



ASI 2026 Forum –Preliminary Program July 6, 2026 August 18-20, 2026

Please note: the program will be updated as speakers are confirmed

Plenary sessions will be in-person and available online; workshops will be in person, with two workshops offered online.

August 18-20, 2026

UPEI, Charlottetown, PEI – **Online registration is open www.asi-ia.ca**

August 17-20, 2026; Registration, Performing Arts Centre (PAC), UPEI –
Youth Leadership Program – Participants have been selected. See asi-ia.ca for information

August 18-20, 2026

Children's Program and Junior Leadership Program free for children of registrants



All times listed in Atlantic Daylight Time (ADT)

Presentations will be made in both French and English, and simultaneous interpretation will be provided through Wordly for all plenary sessions, and selected workshops

Tuesday, August 18

	Pre-Forum Workshops
12:00 – 7:00	Registration – 10:00 Location: Mezzanine UPEI Performing Arts Centre (PAC)
2:00 – 4:00	Three pre-forum workshops are being offered to set the scene for participation in this forum. These workshops will be offered to address various levels of interest and knowledge in the topics to be addressed over the next two days. The three workshops are as follows: 1. Mental Health is More Than You Can Imagine – Orientation to Upstream concepts This workshop is designed for those who have not attended ASI previously and who wish to have a better sense of the upstream approach ASI applies to mental health promotion, resilient communities, and intersectoral, intergenerational collaboration.



The workshop will establish the environment for learning and preparing participants for active participation by reviewing the program schedule, and engaging in discussion on the terms and phrases, and where can we go with these concepts in future. e.g., Mental Health in All Policies, the 7 generations principle. This will prepare participants for the Facilitator Training workshop during the concurrent sessions. (This workshop was offered at ASI 2024 and on PEI last year. Participation in these workshops would qualify for facilitator training.)

Facilitators: Dianne Oickle, National Collaborating Centre for the Determinants of Health (NCCDH) and Ujunwa Aja-Onu (Ujay), PEI Black Cultural Society

Location: Room 110

2. Seven Generations Principle

The concept of *seven generations* is a guiding principle in many Indigenous cultures across North America. It is often expressed in the idea that decisions made today should consider their impact on the next seven generations. This reflects a deep sense of responsibility, sustainability, and interconnectedness with both ancestors and future descendants. Drawing on the wisdom of the seven generations principle, two-eyed seeing, foundations of culture and tradition, x will speak to the significance of Indigenous knowledge in Building Resilient Communities for Well-being Across Generations and how it serves as a thread throughout the forum, serving as a foundation for a “future generations approach” as adopted by Wales and now considered by others.

Facilitator: Julie Pellissier Lush, Mi'kmaq Storyteller

Location: Room 110AS

2. Circle of Health: Celebrating 30 years and preparing for 30 more!

At its core, The Circle of Health is a ‘systems compass’ that brings diverse users together to mobilize for upstream policy and programs to promote health and build a wellbeing society. It is a proven learning and collaboration tool that can be adapted by anyone, anywhere. It bridges the gaps between sectors, disciplines, and issues, and helps users identify and implement their strategic priorities by targeting three equity-focused and system-shifting areas of action (shared understanding, trusting and reciprocal relationships, and aligned action). Developed in Prince Edward Island in 1996 through a consultative process, in 2004 the Circle of Health was adopted as the ASI Planning Framework. It has been used internationally and is available in 6 languages.

Join us to for two complementary workshops to explore our ideas about how we might update and renew The Circle of Health to centre connection and meet the poly-crisis environment of our time!

