

ASI 2019 Forum

Forum IÉA 2019

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INCLUSION RECREATION

FRIENDS & PEERS

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AMIS ET PAIRS KATINGALAUTTA

DAME NATURE

GINOOEOEI OOLSOOTAGN

FAITH
TRANSPORTATION

Supportive Environments
for Child and Youth
Mental Health
Our Shared Responsibility!

August 19-21, 2019
University of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown, PEI



Des milieux favorables
à la santé mentale chez
les enfants et les jeunes
une responsabilité commune

du 19 au 21 août 2019
Université de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard
à Charlottetown (Î.-P.-É.)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The ASI Board of Directors wishes to acknowledge the public interest in this Forum and the amazing amount of work committed by all of the presenters, facilitators and panelists. We especially want to thank our partners and funders. We are optimistic that together we will meet our objectives and improve the mental health of children and youth in Atlantic Canada.

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ASI 2019 Forum - Final Program

University of Prince Edward Island
 School of Sustainable Design Engineering
 Charlottetown, PEI, Canada



Presentations will be made in both French and English, and simultaneous interpretation will be provided for many sessions. Headsets can be borrowed from the onsite interpreters.

Sunday, August 18

5:00 – 7:00	<p>Youth Leadership Program (registered youth delegates only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration • Meet and Greet • Youth Program Keynote Speaker <p><i>My journey as a Wolastoqew nurse</i> Isabelle Wallace, Registered Nurse, Madawaska Maliseet First Nation</p>	<p>Youth Leadership Program sponsored by</p> 
	<p>Isabelle Wallace is a Wolastoqew (Maliseet) Registered Nurse from the Madawaska Maliseet First Nation. She completed her Bachelor of Nursing degree at the Université de Moncton, and her Master’s in Nursing at the University of Ottawa.</p> <p>She has been involved within her own community and with various associations such as the Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association (CINA) and the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA). She also took part in the “One Million in One Year for Indigenous Nursing Education & Research” fundraising campaign of the Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF). In 2018, she appeared as a witness at the House of Common’s Standing Committee on Health (HESA) for the Diabetes strategies in Canada and abroad.</p> <p>Her devotion and commitment towards Indigenous health were recognized from various organizations. In 2016, she was recognized from Health Canada for her volunteering, leadership, interest in innovation and academic excellence in undergraduate studies. Finally, she was nominated as one of Canada’s 150 Nurses for Canada and as one of 200+ Francophone Women Leaders in Global Health.</p>	

Monday, August 19

9:30 – 4:00	<p>Youth Leadership Program – (registered youth delegates only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mapping Leadership Pathways; Building Networks</i> Jillian Kilfoil, PEI Women’s Network • <i>Leadership for Youth Mental Health; Links with the Sustainable Development Goals</i> Rachel Morgan, Atlantic Council for International Cooperation
12:00 – 6:15	<p>GENERAL REGISTRATION - School of Sustainable Design Engineering, University of PEI</p>

