



POLICY FORUM: AUTISM ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

A meeting organised by the Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development and the Centre of Excellence for Children and Adolescent with Special Needs

February 5 and 6, 2009
Opus Hotel, Montréal, Québec

Proposed objectives

1. To share best practices and lessons learned, and discuss key issues, challenges and opportunities with provincial and territorial counterparts in the area of autism
2. To open a dialogue between policy advisors and researchers with a view of working together to develop better policies for the early identification of autism and intervention throughout the lifespan.

Programme

February 5, 2009

6 p.m.	Welcome and registration
6:30 p.m.	Opening remarks by Kim Kienapple, PhD, Mount Saint-Vincent University
6:45 p.m.	Dinner
7:45	Address by Georges Huard
8:15 p.m.	Keynote address by Dr. Kevin Stoddart , Clinical Director Redpath Centre for Social and Emotional Development, Toronto
9:15 p.m.	Coffee, dessert and networking



February 6, 2009

- 8:00 a.m. Networking breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and overview of the schedule: Kim Kienapple
- 9:15 a.m. Panel discussion: Voices from the field
Moderator: Gabrielle Collu
- **Jocelyne Bélanger**, Coordonnatrice en déficience intellectuelle, troubles envahissants du développement et dossiers intersectoriels, Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec
 - **Karen D. Bopp**, PhD, Senior Behaviour Consultant, Children and Youth with Special Needs Policy, Ministry of Child and Family Development, British Columbia
 - **Rick Ludkin**, Director of Autism Services Development, Woodview Children's Centre and Autism Services, Ontario
- 10:25 – 10:45 a.m. Refreshment break
- 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Discussion
- 11:45 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Breakout groups
Themes:
- Review of policies available and identification of policies needed
 - Contribution of research to policy development
- 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Reports from breakout groups
- 2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Wrap up and closing remarks: Kim Kienapple