



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

Health Council of Canada

2010 Theme: [Best practices](#) in Canadian Health Care — What's Working for Canadians?

As part of our commitment to highlighting innovation in Canadian health care renewal, the Health Council of Canada is turning towards the leaders of tomorrow — college and university students — for their ideas. We are also asking teachers and professors to enliven the discussion in their classrooms, through lectures and class assignments.

We will be awarding the 2010 Health Council of Canada Health Innovation Award to the student(s) with the best response to the following question:

The Question: What have you seen on the frontlines of health care that has had a positive impact on the lives of Canadians? Tell us what the impact has been and why and how your example deserves to be a model for the rest of Canada.

Some Areas You Might Want to Explore: 1) primary health care; 2) health promotion; 3) pharmaceuticals; 4) aboriginal health; 5) electronic health records; 6) home and continuing care; 7) wait times; or 8) health resources utilization.

Submissions of up to 1,500 words plus a 250-word abstract will be accepted from individuals and teams of no more than three (3) students registered at a Canadian college or university.

Finalist entries will be judged by a Health Council of Canada panel of four experts, including the Chair and the CEO of the Health Council of Canada. First and second place will be awarded in both the individual and team categories, for a total of four (4) prizes. A fifth prize will go to the best Student Ambassador.

The submission deadline is 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 16, 2010. Send via email to innovationaward@healthcouncilcanada.ca.

Prizes

First prize: Each first place winner (individual and team) of the Health Council of Canada Health Innovation Award will receive \$1,000 and travel and accommodation to attend the awards ceremony at the Council's May meeting. Winning submissions will be featured on the Health Council of Canada website, www.healthcouncilcanada.ca, Facebook, and in our national e-newsletter.



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

Second prize: Each second place winner (individual and team) of the Health Council of Canada Health Innovation Award will receive \$500 and travel and accommodation to attend the awards ceremony at the Council's May meeting. Second place submissions will also be featured on the Health Council of Canada website, www.healthcouncilcanada.ca, [Facebook](#), and in our national e-newsletter.

Student Ambassador Prize: Are you savvy on Facebook? Have a talent for rallying your peers? The Student Ambassador Prize will go to the registered Student Ambassador who inspires the most entries from their school. He or she will join the winning entrants in receiving travel and accommodation to attend the awards ceremony at the Council's May meeting.

To find out more about the role of Student Ambassador and how you can register, please [click here](#).

The submission deadline is 5p.m. on Thursday, December 16, 2010. Send via email to: innovationaward@healthcouncilcanada.ca.

Contest Criteria

Submissions will be judged on the following criteria:

- The submission must identify a 'best practice' according to the question posed above, and the definition of best practices included in the [Definition](#) section.
- The submission must include details on the impact of the 'best practice' on people and/or the community.
- The submission must include a cost benefit analysis or an assessment of cost implications of putting the 'best practice' initiative into effect in other areas of healthcare or parts of the country.
- The submission must be evidence-based, well reasoned and well written.

How to Format Your Entry

List the following information on the title page of your submission (as well as on the entry form) and not on a separate document:

1. **Student Name(s):** Give all names if this is a team entry. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification. These are the names that will receive recognition if your submission wins an award. This information should also appear as a header on the top right-hand corner of each page of your entry along with the page number. Please note that teams may include no more than three (3) students.
2. **School:** Give the name of your institution (college or university) and department or program.



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

3. **Course Instructor:** Give the name and email address of your professor if this submission was assigned as part of a class assignment or the name of the department head of your field of study. We would like to be able to notify them if your entry wins a prize.
4. **Title of entry:** Choose a name that clearly describes your submission.
5. **250-word abstract:** Provide a 250-word abstract of your entry.

Use these section headings:

1. **Need/opportunity.** What need or opportunity did the best practice address? Clearly describe the issues faced, and outline any impact these issues had on the community. Highlight any formal or informal research findings that supported the analysis of the need or opportunity.
2. **Intended audience(s).** Identify the primary audience and any other audiences. What, if any, key audience characteristics were taken into account when developing the solution? Describe any research done on the audience.
3. **Goals and objectives.** Goals describe what the best practice project was designed to accomplish. Choose one or two key goals to describe in detail. Objectives should be measurable. These measures are often financial, but not always. For examples of objectives set and met, please refer to our podcasts at <http://canadavalueshealth.ca/podcasts>.
4. **Solution overview.** Outline the best practice project's solution and the logic that supported it. Tell us why they did what they did. Present the tactics used.
5. **Implementation and challenges.** Outline a cost benefit analysis or some assessment of the impact of the initiative. Discuss time frames. Describe any limitations or challenges faced when implementing the program.
6. **Measurement/evaluation of outcomes.** How were the project's results measured? Results must link back to the objectives and be shown to be valuable, thorough and convincing.

In addition to the information included in the 1500-word submission outlined above, entrants may if they wish, attach no more than ten (10) pages of supporting evidence to their submission. This might take the form of photographs, research results, documentation, media coverage or other items that highlight the process and/or success of the original best practice. Supporting evidence should be in a separate file and must be submitted in the email with the entry and entry form.