- Workshop 1: Renewing the Circle – we will review the original circle and share a revised framework for your feedback
- Workshop 2: Creating Impact – we will work collaboratively to generate options for increasing the accessibility and impact of the framework

Facilitators: Patsy Beattie-Huggan and Lesley Dyck

	Location: Room 112
6:30 – 8:30	OFFICIAL OPENING – Location: UPEI Performance Arts Centre – PAC 121 Welcome and land acknowledgement – Malcolm Shookner, ASI President Opening Announcements – Patsy Beattie-Huggan; Nathalie Boivin, ASI Board Welcome Song – Julie Pellissier-Lush, Mi'kmaq Storyteller Framing the Forum – Why a focus on the polycrisis? What foundational documents serve as a counter force to the Polycrisis? What principles can guide us over time? Trevor?? Greetings from officials and funders – Susan Hartley, VP ASI Board of Directors • Welcome - Government of Canada • Welcome - Province of PEI • Welcome - City of Charlottetown • Greetings – Sponsors Atlantic Community Showcase – This is an opportunity to celebrate innovative initiatives that relate to this year's theme. The stories and exhibits will be available throughout the Forum on the online exhibit page and onsite exhibits. 1. Innu Midwifery Program - Perinatal Mental Health Alliance (NL) 2. <i>Creating the Conditions to Participate: Accessibility, Wellbeing, and Collective Action in PEI</i>, Leading Impact Consulting/Assoc. for Community Living (PEI) 3. <i>L'approche Une seule santé (One Health)</i>, Santé Publique - Réseau de Santé Vitalité (NB) 4. <i>Culturally Responsive Food Wellness Education</i>, Kibati Community Support (NL) 5. Integrated Youth Services Hubs (NS) Keynote Introduction: Nathalie Boivin, ASI Board Member Keynote Speaker: Liane Comeau, PhD Liane Comeau has 25 years of experience with NGOs and government. She worked in a pan-Canadian organization, Invest in Kids, in various roles including Director of Research and Evaluation. Dr. Comeau also held a position of Specialized Scientific Advisor at the Institut national de santé publique du Québec, where she penned publications and contributed to programs on various aspects of the health of infants, children and adolescents, from a preventive and health promotion perspective. Since 2018, she is the Executive Director of the International Union for Health Promotion and Health Education, a global NGO focused on reducing health inequalities. She holds a bachelor's degree from Université de Moncton (BPs, 1995) and a doctorate in developmental psychology from McGill University (2004).  Keynote Address: <i>It Takes a Community: Shaping a wellbeing society for all generations</i>

	At a time when many world leaders are leaning away from investment in wellbeing societies, how can the principles of the Ottawa Charter on Health Promotion guide and mobilize collective action? I will argue that one of the Charter's core ideas, community engagement, remains as relevant as ever to shape our communities and institutions to our vision of promoting health, social justice, peace and sustainability. We know this will require transformative system change, collaborative leadership and governance at all levels to create and maintain a culture of wellbeing for children, youth and all generations - now and into the future. The 40th anniversary of the Ottawa Charter this year offers an opportunity to examine how health promotion has evolved as a field, as a practice, and as a global movement. As we celebrate meaningful anniversaries at ASI, let us also honour the efforts that brought us here and re-commit to engaging how we can, from where we stand. Q&A Moderator: Emyrn Hayden, ASI Board Member (NL) To engage both online participants and in person attendees, we will use Mentimeter to ask "What are the questions you would want to pose to the panel in the morning? What key message are you taking away?". Keynote Thank you: Nathalie Boivin, ASI Board Member <i>Note:</i> Q&A is followed by a Closing Reception. Music provided by Strait Jazz Collective: Isaac Williams (bass), Coby Nabuurs (piano), Mike Gallant (drums)
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Wednesday, August 19

9:00 – 10:00	Registration for late arrivals, Coffee and networking – All participants will connect in person for coffee and networking, visit showcases, exhibits. Location: Mezzanine - UPEI Performing Arts Centre – Performance Hall
10:00 - 10:15	Morning Welcome – Announcements – Location: UPEI Performance Hall (PAC) Today's Focus: Understanding the local impact of the polycrisis¹ and how we can respond
10:15–11:45	Opening Plenary: How do we respond to the Polycrisis at the local level? A whole of Community Approach Location: UPEI Performance Hall – PAC 121 The opening plenary session is intended to respond to and localize the themes in the keynote address - strengthening community engagement, mobilizing networks and connections, using new evidence, and considering emerging trends in a Future Generation Approach. This plenary will shift from global framing to concrete community-level responses

