

Community of Practice Zoom Meeting
February 1st, 2023 1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Introductions

Linda welcomed everyone, including Community of Practice members, Knowledge Hub team, and representatives from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC).

Linda explicitly welcomed two of our newer official team members, Allison and Sabry, who each spoke briefly to introduce themselves to the Community of Practice (CoP). Lillian introduced herself again but identified that she has reverted to her birth name and going forward will be identified as Lillian Smallboy.

The PHAC representatives were present during the full group parts of the virtual meeting and did not participate in the small group discussions.

Resource Updates

Sabry highlighted the publication of the January bulletin from the Knowledge Hub and noted its purpose for CoP members, encouraging them to reach out to the Knowledge Hub team with updates, pictures, videos, and photos about their respective projects.

Sabry also promoted the new member profile and project page sections on the Knowledge Hub website and invited every CoP member to visit their respective page(s) and confirm any needing changes or updates to their Implementation Coordinator.

Small Group Discussions

Allison introduced the purpose of the current meeting, confirming that our community of practice is united, in part, by our appreciation and adherence to a trauma- and violence informed approach within our research and practice. This approach is foundational to our health promotion intervention work involving gender-based violence.

In doing this work, there are some ethical tensions that surround decision-making and implementation of this approach. These may involve, but are not limited to:

- Interactions with folks accessing services or participants in research where we are balancing protecting them from re-traumatization with empowering their voices and agency
- Considerations on our own roles and where to draw boundaries between research and interventions and support and service provision, particularly when ethical dilemmas arise that are not addressed in research protocols

Allison invited the small groups to engage in important conversations about how a trauma- and violence-informed approach has influenced their projects, specifically in terms of planning interventions and programming and more formal ethical processes, applications, and protocols.

CoP members entered small group discussion rooms (approximately 6 members per room, each with a Knowledge Hub facilitator, with special attention to placement for those needing translation options) which lasted for 40 minutes.

Discussion Highlights

Back in the full group, Lillian invited CoP members to speak about some of the highlights from the small group discussions, specifically some themes that stood out that CoP members may take forward in their work or that reinforces what they are already doing.

CoP members briefly spoke about some of their challenges and important lessons learned during their ethics planning and application processes. A main theme that developed was the struggle to adhere to funding timelines which ethics applications often delayed.

Jessica Laurin, from PHAC, suggested that community-based projects experiencing difficulties consider using PHAC's internal research ethics board rather than academic institution boards. She encouraged members to reach out to their program officers to help find solutions to the impacts of protracted ethics application processes.

Updates

Allison gave an update on the Framework draft and noted that CoP members can provide input on the draft by completing a survey. The link to the survey will be sent via email by February 13th and the Knowledge Hub team is requesting that responses are submitted by February 21st.

Anna-Lee provided updates on the website changes, including new project profile pages and new translation button, and also mentioned that our coder is working on a member-only section of the website where the CoP members can share information.

Sabry then let the CoP members know that the Implementation Coordinators will be reaching out to everyone to inquire about possible topics for discussion during the next virtual meeting(s).

The dates of future CoP meetings:

- March 1st, 2023 – virtual CoP Zoom meeting
- June 6-7th, 2023 – in-person Knowledge Exchange (London, Ontario)