Technical specifications:

The minimum font size is 10-point on 8.5 by 11-inch paper or 21 by 29.7 centimetres. Use single column format with no less than half-inch margins (1.3 centimetres) on all sides.

Please note that all files must be submitted in .doc, .xls, .pdf, or .jpg formats and in the case of images, must be no larger than 750 pixels wide x 550 pixels in height, 72dpi.



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

Contest Rules:

Your entry must adhere to the following rules:

- All entrants must be registered at a Canadian college or university at time of entry.
- Must include all appropriate references.
- Team entries must be from no more than three (3) people.
- Must include all required elements: entry form, 250-word abstract, title page, and submission of no more than 1,500 words organized by [section headings](#) as per [format guidelines](#).
- Be received by email at innovationaward@healthcouncilcanada.ca no later than the contest entry deadline, 5p.m. on Thursday, December 16, 2010. All entries must be received electronically.
- Must have permission from the source of the best practice on which the entry is based.

Scoring Your Entry

Scores from four judges will be tallied. The entry with the most points in each category (individual and team) will win first place. The entry with the next highest points in each category (individual and team) will win second place.

View the [Scorecard](#) our judges will be using.



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

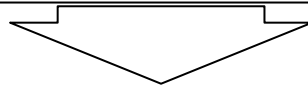
WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “BEST PRACTICES”?

“Practices” can be... programs, technologies, processes, frameworks, investment structures, incentive structures and funding models, quality improvement training and support, performance or evaluation schemes, governance and accountability mechanisms, delivery systems, or decision supports.

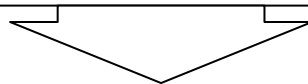
What makes them “best”? It is often a question of degree. See where your example “fits” in the definitions below. You may need to fill in some gaps in information yourself, to make your entry stronger. For examples of best practices please refer to our podcasts at <http://canadavalueshealth.ca/podcasts>.

Success stories:

1. Relevance to Canadians. The practice addresses a solution to a health care service, system or policy issue of concern to Canadians.
2. Relevance to jurisdictions. The practice relates to health issues or themes cited in the 2003 and 2004 First Ministers’ agreements.
3. User perception. The practice yields perceived tangible benefits for the patients, communities or populations it is designed to serve.
4. The practice/intervention comes from a credible source.
5. From an education and communications perspective, the practice lends itself to dissemination (e.g., communications material or messaging can be created around it; the practice can be illustrated, or otherwise recorded; patient participants and experts are available to discuss the program; confidentiality or other matters, including geography, that could inhibit the telling of the story are not prohibitive).

**Emerging practices:**

1. The practice has the potential to be well accepted and understood but is not necessarily widely known to decision-makers.

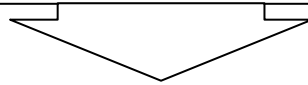




HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

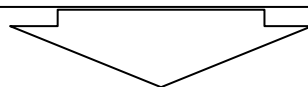
Leading practices:

1. User perception. The practice yields perceived tangible benefits that are greater for the patients, communities or populations it serves relative to similar individuals or groups in other parts of Canada.
2. Leadership. This practice seen as a leader in its field. There are few or no other competing practices that are preferred by some experts.
3. The practice demonstrates the potential to be scaled up to the systems level.



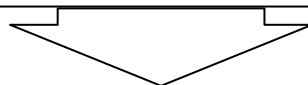
Innovative practices:

1. The practice meets a previously unresolved or identified need on the part of an individual, a population or a health system.



Promising practices:

1. The practice has been in operation for a significant length of time. It is considered “established” rather than “new.”
2. The practice has been in place in a significant number of settings as opposed to a single setting.
3. The practice is transferable and could be adapted for implementation in other clinical settings, communities or jurisdictions.
4. The practice is in process of receiving or has been allocated the necessary financial and human resources to operate on an on-going basis.
5. There is demonstrated support for the practice (“buy-in”) from relevant stakeholders.
6. Implementing the practice has contributed to insights or a body of knowledge considered by others with similar challenges to be valuable to their ability to address them.
7. Implementers of the practice are supported in their efforts to manage change in the development and improvement of the practice.





HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

Evidence-based practices/ Best practices:

1. Achieve results against measurable goals and objectives – The practice has been evaluated (assessed, reviewed or rated by experts in the field) against predetermined targets or benchmarks. The practice is shown to have produced significantly improved health outcomes, had a positive impact on health care outputs, or significantly improved the patient/user experience.
2. References related to the practice have been provided for validation.
3. The practice has been shown to be cost effective (e.g. efficient use of resources) or to produce cost savings elsewhere in the health care system or in related areas of government spending.
4. Evolutionary - Matrices and feedback loops have been established around the practice in order to continually monitor/measure outcomes and to support continuous quality improvement.
5. The practice appears to have been developed free of conflicted interests that may compromise the integrity of the resource or solution offered.
6. The practice is sustainable.



