



PLANETARY HEALTH WEEKLY

BRINGING YOU CURRENT NEWS ON GLOBAL HEALTH & ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS

October 22, 2015

Volume 1, Issue 33

NAFTA on Steroids: Consumer Groups Slam the TPP

Canada, US and 10 other Pacific Rim nations recently reached an agreement on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). It is a deal that prioritizes the needs and of multinational corporations, gives them special powers, and entrenches a failed development model. In the case of many new life saving drugs, it will delay the introduction of generic competition for years.

[Read More on democracynow.org](http://democracynow.org)



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Healthy Oceans Key to Fighting Hunger 2
Breastfeeding Prevents Smoking Relapse
Breast Cancer Striking Younger Chinese

Covering The Alps with Blankets 3
The Clean-Energy Moonshot
New Climate Change Group

From Helplessness to Action in Ethiopia 4
Cesarean Section's Risks Outweigh Benefits
First Nations Adults in Canada

Weekly Bulletin: QOTW & Events 5

FYI: CPHA on Human & Ecosystem Health 6

FYI: Jobs & Five Development Skills 7

FYI: Health Care Standards for Adolescents 8

Fossil Fuel Subsidies of Trillions of Dollars Per Year

The cost of fossil fuels is hidden because environmental harms such as pollution and global warming are kept outside ordinary economic calculation. Energy companies externalise these costs calculated at \$5.6 trillion; they don't pay them. The public does.

[Read More on TWN](#)





Healthy Oceans Key to Fighting Hunger

The west coast of South America, from the southern tip of Chile, past Ecuador, to northern Peru, creates one of the world's most productive marine ecosystems with approximately 20 percent of the world's fish catch. Ocean ecosystems are in serious danger: Around eight million tons of plastic bottles, bags, toys and other plastic waste is dumped into the oceans every year, killing innumerable marine animals and sea birds. The impacts of climate change, plastic waste pollution, illegal fishing and acidification threaten the oceans and their biodiversity.

[Read More on ipsnews.net](https://ipsnews.net)

Breastfeeding May Prevent Postpartum Smoking Relapse

Increase in tobacco consumption after the birth of a child may have harmful effects on both the mother and the infant, who is at higher risk of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. The only significant predictor in change in smoking behaviours for women who smoked during pregnancy was in those who breastfed their infant; women who breastfed their infants for at least 90 days smoked less in the months following childbirth than women who breastfed for a shorter period of time or who did not breastfeed at all, according to a new research study.

[Read More on ScienceDaily](https://www.sciencedaily.com)



Breast Cancer Striking Younger Chinese

A woman's reproductive history, the way she feeds her baby, the age of having the first child, life habits and stress are all major factors for the surge in breast cancer cases in China. There are more breast cancer patients in China who are less than 40 years old than in western countries.

Family history, delays in having children, avoiding breastfeeding, exposure to passive smoking, high consumption of animal oil and stress from work and life all contributed to the increase.

[Read More on ShanghaiDaily](https://www.shanghaidaily.com)



Covering The Alps With Blankets

The lifespan of a glacier is centuries-long; the twilight years, however, can go remarkably quickly. Such is the case for Switzerland's Rhone Glacier, only 10 percent of which is expected to remain by the end of the century. Some local residents, alarmed by the melting, have resorted to palliative care methods.. For the past eight years, owners of the land that is home to an ice cave carved into the Rhone glacier each year since 1870, have been covering the ice with blankets. The blankets, which protect the ice from the sun's radiation during the hot summer months, have been shown to reduce melting between 50 and 70 percent.

[Read More on Vice News](#)

The Clean-Energy Moonshot

According to Jeff Sachs pathways to a low-carbon future focus on three main actions: improving energy efficiency, producing electricity from low-carbon energy sources (such as solar and wind energy), and switching from petroleum to low-carbon energy for powering vehicles (such as electric or fuel-cell vehicles) and heating buildings. These are clear and achievable goals, and the public sector should play a major role in advancing them. But meeting these requirements presupposes advances in technologies that will enable low-carbon energy systems to compete with the alternatives.

[Read More on project-syndicate.org](#)



New Climate Change Group Forms: 'Vulnerable 20'

Twenty of the countries most vulnerable to climate change have formed a new group to press for tougher action to curb warming. Members include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, Maldives, Nepal, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Tanzania, East Timor, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Vietnam.

[Read More on Huffington Post](#)



From Hopelessness to Action in Ethiopia

The famine in Ethiopia in the 1980s was a catastrophic disaster, as drought and political instability plunged the country into a dire food shortage that affected millions. Since the famine more than 30 years ago, Ethiopia has made significant progress in fighting malnutrition, but there is still much to be done. One of the most urgent problems is childhood stunting. A staggering 44 percent of children in the country suffer from stunted growth, with devastating physical and mental consequences. These children struggle to learn in school and then can't get the jobs they need to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.

[Read More on Devex](#)

Cesarean Section on Request Risks Outweigh the Benefits

More and more mothers facing childbirth are asking for a cesarean. There are many reasons for this, ranging from the social and cultural to the personal, such as fear about the birth. Delivery by cesarean section is much more popular than it used to be. In 1991 a little over one delivery in six was by cesarean; now it is almost one in three. Cesarean section remains a surgical procedure, with the risks of various harms.