6:30 – 9:00	<p>OFFICIAL OPENING - Rm 128 A/B, UPEI School of Sustainable Design Engineering</p> <p>Master of Ceremonies – Malcolm Shookner, ASI President, Board of Directors</p> <p>Welcome – Patsy Beattie-Huggan, ASI Coordinator</p> <p>Opening –Julie Pellissier-Lush, Poet Laureate, Prince Edward Island</p> <p>Traditional Drumming – Mi’kmaq Heritage Actors Youth</p> <p>Remarks by Officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome from the Province of PEI – Premier Dennis King • Welcome to UPEI - Ms. Jackie Podger, Vice-President, Administration and Finance • Greetings from CMHA PEI – Reid Burke, Executive Director • Greetings from TD, title sponsor – Jeff Likely, Manager <p>Atlantic Community Showcase Overview – Kirsten McKnight, ASI Consultant Two minute pitches celebrating progress on the ASI Call to Action</p> <p>Profile of Child and Youth Mental Health in Canada Ed Mantler, Vice President, Programs and Priorities, Mental Health Commission of Canada</p> <p>Welcome from City of Charlottetown & Keynote Introduction – Mayor Philip Brown</p> <p>Keynote Address</p> <p><i>Welcoming Communities – Space and place for peace and wellbeing!</i></p> <p>Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed, Public Health Physician, Nova Scotia</p> <p>Simple acts of welcome could create complex and productive well-being outcomes in our Maritime communities.</p> <p><i>Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed is a Royal College certified specialist in Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM), having completed her post graduate medical education in this field at McMaster University in 2005. She is also certified in Family Medicine. She is a passionate advocate for the role public health can play in advancing health equity.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Watson-Creed is a PEI native and received chemistry degrees from UPEI and University of Guelph before attending Dalhousie University for her MD in 1995. Although her current major role is as Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health for the province of Nova Scotia, she holds and has held several other key population health roles during her career. She is currently the Assistant Dean of Serving and Engaging Society for Dalhousie University’s Faculty of Medicine, a new portfolio created in 2018, through which she hopes to create new opportunities for the medical school to catalyze much-needed change in the health care system and partner with communities to improve outcomes in health. She is also Chair of the Board of Engage Nova Scotia, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving Nova Scotia’s place in the world. She sits as chair or member of several population health councils and boards nationally, including the examination Board for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and is co-chair of the Advisory Council to the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health. She is a member of the CIHI Advisory Council on Population Health and advocates for high quality and well organized public health services in Canada.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Watson-Creed is a dedicated leader and in 2013, she received the Nova Scotia Public Health Champion Award. She was a member of the One Nova Scotia Coalition, which was the round table charged with responding to the state-of-the-Nova-Scotia-economy report laid out by the One Nova Scotia Commission (The Ivany Report), and received the William Grigor award for achievement in medicine from Doctors Nova Scotia</i></p> <div style="text-align: right;">   </div>
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in 2017. In 2018 she was awarded the President's award from Public Health Physicians of Canada for her advocacy regarding population health systems and services in Canada. She is a mom, wife and fitness instructor, and unwinds through building, sewing, gardening, baking and dance in her spare time.

Thank you from Heather Morrison, Chief Health Officer for the Province of Prince Edward Island.


Question and Answer Period



Reception and Atlantic Community Showcase

- 1) *Preparing Youth and Families for Tomorrow, While Engaging them Today!* - Andrew Culberson and Tricia Berry, New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
- 2) *Using your WITS in Canadian Schools* - Andy Telfer, WITS Programs Foundation
- 3) *211 for Prince Edward Island – Connecting need and help* - David Webster, United Way of Prince Edward Island
- 4) *The Blue Door: Working with youth to exit the sex trade including sexual exploitation and sex trafficking* - Kerri Rowe and Kaley Hogan, Thrive
- 5) *Children Affected by Crime – How can you help?* - Louise Leonardi, Canadian Families and Corrections Network
- 6) *Engaging Youth with Global Issues through the Sustainable Development Goals* - Rachel Morgan, Atlantic Council for International Cooperation
- 7) *Making the Shift: Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab* - Stephen Gaetz, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Melanie Redman, A Way Home Canada
- 8) *Climate Diary: An Online App to Track Climate Change in PEI* - Xander Wang, School of Climate Change and Adaptation, University of Prince Edward Island
- 9) *PATHS® to SEL in Atlantic Canada* - Anna-Lisa Mackey, PATHS Program
- 10) *Multi-level approach to strengthening protective factors: the key to developing resilience during early childhood* - Renée Smith and Cynthia Ferguson, Vitalité Health Network **Presentation will be delivered in French. Interpretation headsets available.*



Music by Isaac Williams and Gabriel Vizcaíno

Tuesday, August 20

<p>8:30 – 8:45</p>	<p>Welcome & Program Overview - Rm 128 A/B, UPEI School of Sustainable Design Engineering (SDE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to flow of the Forum, celebrating progress on the Call to Action • Introduction to <i>Energizing Moments</i>: Making the mind-body connection for positive mental health! <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>'Energizing Moments' sponsored by</p>  </div>
<p>8:45 – 9:30</p>	<p>Interactive Opening – Rm 128 A/B SDE</p> <p><i>Social Determinants of Health – Environments and Mental Health</i></p> <p>Marie-Claude Roberge, Scientific Advisor, Mental health promotion, Institut national de santé publique du Québec</p> <p>This presentation will discuss the utility of an analytical framework focused on the social</p>