¹ A **polycrisis** is the simultaneous occurrence of several interconnected, cascading crises (such as economic, environmental, and geopolitical shocks) that interact to produce a total impact far greater than the sum of their parts

	in Atlantic Canada. It will help participants connect large concepts to their own work, with an emphasis on transformative change at the community level. An opening address will be provided by the session moderator who will explain what the polycrisis is and examples of a community response, with a multi-speaker panel that highlights diverse regional and cultural perspectives and practical examples of community-driven transformation. Opening Speaker and Moderator: Chief Chris George, Eel River Bar (NB) Panelists: Examples of communities taking action • Maggie Snow, Executive Director, The SPLASH Centre, (NL) • Martine Haché, la directrice générale du Centre de Bénévolat de la Péninsule Acadienne (CBPA) Inc. (NB) • Lauren Salim, Policy Safety Advisor, Research & Development Team, Halifax Regional Municipality, (NS) • Noah Moss, Programming and Office Support, Creative PEI, Charlottetown (PEI) Q&A
11:45-12:45	Lunch Break – Location - Cafeteria At your table - Share community stories of response to the ‘polycrisis’ Visit Showcases & exhibits, posting on social media – and movement!
12:45-2:00	Policy Panel: <i>Shaping the Culture of Wellbeing – A whole of government approach</i> The Policy Panel is intended to expand our thinking to consider the power of policy in addressing the polycrisis and shaping the culture of wellbeing. The session moderator will introduce the topic and facilitate discussion amongst the panelists such as: What is policy? What are examples of efforts underway now to shape a culture of wellbeing through policy? What is the capacity of governments to take on and create structures and processes for Health in All Policies? What are the tensions that exist in implementing policies? How can we foster a whole of government approach? Moderator– Susan Hartley, ASI Vice President Panelists: • Dylan Dusseault, Patriotic Millionaires Canada: Developing a fair tax system • Sean Casey, MP Charlottetown (PEI): Basic Income Guarantee • FN Health transformation framework – Natasha Lemieux • Annalea Sproule, Municipal Councillor for Small Point, Broad Cove, Blackhead, Adam's Cove (NL): Municipal role • Stephane LeClair, CEO - Chef de direction, Société d’inclusion économique et sociale du NB 

2:00–3:00	Facilitated Provincial Discussions: <i>A Whole of Society Approach</i> <i>Location: Rooms 110, 110AS, 112, 117N</i> • What is happening in my community? region? province? znanine • What does a whole of society approach look like? • How do we bring an intergenerational justice perspective to this work? • What is the role of policy to support this work? Consider the actions you can take and identify one you can take when you leave ASI
3:00 – 3:30	Networking - Location: Mezzanine - PAC
3:30-5:00	<i>Concurrent Skill Development Workshops</i> - Location: Assigned Classrooms Workshops will enhance skills that support advancement of the ASI Policy Brief and address the theme and objectives of ASI 2026. Participants will learn from real life experiences and evidence informed approaches, to foster resilient well-being societies; addressing the polycrisis and promoting infant, child and youth mental health across generations. Most workshops will be offered in person; two will be offered with a hybrid option. • <i>Facilitator Training – Mental Health is More than You Can Imagine</i> - Dianne Oickle, National Collaborating Centre for the Determinants of Health (NCCDH) and Ujunwa Aja-Onu (Ujay), PEI Black Cultural Society • <i>Applying “Youth Guide to AI and Technology”</i>, Maureen Abbott, Mental Health Commission of Canada • <i>Social Innovation and the Circle of Health – Creating Impact</i> — Lesley Dyck and Patsy Beattie-Huggan • <i>Youth Homelessness Prevention 101</i> – Tanya McCagherty ONLINE <i>Shifting Narratives about Roots of Health – finding our level of influence</i> – Nandini Saxena, NCCDH (no classroom required) <i>Experiential Learning: Creating Community through Song – to be confirmed</i> Based on feedback from 2025, we are introducing a session each day that introduces activities participants can build upon in their own communities to shape a culture of wellbeing across generations. This session will engage voices of singers and “want to be” singers in workshopping and recording a song. Perhaps they will perform at dinner or the ASI closing? Time will tell. This engaging activity demonstrates how a <i>wellbeing culture in a community can be enriched through the arts</i>
5:30 – 8:00	Multicultural Meal – Farm Centre – No cost for registrants and children. Tickets for guests available for purchase (\$20.00 cash) at the registration desk. Refreshments & Cash bar at 5:30 – Dinner served by local vendors at 6:00 Walk on the trail to the Farm Centre. Enjoy the gardens and the Mindfulness Walk

