Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities



l'Institut d'été sur les collectivités sûres et en santé au Canada atlantique

Community Viewpoints

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

N/A participants Health Other prior **SECTOR** knowledge of ASI's work Education **Social Policy AGE DIVERSITY** Canadian Participants self-identified in multiple categories: Person with a disability 25-34 years LGBTQIA2S 55-64 years Black 35-44 years 45-54 vears African White

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.

LOCATION





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.



ASI is grateful for the support received for this project through partnerships with the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health, the Community Sector Council of Newfoundland & Labrador and their Go-Getters Program, and funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada's Intersectoral Action Fund.



National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health

Centre de collaboration nationale des déterminants de la santé

