

MEDIA ADVISORY



ASI 2020 Online Atlantic Policy Forum on Mental Health Promotion
August 24 – 26

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, issues of mental health and community wellness are especially relevant and important. From August 24 to 26, policy makers, health practitioners, academics, educators, Indigenous leaders, youth leaders and the general public will come together to discuss youth mental health in the context of COVID-19. The 2020 Atlantic Summer Institute for Healthy and Safe Communities will focus on 'Upstream Investment in Mental Health Promotion: The Solution to the Mental Health Crisis'.

ASI 2020 is the sixth event in a series focusing on mental health promotion in Atlantic Canada. This year's online policy forum will feature Keynote speaker **Trish Hennessy**, Director of Think Upstream, a project of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) that is dedicated to policy solutions that foster a healthy society and community wellbeing. A presentation about policy and its role in transformative change will be explored using the Two-Eyed Seeing approach, featuring: **Albert Marshall, Elder** from the Moose Clan of the Mi'kmaw Nation, Eskasoni First Nation, Unama'ki- Cape Breton, Nova Scotia; **Claire Betker**, Scientific Director of the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health; and **Brenda Restoule**, CEO of the First People's Wellness Circle. The Forum will feature presentations and panels from **over 30 experts and community leaders**, skill development workshops, roundtables facilitated by **A Way Home Canada**, and a **Youth Leadership Program!**

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| What | ASI 2020 Online Policy Forum (Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities) |
| Where | Online through the exciting new Whova platform! |
| Highlights | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Monday, August 24<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 6:30 - 8:30 pm – Opening Ceremony (Open to the public). Includes Keynote address and Atlantic Community Showcase of local projects that have influenced policy– Tuesday, August 25<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 8:45 - 9:30 am – Let's Talk Policy! The Call for Transformative Change○ 9:30 - 10:15 am – Evidence for Upstream Policies that Promote Mental Health– Wednesday, August 26<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 9:00 – 10:00 am – Let's Talk More than Economics! Let's Talk Quality of Life!○ 12:45 - 1:30 pm – Economics as if Wellbeing Mattered! |

To view the full ASI 2020 program, visit www.asi.iea.ca. For more information or to schedule an in-person or telephone interview with a presenter or ASI representative, contact:

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