This performance improvement plan is for one of the 21 core programs that comprise the provincial initiative to strengthen the public health infrastructure of all health authorities towards an evidence based core functions framework.

The purpose of this report is to describe the assessment of Fraser Health’s practices in the area of health assessment and disease surveillance (HA and DS) compared to the public health core model program, and outline Fraser Health’s plans to further develop its practices to better fulfill its role in health assessment and disease surveillance.

**Improvement Strategy**

Health Assessment and Disease Surveillance Core Program is integral to supporting core public health programs. This performance improvement plan aims to provide the infrastructure (i.e., human resources, processes and tools) needed to assess population health, monitor diseases and ultimately improve health. The key improvement strategies are to:

- Obtain organizational commitment to make the changes needed for health assessment and disease surveillance activities by FH as per best practices.
- Restructure and enhance FH health assessment disease surveillance resources to provide the number and type of dedicated staff and medical health officers needed to follow best practices as described by the core model program through a health observatory.
- Establish a strategic direction in keeping with the core model program to address the needs of the FH population and support the needs of the other core public health programs.
- Establish a program of concurrent and on-going incremental process improvements for health assessment and disease surveillance functions.
- Establish the analytic computing infrastructure needed by the health authority for health assessment disease surveillance as per best practices.
### Performance Improvement Targets—General Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal/ Outcome</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - To set a clear direction and establish the necessary organizational initiatives, structures and resources to support health assessment and disease surveillance within the health authority. | - A structure (health observatory) has been created for the coordination/management of HA & DS across programs.  
  - Lead management role/responsibilities for HA & DS have been designated.  
  - Identification of exactly what is needed from supporting departments (e.g., IT)  
  - FH has established the mechanisms to monitor and evaluate HA & DS activities | Health Observatory Roles designated  
Needs assessment Evaluation framework Strategic plan | April 2008  
May 2008  
June 2008  
December 2008 |
| | - HA & DS strategic plan is completed and includes:  
  - Flexibility to respond to government identified priorities and information.  
  - Identification of priority areas for improvement of HA & DS processes.  
  - The development of a project prioritization and decision making process. | Budget plan | Nov 2008 |
| | - Budget needs identified for HA & DS core program.  
  - Includes community engagement, human capacity development and specialized analytic computing capabilities. | | |
### Performance Improvement Targets —Priority Setting/ Data Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal/ Outcome</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - To further develop the capacity needed for data management to carry out HA & DS as per best practices. | - Establish a strategy with IM/IT to fulfill data management needs.  
- Unique community/regional data on specialized topics is collected as necessary.  
- Procedures for accessing data have been developed, implemented and posted on the internet. | Data strategy  
Data collected  
Procedures created/posted | December 2009  
December 2010  
January 2009 |
Performance Improvement Targets —Data Analysis/ Interpretation, Knowledge Exchange and Action/ Utilization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- To effectively engage internal and external stakeholders in health assessment and disease surveillance.</td>
<td>- A formal communication strategy and plan for engaging internal and external stakeholders in HA &amp; DS has been established.</td>
<td>Communication plan</td>
<td>December 2008</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Public information distributed includes:</td>
<td>Annual reports</td>
<td>March 2010</td>
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<td>- A Medical Health Officer annual report on the population health of FH</td>
<td>Stakeholder performance guidelines/tools</td>
<td>March 2009</td>
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<td>- Information / reports on two priority topic</td>
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<td>- To further develop the capacity needed to perform HA &amp; DS.</td>
<td>- The health observatory, in collaboration with other department/programs, will develop guidelines and tools to assist internal and external stakeholders in performing HA &amp; DS, as per best practices</td>
<td>Department planning tools</td>
<td>March 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- To enable key internal and external stakeholders (users and decision makers) to use HA DS information to improve program planning and decision making.</td>
<td>- The health observatory in collaboration with other departments/programs develops tools to assist in using HA &amp; DS information for planning and decision making.</td>
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