Thursday, August 20

9:00 – 9:30	Coffee, Networking, Exhibits, Announcements through Pheedloop Location: TBD
9:30 – 11:00	1. Atlantic Canada Community Research Panel (at the same time as concurrent workshops) Location: UPEI Performance Hall - Hybrid Session (Online and In-person) with Interpretation: Exploring the evidence gleaned through mixed methods research, interdisciplinary approaches and partnerships between academia and community to improve the wellbeing of populations of Atlantic Canada. Moderator: Nathalie Boivin Panelists: To be confirmed 2. Concurrent Workshops: Assigned classrooms PAC • <i>All Hands on Deck: A Whole-School Approach to Mental Wellness</i>, Nova Scotia Health (NS) • <i>Making Complex Issues Tangible: Connecting the Dots Between Experience and Policy</i> (PEI) Lynne Lund, Susan Hartley • <i>Upstream, cross-sector approaches to strengthen exploitation prevention</i> - EVENforONE (PEI) • <i>Care for Caretakers</i> (NS) - FireLoch, Antigonish – To be confirmed
10:45-11:00	Coffee, Networking, Exhibits Location: PAC Mezzanine - Visit exhibits & posterboards, networking on Pheedloop, posting on social media – and movement!
11:15 – 12:45	Intergenerational Panel: Impact of Digital Transformation on Present and Future Generations - challenges and opportunities with technology and AI – critical analysis Location: UPEI Performance Hall – PAC121 Panel description In this increasingly digital world, people are exposed to a wide range of online tools that can both support and impact their well being. Amidst this incredible progress, digital media offers social connection, but present risks related to manipulative design features. There are questions of damage to the brain development and mental health of our children and youth while there are also segments of the population being left behind. While AI also has many benefits, it also threatens our very future. The speed of change is challenging organizations, governments, as well as the people they serve. Young people may experience the greatest impact. There is an urgent need to distinguish between the benefits and challenges. Panelists will address the questions: What changes they are experiencing due to technology and AI? What strategies are they using to mitigate these changes? What does the pace of

	change mean for our wellbeing now and for future generations? Who has the power to garner these forces to shape a well-being culture? Moderator: Maureen Abbott, Mental Health Commission of Canada Panelists: • Youth: Jenna Kedy, ASI Youth Leadership Coordinator (NS) –Impact of technology on friends and family • Seniors: Théo Saulnier (NB) AGE-friendly communities (Municipalités amies des Aîné.e.s - MADA) initiative for the Péninsule acadienne: • Community: Sarah Outram (PEI) Societal benefits and Cyber safety concerns • Government: Responding to public concerns & evidence to create policies across generations – To be confirmed
12:40 -1:00	Closing Plenary – Location: UPEI Performance Hall Lianne Comeau – Reflection on what she has heard throughout the Forum. To celebrate the 40th Anniversary Ottawa Charter how do we take action on what we have learned here? What can we do to create a culture of well-being in this time of polycrisis. (5-10 minutes) CONFIRMED Emyn Hayden - Mentimeter will be used to gather perspectives (5 Minutes) Post two questions: “What did we learn?” “What actions can will we take when we leave?” Nishka Smith, Evaluator - Introduce the evaluation — Complete before you leave. (5 minutes)
1:00 – 1:30	Closing • Youth Message • Junior Leaders Message • Children’s Message • Closing Song - Julie Pellissier-Lush, Mi'kmaq Storyteller and Knowledge Keeper
1:30-2:15	Lunch Together – Cafeteria - Draw for a prize for those who complete the evaluation. Final chats, networking. Thank you and safe travels!