

First-in-Canada adult protection worker curriculum



Photo: Darren Kopetsky, regional director, Client Relations & Risk Management, VCH; and Sandra Parkins, director, Integrated Risk Management, Fraser Health Authority, attending the first facilitator training session.

June 9, 2011 Submitted by **Amanda Brown**, director, **Re:Act**

Every health authority employee has a responsibility to act in situations of abuse, neglect and self-neglect of vulnerable adults and now there is a unique resource in our toolkit to help us do this more effectively.

A Vancouver Coastal Health-Fraser Health partnership has resulted in an inter-professional collaborative practice curriculum for training adult abuse and neglect responders. This is the first curriculum of its kind in Canada.

Health authorities in BC are mandated to receive and investigate reports of abuse, neglect and self-neglect of vulnerable adults and 11 years of practicing within this legislative framework has informed the development of this new training program.

The training includes resources such as case studies, video clips and lectures and establishes competencies for staff functioning as adult protection workers in home and continuing care, mental health and acute/residential care.

Topics include:

- legislation
- investigating abuse
- financial abuse
- self-neglect
- care-planning
- ethical decision making
- capability and consent issues
- emergency intervention
- working with police, preparing to go to court
- compassion fatigue
- vicarious trauma

Who should take the course?

Staff that would benefit from this course include home and continuing care case managers, mental health case managers/therapists and acute and residential care social workers.

How can you take the course?

To mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, take the [Adult Abuse and Neglect Online Module](#).

Dates that the modules will be offered throughout VCH/PHC will be posted here regularly. To learn more about VCH's Re:Act program check our [page on VCH Connect](#).