



Community Viewpoints

Community Workshop - Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia - December 5, 2022

57
participants

This was the first of five community workshops. It proved to be a pilot and the next workshops benefitted from lessons learned by collecting demographic information and adjusting the agenda.

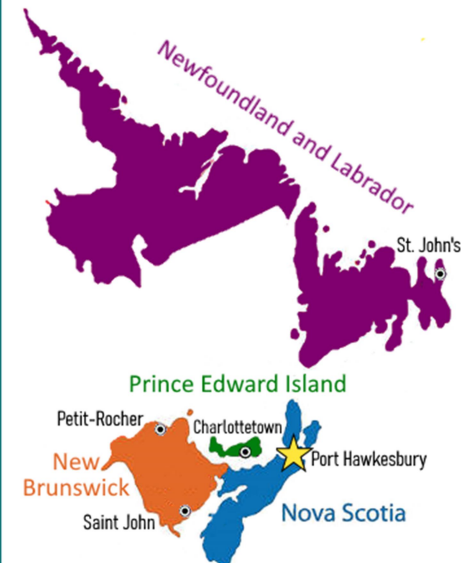


DIVERSITY

Mi'kmaq
Acadian
Scottish descent
...and more

LOCATION

Community In-Person Workshops



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...

Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia

Quotes:

“Every member of the family and community is equal.”

“The magic of the day was found through the connections and stories people who gathered shared. It has been a while since many of us have been with such a diverse group of people and it affirmed for me that no matter what the issue or opportunity is, gathering as a community, is the only true way forward.”

“It’s not just IF services are available, it’s: how can we make those services more available?”

“Communities have a hub. There’s a community space everywhere (a hall). Need operational funding to keep the lights on in the current buildings, instead of capital funding for new buildings.

“Share today with other communities – an idea that can grow.”

Common Themes:

Importance of age appropriate, welcoming, and inclusive community-led activities.

...and Barriers:

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

Lack of sharing and communication (partly due to isolation), and continuity.

Considerations Going Forward:

Transformative change will require leaders at all levels to undertake fundamental changes in the way we build public policy.



Commitments to Action:

Build a network to enhance community well-being.

Raising the Villages will:

- continue supporting ASI’s work to create a case and advocacy for a sustainable funding model for long-term investment in upstream community mental health and well-being.
- reach out to more communities to learn about successful initiatives and interest or capacity to develop an integrated hub pilot.
- work with community partners in We’koqma’q to hold a follow-up workshop.
- seek political and funding support to pilot community hubs.



ASI is grateful for the support received for this project through partnerships with the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health, Raising the Villages, and funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada’s Intersectoral Action Fund.



National Collaborating Centre
for Determinants of Health
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des déterminants de la santé

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