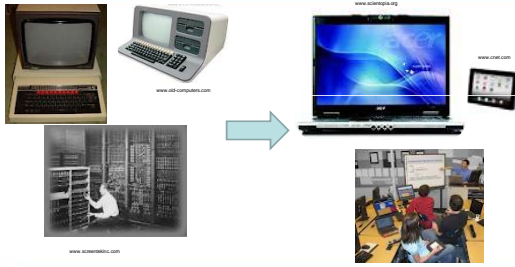
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### Remember When...?



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### Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify the value in integrating technology into health promotion practice
- 2) Identify opportunities to integrate technology into offsite practice
- 3) Demonstrate an increased ability in advocating for access to technology

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## Practice Frameworks & Models

- Community Development Process is key

- Practice within a Comprehensive School Health (CSH)/Health Promoting Schools (HPS) models



Joint Consortium for School Health. Comprehensive School Health Framework. Retrieved November 2008 from : <http://www.jcsh-cces.ca/article.asp?n=124>.

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## School Health Nursing in Calgary

- Time allotted in schools based on student population
- Other activities include vaccinations, health referrals, and collaboration with community agencies
- Work offsite at schools
- Increased integration of technology in schools in recent years to achieve learning outcomes

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## Purpose of Laptop Pilot

To determine whether use of laptop technology to support health promotion in school settings would:

- 1) Increase service delivery
- 2) Provide "real time" information for clients
- 3) Provide ongoing professional quality improvement

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## Process of Laptop Pilot

- Laptop pilot began October 2010 and was completed May 2011
- Two Community Health Centres in Calgary participated
- Four nurses in the control group and four nurses in the experimental group
- Quantitative data was collected monthly using data collection tool
- Data collection tool was tweaked at monthly meetings
- Qualitative evaluation completed in June 2011

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## Data Collection Tool

### 2010-2011 Laptop Pilot Data Collection Form

Month:

\*\*E-Submit at the end of each month to Site Manager

Date & AM/PM	Number of KMs from school (1 way)	Time taken to return to clinic (min)	* Time Spent at School in mins	Laptop utilized at school? (Y/N)	If yes, how much time spent on laptop? (mins)	If yes, what were you able to accomplish using the laptop at the school? (Code)	Did using LT at the school, preclude other school activities?	Need to return to clinic? (Y/N)	If yes, why? (Code)
May 2 AM	6.2	10 mins.	90 mins.	N			N	N	
May 2 PM	7.4	10 mins.	135 mins.	Y	45 mins.	2,7,9	N	Y	1,6,11
May 3 AM	5.9	8 mins.	150 mins.	Y	90 mins.	3,7,9	N	N	
May 3 PM	3.8	7 mins.	45 mins.	N			N	Y	6,11

Comments/Learnings/Reflections

Please note: I was on vacation from May 4 to 31

\* If at multiple schools...combine time in all schools (not including travel time). Do not include time doing Mass Vacc Programs. DO include time doing catch-ups or any time following a mass vaccination program.

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## Results of the Laptop Pilot

### Application of Laptop Use

- Accomplish several activities while at school
- Provide "real time" health information
- Professional quality improvement

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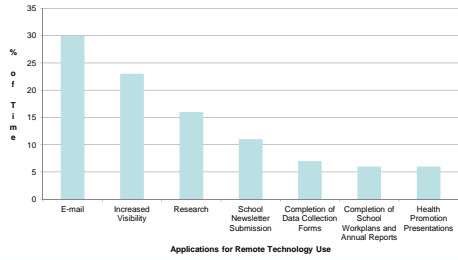
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**Table 1: Applications of Technology Use in School Health Nursing**




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**Results (continued)**

**Time Spent on Laptops**

- Utilized laptop at least once daily, 40% of the days they were in schools
- Increased effectiveness in role

**Increased Visibility at Schools**

- Strengthening of relationships and enhanced shared outcomes

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**Results (continued)**

**Mentorship**

- Fostering new learnings between nurses

**Job Satisfaction**

- Improved skills and resources

**Limited Cost Savings**

- \$218.00 in kilomeratage
- \$445.00 in travel time

October 2010 to May 2011

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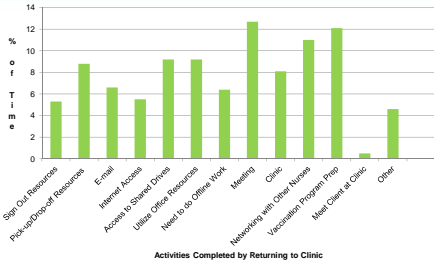
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Table 2: Reasons Laptop Nurses Returned to Clinic




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### Challenges

- Size & Weight (15-inch, 6.5 pounds)
- Incompatibility with technology that schools utilize
- Unreliable wireless access

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### Learnings

- Ongoing availability and presence at school
- Ability to provide "real time" information to clients at schools
- Peer Mentorship
- Involving IT Services

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## Moving Forward

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- Zone-wide integration of laptops for all school nurses
- Laptops to be lighter with integrated wireless access
- Super user at each health centre
- Implications for other public health community settings
- Further study needed to establish and evaluate effects of technology use in health promotion programming

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## Conclusion

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- Improved partnerships with school communities
- Enhanced nursing practice
- Ability to support current student learning modalities
- Increased school nurse presence
- Increased nurse competence related to technology
- Increased efficiencies in use of nursing time

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## Acknowledgments

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- Lorraine Dunn, Area Manager, Shaganappi and Acadia Community Health Centres, Calgary, Alberta
- Cheryl MacLeod, Lead, School Health and Well Child Services, Alberta Health Services – Calgary Zone
- School Nurses from East Calgary Health Centre and Northwest Community Health Centre, Calgary, Alberta

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## Questions?



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