	<p>determinants of health to create environments that promote good mental health in which youth can thrive, be successful and engaged. <i>*Presentation will be delivered in French. Interpretation headsets available.</i></p> <p>The characteristics of the physical, socio-cultural, economic and political environments present in settings of daily life (family, municipalities, school, work, etc.) are determinants of health on which we must act if we want to promote mental health. From real-life situations and interactions, participants will be invited to consider actions and resources to be put in place in youths' settings to promote their mental health.</p> <p><i>Marie Claude Roberge has a master degree in sociology of health and has more than 25 years' experience in the field of health promotion. She has been a scientific advisor at the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ) since 2004. She first worked on the team in charge of designing and deploying the Healthy Schools approach in Quebec. Since 2012, she has been responsible for mental health promotion and suicide prevention. The work done at the INSPQ is aimed at supporting the Ministry of Health as well as public health stakeholders and their partners in order to improve knowledge and optimize practices, particularly by producing knowledge syntheses and conducting knowledge transfer activities.</i></p> 
<p>9:30 – 10:30</p>	<p>Opening Panel – Rm 128 A/B SDE Exploring Spaces and Places for Mental Health</p> <p><i>Panelist will speak to the impact of social, virtual and physical environments (built and natural) on child and youth wellbeing – each panelist with a particular focus. As each environment is explored for its impact, Forum participants will be equipped with information they can debate and discuss as they apply it to various settings in a World Cafe that follows.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Trevor Hancock, Professor and Senior Scholar (retired), School of Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erika Michaud, ED, Federation of Acadian Women of Nova Scotia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social Environments <i>*Presentation will be delivered in French. Interpretation headsets available.</i> • Kathryn Hill, ED, MediaSmarts, Canada's centre for digital and media literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Virtual Environments • Ashlee Consolo, Labrador Institute, Memorial University of Newfoundland (video) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural Environments • Inge Roosendaal, Program Development Officer & Planner, Ottawa Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Built Environments <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Sponsored by</p>  </div>
<p>10:30 – 10:55</p>	<p>'Mix & Mingle' Break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit Community Showcase exhibits

<p>10:55 – 12:00</p>	<p>World Café - Unpacking the theme - Rm 128 A/B, UPEI School of Sustainable Design Engineering</p> <p><i>The World Café will help participants explore themes presented during the opening plenary sessions. Tables will be focused on a particular setting (e.g. home, school, neighbourhood, workplace, college) and discussions will address the impact and integration of social, natural, built and virtual environments in those settings.</i></p>
<p>12:15 – 1:15</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>1:30 – 3:00</p>	<p>Concurrent Sessions Updating the Evidence - Presentations and Conversations</p> <p><i>Five concurrent sessions will be offered in thematic areas. Each session will feature three presenters who will have 15 minutes to share evidence that complements and adds to our understanding of supportive environments for child and youth mental health. Presentations will be followed by general discussion on the following questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How does this work fit into and advance the ASI Call to Action?</i> • <i>What are the implications for upstream investment and a whole society approach to mental health promotion?</i> <p><i>Results of these discussions will be included in the final plenary session on August 21st.</i></p> <p>1) Empowerment and Resilience – Rm 128 A/B SDE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Imagine NB: Empowering Young Leaders</i> - Arianne Melara Orellana, New Brunswick Multicultural Council b. <i>Building Resilience Promoting Contexts: The role of service providers</i> - Linda Liebenberg, Everfair Research & Evaluation; Daphne Hutt-Macleod, Eskasoni Mental Health c. <i>Early bird gets the worm – Early childhood as a critical period for the development of resilience</i> - Renée Smith and Cynthia Ferguson, Vitalité Health Network <i>*Presentation will be delivered in French. Interpretation headsets available.</i> <p>2) Family Crisis and Adjustment – Rm 106 Health Sciences Building</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Support Through the Impact of Crime</i> - Louise Leonardi, Canadian Families and Corrections Network b. <i>"I just hope this doesn't damage the kids too much"</i> - <i>Understanding the impacts of Mobile Labor on Children in Atlantic Canada</i> - Dr. Christina Murray, University of Prince Edward Island; Dr. Doug Lionais, Cape Breton University <p>3) School Settings and Strategies – Rm 104 Health Sciences Building</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Mental Health Literacy</i> - Maribeth Rogers Neale, Department of Education & Lifelong Learning b. <i>If every school supports Comprehensive School Health, what does that look like?</i> - Katherine Kelly, Pan-Canadian Joint Consortium for School Health c. <i>School Violence, Mental Health, and Education Performance in Uganda</i> - Susan Nambejja, Malcolm Childrens' Foundation <p>4) Nurture and Nature – Rm 105 Health Sciences Building</p>

