

## **PHEN Communiqué: December 2011**

Dear PHEN Member,

PHEN sends this *PHEN Communiqué* to members on a monthly basis, providing announcements and information on health ethics resources and events. If you do not wish to receive this monthly email bulletin, please reply to this email and write "unsubscribe" in the subject heading.

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### **PHEN Announcements and Events**

#### Job Posting: Programming Coordinator

PHEN is seeking applicants for the position of Programming Coordinator, based out of PHEN's Edmonton office. The position involves coordinating and collaborating on the development and delivery of new and ongoing projects and programmes, as well as a variety of administrative work. For more information, please visit <http://www.phen.ab.ca/bioethicsjobs/index.asp>

#### 2012 PHEN Memberships

PHEN members are invited to renew their memberships and update/ confirm their contact information for 2012. For more info on the benefits of being a PHEN member and to renew your membership, please visit <http://www.phen.ab.ca/membership/> or contact PHEN.

#### PHEN Staff Update

PHEN is pleased to welcome Linda DeLong, Executive Assistant based in Calgary, to the fold. Linda brings with her many years of experience in both the private and public sectors, building on many years as a public school teacher. She is keen to bring her talents to organizations that make a difference, and survived her first few days on the job at the Ethics Consultation Boot Camp in Banff, which says a lot! We welcome Linda and look forward to her contributions!

### **Other Announcements and Events**

#### Call for Abstracts: Canadian Bioethics Society Annual Conference

Montreal, QC: May 31 - June 2, 2012

The organizing committee of the Canadian Bioethics Society's 2012 Annual Conference is seeking abstract submissions for posters, presentations and workshops. The submission deadline is February 10, 2012. For more info, please visit <http://cbs-scb2012.com/submission/instructions-e.html>

#### Ethical Issues in Social Work: Looking After the Patient Who Keeps Coming Back

Edmonton, AB and via Telehealth: January 12, 2012, 12 - 12:50 pm  
Room 4511, Children's Centre, Royal Alexandra Hospital

Speaker: Katherine Duthie, Clinical Ethics Resident, Royal Alexandra Hospital. Register online at <https://vcscheduler.ca/schedule20/calendar/calendar.aspx?ID=1268> For more info, please contact Denise Hugman at 780.735.6910 or [denise.hugman@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:denise.hugman@albertahealthservices.ca)

## Health Ethics in the News

PHEN posts links to current news articles related to health ethics at <http://www.phen.ab.ca> - a few of the most recent articles are outlined below. Some of these sites require registration with the external website, but registration is free and only needs to be completed once.

Top 10 ethical questions Canadians should answer in 2012

<http://www.thestar.com/article/1106488--gallinger-top-10-ethical-questions-canadians-should-answer-in-2012>

Paying for bone marrow

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/sc-health-1228-bone-marrow-20111228,0,7771146.story>

Doctors take fight to remove man From life support to supreme court

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/12/22/doctors-take-fight-to-remove-man-from-life-support-to-supreme-court/>

Eating animals

<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2011/12/eating-animals/250179/>

Science, technology and values in undergraduate education

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-roth/science-technology-education\\_b\\_1149621.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-roth/science-technology-education_b_1149621.html)

US Bioethics panel urges system to compensate those hurt in medical experiments

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/bioethics-panel-urges-system-to-compensate-those-hurt-in-medical-experiments/2011/12/12/gIQARwLAvO\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/bioethics-panel-urges-system-to-compensate-those-hurt-in-medical-experiments/2011/12/12/gIQARwLAvO_story.html)

The placebo debate: Is it unethical to prescribe them to patients?

<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2011/12/the-placebo-debate-is-it-unethical-to-prescribe-them-to-patients/250161/>

Testing the ethics of genetic testing in sports

[http://www.cmaj.ca/site/earlyreleases/13dec11\\_testing\\_the\\_ethics\\_of\\_genetic\\_testing\\_in\\_sports.xhtml](http://www.cmaj.ca/site/earlyreleases/13dec11_testing_the_ethics_of_genetic_testing_in_sports.xhtml)

Having to think about the unthinkable

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-lopez-howyoudie-20111212,0,5568339.column>

Plan B ruling trumps good science with bad policy

<http://vitals.msnbc.msn.com/news/2011/12/07/9278579-bioethicist-plan-b-ruling-trumps-good-science-with-bad-policy>

Our microbiomes, ourselves

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/04/opinion/sunday/our-microbiomes-ourselves.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/04/opinion/sunday/our-microbiomes-ourselves.html?_r=1)

The Catholic church: A house divided?

[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445\\_162-57336316/the-catholic-church-a-house-divided/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-57336316/the-catholic-church-a-house-divided/)

It's too dangerous to allow others to kill us

[http://www.calgaryherald.com/story\\_print.html?id=5776735&sponsor=](http://www.calgaryherald.com/story_print.html?id=5776735&sponsor=)

Critical care: Spending 10 weeks with patients facing death

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health/end-of-life/critical-care-spending-10-weeks-with-patients-facing-death/article2250356/>

Groups frame climate as a moral cause

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/groups-frame-climate-as-a-moral-cause/2011/11/30/gIQAFABdEO\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/groups-frame-climate-as-a-moral-cause/2011/11/30/gIQAFABdEO_story.html)

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*The PHEN Communiqué is a publication distributed to members. PHEN members are encouraged to forward the Communiqué to their colleagues. Past issues of PHEN Communiqué can always be found on the PHEN website at <http://www.phen.ab.ca/communique.asp>*

*If you have a health ethics event or announcement to publicise, please email it to [middleton@phen.ab.ca](mailto:middleton@phen.ab.ca) for inclusion in an upcoming issue of PHEN Communiqué.*