[Read More on ScienceDaily](#)



First Nations Adults in Canada are More than Twice as Likely to Die from Avoidable Causes

First Nations adults have more than twice the risk of dying under the age of 75 from avoidable causes than non-aboriginal people. Avoidable causes of death include injury and diseases such as tuberculosis, pneumonia and breast cancer. These are illnesses that can be treated successfully through early detection and screening.

[Read More on cbc.ca](#)

Photo: Lakota Chief Wanduta (Red Arrow) proudly wears an eagle feather bonnet which is symbolic of his high social and spiritual status. Photo by H.W. Gaud, 1913, in the National Archives of Canada (nativenorthwest.com).

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



"So many people in all countries, including this one we live in, are living just one illness or accident away from destitution. To have a goal of ending extreme poverty that doesn't take into account keeping people from plunging back into poverty just doesn't make sense."

Jim Yong Kim,
President of the World Bank

[Read More on theworldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

EVENTSTABLE

DATE	CONFERENCE	LOCATION	REGISTER
Oct 28	2015 Canada Gairdner Global Health Symposium	Toronto Canada	http://www.gairdner.org/
Nov. 5-7	Canadian Conference on Global Health 2015	Montreal Canada	http://www.csih.org/en/events/
Nov. 16-18	2015 Canadian Undergraduate Conference on Healthcare (CUCOH)	Kingston Canada	http://www.cucoh.com/about
Nov. 18-20	9th World Alliance For Risk Factor Surveillance (WARFS) & The Americas' Network for Chronic Disease Surveillance (AMNET) Global Conference 2015	St. John's Antigua	http://warfs15.squarespace.com
Nov. 25-27	7th Canadian Science Policy Conference 2015	Ottawa Canada	http://www.sciencepolicy.ca/
Apr 9-11	7th Annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference	San Francisco US	http://cugh.org/



[@PlanetaryWeekly](https://twitter.com/PlanetaryWeekly)



[@PlanetaryHealthWeekly](https://www.instagram.com/PlanetaryHealthWeekly)



[Planetary Health Weekly](https://www.facebook.com/PlanetaryHealthWeekly)

CONNECT WITH
Planetary Health Weekly



Canadian Public Health Association CPHA (2015)

Global Change and Public Health: Addressing the Ecological Determinants of Health

The content of this new report is intended to provide both a warning and a sense of hope. While for the most part it is worrying, it is not a message of doom and gloom. The hope lies in the fact that we do have options, in fact attractive options – individually and collectively – that, if embraced, could lead to a more just, more sustainable and healthier future for all. Moreover, many actions already being undertaken by people around the world to create that better future form a basis for hope, which is “the commitment to positivity in the face of adversity”.

Read More on cpha.ca



Looking for a Job in a Different Sector? Leverage These Five Development-Specific Skills

1. Adaptability and resilience
2. Resourcefulness
3. Cross-cultural skills
4. Local knowledge
5. Project management

[Read More on Devex](#)



Global Standards for Quality Health Care Services for Adolescents

Global initiatives are urging countries to prioritize quality as a way of reinforcing human rights-based approaches to health. Yet evidence from both high- and low-income countries shows that services for adolescents are highly fragmented, poorly coordinated and uneven in quality. Pockets of excellent practice exist, but, overall, services need significant improvement and should be brought into conformity with existing guidelines.

WHO/UNAIDS Global Standards for quality health care services for adolescents aim to assist policy-makers and health service planners in improving the quality of health-care services so that adolescents find it easier to obtain the health services that they need to promote, protect and improve their health and well-being.

[Read More on WHO](#)



Canada is now experiencing a natural wonder with all the Autumn colours. Supposedly there may be less red this year due to the very high and sustained summer temperatures.
(Hawkrigg Lane, off Highway 169, 20km south of Parry Sound, Ontario)

Adapted from The (TIFF) Review <http://tiff.net/respond>

We believe a powerful film or work of art or, email newsletter should generate a reaction. That's why we're thrilled when readers of this humble publication choose to reach out and tell us what they thought. If you've got something to say, please [SEND US A LETTER](#).

This Newsletter is FREE.

Planetary Health Weekly is an e-newsletter published by the
Planetary Health Commission at Ryerson University in Toronto, ON, CANADA.

To Subscribe/Unsubscribe: <http://planetaryhealth.ca/contact>

CONTACTUS



@PlanetaryWeekly



planetaryhealthweekly@gmail.com



@PlanetaryHealthWeekly



Planetary Health Weekly



planetary health commission

Editor: Dr. David Zakus
Email: dzakus@ryerson.ca

Production: Anna Oda

**Ryerson
University**

**Faculty of
Community
Services**

*Programs designed to transcend
disciplinary boundaries to find
lasting solutions to social issues.*

Child & Youth Care
Disability Studies
Early Childhood Studies
Midwifery
Nursing
Nutrition
Occupational & Public Health
Social Work
Urban & Regional Planning

350 Victoria St.
Toronto, ON
M5B 2K3