	<p>a. <i>In these woods – wonder, discovery, adventure</i> - Alex Smith, PlayGroundology</p> <p>b. <i>Infant and Early Mental Health – the influence on later health outcomes</i> - Chaya Kulkarni, Hospital for Sick Children</p> <p>c. <i>A Foodie's Perspective: SEL is a 4 Course Meal!</i> - Anna-Lisa Mackey, PATHS Program</p> <p>5) Having a place called home – the impact – Rm 205 SDE</p> <p>a. <i>"At-risk Youth"- Journey to Wellness</i> - Sarah Brown, Case Manager, St. John's Homestead Inc.</p> <p>b. <i>Preventing Youth Homelessness: Enabling Lived Experience to Guide Policy, Planning and Practice</i> - Stephen Gaetz, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Melanie Redman, A Way Home Canada</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by VERAFIN</p>
<p>3:00 – 3:30</p>	<p>Ice Cream Break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COWs Ice Cream • Community Showcase, Exhibits <p style="text-align: center;">Sponsored by </p> <p>Author's Corner with Sheree Fitch, award winning Atlantic Canadian author, poet, and owner of Mable Murple's Book Shoppe & Dreamery</p> 
<p>3:30 – 5:00</p>	<p>Experiential Learning Workshops</p> <p><i>The Experiential Workshops are a new feature for ASI 2019 designed to satisfy a yearning to learn about such topics as Indigenous knowing and healing, creative writing, self care, and enhancing social and emotional skills in our daily lives. Unlike the Concurrent Sessions that focus on evidence (the head) or the Concurrent Skills Workshops (focus on action – the feet), these workshops are designed to engage the heart and soul of participants and inspire new insights and skills for personal and professional development. The workshop presenters are knowledgeable, wise and experienced in facilitating diverse groups.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Knowing and healing: Engaging in traditional healing practices to advance the Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action – Outdoor walking tour on the <i>Rails to Trails</i> nature trail. Meet at the ASI registration desk, dressed for outdoor weather. * Limit of 25 participants Tuma Young, Assistant Professor, Mi'kmaq Studies, Cape Breton University 2) Care of the Self: An application of choice theory - an interactive session on caring for your own needs as you foster supportive environments for child and youth mental health – Rm 105 HSB Alice Taylor, Early Childhood Development Association of PEI / Handle with Care Program 3) Social and Emotional Learning for adults – Rm 205 SDE Ellen Coady and Rhonda McKinnon, NL Department of Education and Early Childhood Development


	<p>4) Writing Towards the Light: Contemplative Writing and JOY! – Rm 106 HSB Sheree Fitch, Author and Poet</p> <p>5) Be the Change You Want to See: Exploring the Sustainable Development Goals with a Social Emotional Lens – Rm 104 HSB Andrew Culberson, New Brunswick Department of Education and Childhood Development</p>
6:00 – 6:30	Garden Tour (optional) – PEI Farm Centre, 420 University Avenue
6:30 – 8:30	Multicultural Dinner – PEI Farm Centre, 420 University Avenue
9:00	Restorative Yoga with Derrick Biso

