



## Please Mark Your Calendars & Join Us For A Presentation and Discussion

# *The Rapid Health Needs Assessment Tool for Small Urban Areas*

Neighbourhoods within the same city can experience very different levels of health status, health risk factors, and unmet need. However, the data needed to describe health disparities at the small-area level and inform targeted interventions is surprisingly scarce.

The *Rapid Assessment* survey tool was developed to assist health and social service providers and decision-makers with the assessment of health status and needs at the small-area level. It was designed to collect data on topics including health care use, health behaviours, and neighbourhood services. The tool includes measures related directly to health status and health behaviours, for example chronic conditions and smoking habits, but also provides data on income, education, housing, social support, and other social determinants that can influence the health of a community. The tool can answer questions such as:

- How healthy is my neighbourhood?
- Is there unmet need?
- What do residents feel are the top priorities to improve health and well-being in our community?

### **In this session, we will:**

- Introduce the project and objectives of the Rapid Assessment tool
- Present the results of our pilot study highlighting results from St. Jamestown and how they compare with the other study communities and the City of Toronto
- Show you how this tool could be used to conduct research in your own community

**Presenter: Dr. James Dunn:** Research Scientist at the Centre for Research on Inner City Health, St. Michael's Hospital; CIHR-PHAC Chair in Applied Public Health – Residential Neighbourhoods & Population Health; Assistant Professor, Dept. of Health, Aging, and Society, McMaster University; Fellow, Successful Societies Program, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research

**Date:** Tuesday November 17, 2009

**Time:** 10 a.m. – 12 noon

**Location:** Sherbourne Health Centre, Boardroom, 333 Sherbourne St., Toronto

**Telephone:** 416-324-4100

Refreshments & Healthy Snacks Provided

Space is limited. **Please RSVP by November 11, 2009 to:** Hilary Gibson-Wood  
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*Presentation is offered in collaboration with Sherbourne Health Centre*