

Forms 2 and 5- Informed Consent and Study Information Document

Canadian Health Network Focus Group

November 6, 2006

ACTION for Health

Document Status:

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Published Paper | <input type="checkbox"/> Practitioner's Pointers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working Paper | <input type="checkbox"/> Briefing Note |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Tool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft | <input type="checkbox"/> Overview |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |

Prepared by:

Anne McCulloch

MA Student

Simon Fraser University

Document Contact:

Ellen Balka

School of Communication

Simon Fraser University

8888 University Drive

Burnaby, BC, Canada V5A 1S6

tel: +1.604.725.2756

email: ellenb@sfu.ca

website: www.sfu.ca/act4hlth/

SFU Institutional Repository: <http://ir.lib.sfu.ca/handle/1892/3701>



INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

Title of Project: Canadian Health Network and Use of Internet Health Information
Investigator Name: Anne McCulloch
Investigator Department: Communication

Project description: The overall goal of the study is to better understand how health information is gathered and used by Canadians so as to inform the design of policies and systems related to health information websites.

Procedures to be followed by researcher:

The researcher will provide participants with a description of the project and the type of information of interest to the researcher from prior meeting and e-mail communications. Participants will be asked to sign a consent form. With written participant consent, the researcher will conduct a focus group, which will be tape recorded. The researcher will use the materials collected through the focus group, prior communications and future communications for her Master of Arts thesis and other academic papers and presentations. Meeting minutes, the transcribed focus group and tape will be kept in a secured location, accessible only to project researchers.

Risks to research subjects:

Research participants may find some of the questions uncomfortable or challenging, or they may find the interview an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Benefits to the development of new knowledge:

Information from this study will assist researchers in understanding how Canadians gather and use health information. The study will lead to recommendations for how the Canadian Health Network may continue to develop this national service into a more useful source of health information for Canadians. The study findings will be shared with the Canadian Health Network and will be taken into consideration with the findings from other studies conducted by the ACTION for Health project.

Providing feedback and obtaining results:

To discuss concerns about the study or to obtain copies of the results of this study upon its completion, please contact Dr. Ellen Balka, School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6. You may also wish to submit the enclosed **Participant's Feedback Form**. In addition, you may register any complaints about the project with the researcher named above or with Dr. Martin Laba, Director of the School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6.



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
INFORMED CONSENT BY PARTICIPANTS IN A RESEARCH STUDY

Title of Project: Canadian Health Network and Use of Internet Health Information
Investigator Name: Anne McCulloch
Investigator Department: Communication

Simon Fraser University and those conducting this research study subscribe to the ethical conduct of research and to the protection at all times of the interests, comfort and safety of participants. This form and the information it contains are given to you for your own protection and full understanding of the procedures.

Your signature on this form will signify that you have received a document describing the procedures, possible risks and benefits of this research project, that you have received adequate opportunity to consider the information in the document, and that you voluntarily agree to participate in the project.

I have read the procedures specified in the document **Information Sheet for Participants**. I understand the procedures to be used in this research and the personal risks to me in taking part.

I understand that if I consent to participate in this project, I may withdraw my participation at any time. I also understand that I may refuse to participate in this project, and if I do refuse to participate in this project there will be no repercussions.

I understand that my employer's permission was not sought for my participation in this research and my employer may require me to obtain her or his approval prior to participating in this study.

I also understand that I may register any complaint I might have about the project with the researcher named above or with Dr. Martin Laba, Director, School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6.

By signing this form I am granting permission to be interviewed and for the use of information I provided in prior communications with the investigator, the nature of which was described to me by the investigator, as well as information I will provide in future communications with the investigator. I understand that the focus group will be tape recorded.

I choose to remain unidentified by name or employment position in research materials, but I understand the investigator cannot guarantee anonymity or confidentiality due to my employment position: _____
(please initial) OR

I choose to remain unnamed and identified only by employment position in research materials: _____
(please initial) OR

I choose to be identified by name and/or employment position in research materials: _____ (please initial)

I may obtain copies of the results of this study, upon its completion, by contacting: Dr. Ellen Balka, School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

WITNESS: _____ **DATE:** _____

ONCE SIGNED, A COPY OF THE CONSENT FORM AND FEEDBACK FORM SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE PARTICIPANT.