Wednesday, August 21

8:30 – 8:45	<p>Welcome - Rm 128 A/B, UPEI School of Sustainable Design Engineering (SDE) Setting the Stage for Our Final Day</p> <p>Energizing Moments</p>
8:45 – 10:00	<p>Panel – Rm 128 A/B SDE Indigenous Ways of Working with Community</p> <p><i>This panel will help us to learn about Indigenous approaches to community collaboration, provide insight to concerns of Indigenous communities and share ways to contribute to well-being. Objectives for the panel were determined by an Indigenous Advisory Group which was formed this year to advise on the cultural components of the 2019 ASI Forum. This group has representation from Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Inuit communities. Panelists were invited to speak on topics which are guided by objectives set by this group.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To familiarize Forum participants with the seven sacred teachings as the basis of decision making and policy for First Nations - the importance of community, nature and respect for the earth To familiarize forum participants about principles of Inuit ethics and engagement To educate Forum participants about “Two-eyed seeing” in creating supportive environments – integration of western and indigenous world views To increase understanding of alternate healing processes and the role of nature in supporting Indigenous clients in the justice system, health system, and for addressing PTSD and intergenerational trauma <p>Moderator: Cheryl Simon, Lawyer; Policy and Operations Manager, Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc.</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judy Clark, Mi'kmaq Elder in Residence, UPEI Julie Bull, Research and Policy Consultant, NunatuKavut Community Council Albert Marshall, Elder and advocate Andrea Colfer, Resolution Health Support Worker, Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat



10:00 – 10:20	Creativity Break
10:30 – 11:45	<p>Concurrent Workshops <i>Developing skills to serve as a steward for supportive environments</i></p> <p><i>Six concurrent workshops will be offered to enhance skills in practice and policy that support environments to promote population child and youth mental health through the life course.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Supporting Newcomer Youth in Achieving Education and Employment Goals</i> – Rm 104 HSB Abby David, New Brunswick Multicultural Council 2) <i>A school district’s collaborative journey in creating a comprehensive sexual violence policy</i> [Intersectoral Policy Development] – Rm 205 SDE Tanya Whitney, Anglophone School District West, New Brunswick 3) <i>Developing Your Community Strategy to End Youth Homelessness: Case Studies and Tools from A Way Home Canada, Saint John and St. John’s</i> [Community Planning] – Rm 106 HSB Mary-Jane McKitterick & Bruce Pearce, A Way Home Canada; Greg Bishop, Saint John Human Development Council 4) <i>Supporting grieving children in the classroom; Lessons learned from the experts - grieving children and teens</i> – Rm 105 HSB Dawn Cruchet, Madawaska Valley Hospice Palliative Care 5) <i>Priorities in early childhood mental health – Looking forward to a national agenda</i> – Rm 128 A/B SDE Brandon Hey, Mental Health Commission of Canada <i>*Presentation slides in French and English. Interpretation headsets available.</i> 6) <i>An Intercultural Approach to Gender-based Violence Prevention in Newcomer Communities</i> – Rm 202 SDE Briana Miller, Zahra Dhubow Halifax YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs
11:45 – 12:00	Break and set-up for luncheon
12:00– 2:00	<p>Luncheon – Rm 128 A/B SDE <i>The Power of Us – Stewards of our Environments Today!</i></p> <p><i>The Power of Us Luncheon Program invites community leaders to join delegates of ASI 2019 for lunch, listen to a panel of youth activists, and engage in conversation to explore how we can collectively foster environments that support societal mental well-being today and for future generations.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Michele Dorsey, Children’s Commissioner and Advocate, PEI</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emma Lee Lyon, student, Westisle Composite High, PEI <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Sponsored by</p>  </div>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holly Griffin, athlete, Special Olympics PEI • Lyndsay Vandewater, Program Support Assistant, Atlantic Council for International Cooperation <p>Roundtable discussions with youth</p>
2:00 – 2:15	Wellness Break and Energizing Moment
2:15 – 3:00	<p>Closing Panel – Rm 128 A/B SDE <i>Momentum for working together in Atlantic Canada and beyond!</i></p> <p><i>Panelists will reflect on presentations and conversations held during the Forum and how the work accomplished at ASI 2019 can serve as a spark for national discussions (as well as how national work can spark further work in the Atlantic region). Each panelist will reflect on links with their work both regionally and nationally.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by Atlantic Superstore Charlottetown</p>  <p>University Ave / Belvedere Ave.</p> <p>Moderator: Doug Currie, VP Corporate Services, Holland College; Former PEI Minister of Education, Health and Wellness, and Family and Human Services</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Mustard, Municipal Councillor Inverness County Cape Breton • Isabelle Wallace, Registered Nurse, Madawaska Maliseet First Nation <i>*Presentation will be delivered in French. Interpretation headsets available.</i> • Trevor Hancock, Professor and Senior Scholar (retired), School of Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria • Pamela Magee, Executive Director, Canadian Mental Health Association, Nova Scotia
3:00 – 3:30	<p><i>Creating a future together – what’s next?</i> – Rm 128 A/B SDE</p> <p>Moderator: Malcolm Shookner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have we learned together? • Where can we go from here? • Evaluation
3:30 – 4:00	<p>Closing – Rm 128 A/B SDE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Messages from the Youth Leadership Program delegates • Children’s Program presentation • Closing Circle – Julie Pellissier-Lush <p>Departure – Goodbye, friends!</p>

