

## **Safety Engineered Devices**

**Executive Sponsor:** Jan Currie

**Project Sponsor:** Carolyn Dekeyster

**Program/Dept:** Logistics/Occupational Health

**Project Manager:** Frank Krupka

**Start Date:** January 2005

**Finish Date:** September 2007

The purpose of this project is to develop and implement a plan to move to the use of safety engineered devices throughout the region. Safety engineered devices provide an option to the use of high-risk sharps currently in use such as needles and syringes, intravenous catheters and blood collection devices. It is generally accepted that a practice change to use of safety engineered devices will result in increased costs for the actual supply item, but will result in reduced costs associated with treatment of injuries caused by sharps. This project is consistent with the WRHA Board approved strategic plan which states: "by 2007 we will have improved occupation safety and health, culture and practices so that the numbers of claims and lost time is comparable or less than similar organizations." The Throne speech announcement of November 23rd, 2004 indicates the MB government "will spend up to \$1.5 million to make the use of safety needles mandatory in all provincial hospitals."