



# Community Viewpoints

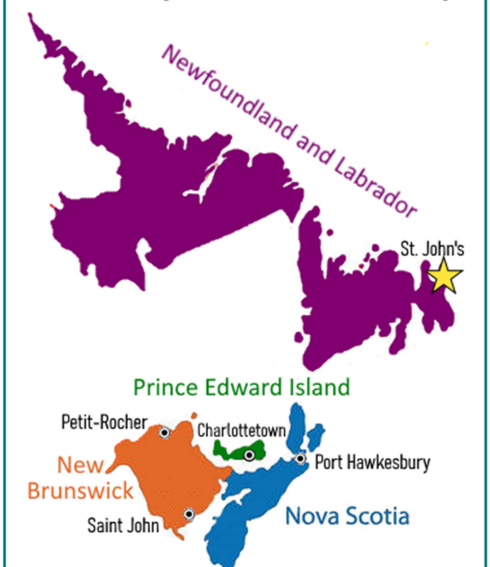
Community Workshop - St. John's, NL - February 24, 2023

**18** participants  
**40%** prior knowledge of ASI's work

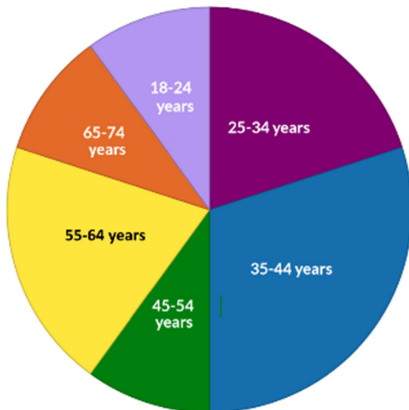


## LOCATION

### Community In-Person Workshops



## AGE



## DIVERSITY



### Regional Online Workshops



The Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities (ASI) is a bilingual, not-for-profit organization with a mission to serve as a catalyst for social change, ultimately resulting in more inclusive and equitable Atlantic Canadian communities.

The workshops introduced participants to the ASI policy brief, 'Upstream Investment – Placing child and youth mental health promotion at the forefront' and gave an opportunity to explore initiatives happening in their community and innovative models from other regions.



# What participants had to say...

## St. John's, NL

### Quotes:

"We need to be proactive vs reactive – why do we pour so much money into the reactive pot when we could redistribute and be more proactive?"

"There can't just be lip service, there needs to be a plan, the will and policies that allow conversations between organizations – sometimes our systems don't allow for collaboration. Need to build collaboration capacity. Collaboration is not just conversation – there has to be a structure."

"Are initiatives upstream if they aren't safe for 2SLGBTQIA+ and BIPOC/Racialized people?"

"Everyone is doing this off the side of our desks – we need an organizer."

"We need to create relationships almost more than connections – more likely to continue any sort of relationship."

"Collaborative work gets easier over time; it's building a relationship – trust takes time."

### Common Themes:

Importance of having accessible and supportive spaces for organized, facilitated, intergenerational and intercultural events promoting sharing between community members and organizations.

### ...and Barriers:

Lack of access to support and resources: (space, culturally specificity, transportation, technology, etc.)

Lack of: sharing and communication, continuity and/or motivation, effective community leadership.

### Considerations Going Forward:

Transformative change will require leaders at all levels to undertake fundamental changes in the way we connect, share, do work together, and care for one another.



### Commitments to Action:

Expand on the partnership with ASI and promote the youth leadership program to the GoGetters.