The ASI Children’s Program is supported by the PEI Department of Education and Lifelong Learning.





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The Quaich Inc. / The Circle of Health



What is the Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy & Safe Communities?

The Atlantic Summer Institute (ASI) is a bilingual, not-for-profit organization established in 2003, and incorporated in Prince Edward Island in 2008 with a mission to serve as a catalyst for social change, ultimately resulting in more inclusive and sustainable Atlantic Canadian communities. ASI is managed by a board of directors with representatives from the four Atlantic provinces.

How are we a catalyst?

Annually, ASI hosts events which bring together innovators and those organizations which strive for social change through public policy and community action. These events include full-scale learning institutes, symposiums, and regional workshops. The focus of these events is based on priority areas identified by our participants. Past priority areas have included: diversity and inclusion; gender and community leadership; democracy and social justice; and literacy.



We believe that public policy and programs can benefit from the application of three sources of evidence: **research, best practices and lived experience**. ASI brings innovative practitioners of these sources together with those who affect public policy and programs in a dynamic and accessible learning environment. All ASI programming reflects the diverse perspectives of communities and individuals who are engaged in strengthening Atlantic communities.



ASI is committed to mentoring the next generation of Atlantic Canadian change leaders. Each full-scale, bilingual, learning event includes a Youth Leadership Program component that focuses on skill development in the areas of social justice and community engagement. We also work closely with youth in the development of our learning events.

In conjunction with many of our learning events, a parallel Children's Program is included, which reduces barriers to participation for adult ASI attendees. It also provides our youngest change leaders with opportunities to learn, be creative, and engage with each other in a fun program designed to reflect the theme of the adult program. Drawing on the Circle of Health – a collaborative teaching

tool that includes the Ottawa Charter on Health Promotion, the social determinants of health and the Aboriginal Medicine Wheel – we bring practitioners, innovators, public servants, academics and community leaders together to learn and support each other to create a more sustainable and inclusive Atlantic Canada.

What is our current priority area?

In 2014, we heard from our networks that there was a great need to address the way public policy and programs support child and youth mental health. Since then, our programs have focused on this topic with ASI 2017 resulting in a Call to Action for investment upstream in child and youth mental health promotion. The Call was built on evidence from research, review of government and pan-government reports, and the voice of civil society at ASI 2017. It calls for action on 5 key areas of Policy, Programs, Practice, Research & Knowledge Exchange, and Networks. Since 2018, ASI has been taking steps to mobilize this Call to Action.

Why is our work important?

The Atlantic Summer Institute is the only bilingual learning institute in Atlantic Canada that acts as an incubator for community groups, educators, health practitioners and researchers, government representatives, parents/caregivers, and youth to collaborate on regional issues. We encourage intergenerational mentorship within our programs, and are committed to creating a culture of exchange and support between established and emerging community leaders.

Visit www.asi-iea.ca for more information.

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