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

Entry title: _____

Student Name(s): _____

School: _____

Program: _____

 Entry fulfills contest rules.

Please mark each of the four categories out of ten, with 0 being the lowest and 10 being the highest.

BEST PRACTICE _____/10

Did the practice meet a previously unresolved or identified need on the part of an individual, a population or a health system in Canada?

Is the selected practice scalable to other communities?

Is the practice sustainable?

EVIDENCE BASED _____/10

Did the practice achieve results against measurable goals and objectives?

Were graphs/facts/data used to support the idea and demonstrate impact?

Were the appropriate references given?

WELL REASONED _____/10

Did the student's(s') research/evidence convince you that this practice should be a model for Canada?

Was there sufficient depth of explanation?

Were appropriate links made?

WELL WRITTEN _____/10

Were there spelling/grammatical mistakes in the submission?

Was the submission clearly and understandably written?

Was the submission compelling?



HEALTH **INNOVATION** AWARD

JUDGES COMMENTS

OVERALL SCORE (total score/4) =

Judge:

Date:

/10



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

Can I resubmit an entry from last year?

Last year's award question and this year's are very different. For that reason we do not recommend that you resubmit last year's entry. However, you could base your submission on a practice you identified last year if it meets this year's criteria.

Can I enter several different proposals?

You may submit as many entries as you wish. If you are entering several different projects, submit a separate entry form and package for each entry.

If my project was created by a team, which name do I use as the student name?

All students' names should be included.

How do I know if my entry has been received?

You will receive a confirmation email thanking you for your submission. If you do not receive an email within one working day, please contact innovationaward@healthcouncilcanada.ca.

How are entries judged and types of awards determined?

Judges evaluate entries on a 10-point scale with zero being the lowest score and 10 being the highest. View the [Scorecard](#).

How many awards will be presented?

There are a total of five prizes to be won. First place will be awarded to an individual and a team, for a total of two first prizes. In addition, two prizes will be granted to an individual and a team in second place. A fifth non-monetary prize will be awarded to the Student Ambassador who inspires the most entries from their school.

How are entries scored?

Winning entries must demonstrate thoughtful consideration of a best practice, results based on measured outcomes, must include an impact analysis and make a well reasoned case why this practice is a model for Canada. Please review the [Scorecard](#) for questions judges will ask as they review entries.

Do entrants receive feedback?

The shortlisted entries will receive a one-page evaluation form with consolidated scores from judges. All evaluation forms will be emailed to these entrants on or before May 30, 2011.



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

How are winners notified and recognized?

Award-winning entrants will be notified in the spring of 2011 by phone and recognized nationally on the Health Council of Canada website, including Facebook, and in our national e-newsletter. Winners will be invited to an awards ceremony to coincide with the Health Council of Canada's May meeting.

What happens to the entries once the competition is over?

Winning entries will appear on the Health Council of Canada website, including Facebook. Others will be kept on file for reference.

What if my best practice has already been reported?

As long as the practice has not already been the subject of a Health Council Canada podcast or video, then you are welcome to submit your entry on this subject.

How do I become an Ambassador?

If you're interested in becoming a Student Ambassador for your school the first step is to log into the Health Council of Canada's [facebook page](#). As there is only one student Ambassador at each school, you will be able to view all the Ambassadors who have signed up. If there isn't an Ambassador currently signed up for your school, you will need to complete the registration. Registration for an Ambassador position is on a first come, first serve basis.

If your school already has an Ambassador signed up, you will be able to connect with them to see if there is anything you can do to help promote the award.

As a Student Ambassador, am I considered an official representative?

Student Ambassadors are not representatives: the role of Ambassadors is to increase the number of entries in their school, not to represent their school or the Health Council of Canada.

Can I submit my entry to a Student Ambassador?

No, you must submit your entry, including the entry form, to innovationaward@healthcouncilcanada.ca by the deadline of 5p.m. on Thursday, December 16, 2010.

What are the roles and responsibilities of the Ambassadors?

Once you have registered as an Ambassador there are several key roles and responsibilities:

- To inspire the most entries from other students at your school.
- To generate awareness about the Award by:



HEALTH INNOVATION AWARD

- Become a fan of the Health Innovation Award Facebook page and send out ongoing status updates to your network
- Pass along the poster electronically
- Print and post the poster throughout school
- Speak to your class and other classes/professors in your department to promote the Award and the opportunity and leave the poster with the class.
- Distribute the contests Guidelines to the students who are interested in entering.

We'd also love to hear any of your creative and innovative ideas on how you will promote the contest to secure the most entries.

After promoting the Award, we ask you to provide ongoing estimates of the number entries you believe will be responding and send them to innovationaward@healthcouncilcanada.ca (if possible, please distinguish between entries that will be the result of class assignments or independent work).

We will keep you up to date on the number of students you help to register. We will also provide you with Twitter and Facebook messages for you to send to your network to help you inspire more students and further encourage those working on their entry.

If you have a question about the contest not answered here, please visit us at: www.healthcouncilcanada.ca/innovationaward where you can post your question on Facebook and we'll answer you promptly.