



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

[En français](#)

**Meeting Minutes**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Lillian Smallboy opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement, welcomed everyone, including the Community of Practice (CoP) members, the Knowledge Hub team, and representatives from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC).

The PHAC representatives were present during the full group parts of the virtual meeting but did not participate in the small group discussions. Anna-Lee welcomed them and invited Jessica Laurin to speak.

**PHAC Updates**

Jessica Laurin confirmed that PHAC program officers, who are the main contact points CoP members have with PHAC through their projects, will begin to attend some virtual CoP meetings.

She also reiterated the discrete roles of PHAC and the Knowledge Hub. In particular, she noted that the Knowledge Hub is a funded project, through the same investment as the other projects, mandated with facilitating this CoP and enhancing the collective impact of the projects and the investment more broadly. The Knowledge Hub's role does not involve workplans or project budgets, so please contact your PHAC Program Officers with questions related to these issues.

Jessica identified 2 newly funded projects, with members who will be joining the CoP soon. These projects are focusing on interventional programming involving older adult survivors of gender-based violence.

***Implementing and Testing RISE: Addressing a Gap in Community-Based Elder Abuse Response Intervention (University of Toronto)***

*The project seeks to implement and test an innovative, community-based elder abuse response intervention, RISE. RISE is a conceptually driven elder abuse response intervention that integrates approaches/modalities demonstrating evidence in other relevant fields and/or promising results with elder abuse survivors. Informed by a person-centered, ecological-systemic perspective, RISE has the capacity to work with cases at levels of individual survivors and harmers, the survivor-harmer relationship, and their informal and formal support networks.*

*The implementation of an advocacy intervention for diverse women in midlife and older experiencing intimate partner violence: Effectiveness and experiences of participants and community-based researchers (University of New Brunswick)*

*The [Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research](#) from the University of New Brunswick is adapting and evaluating a 12-week advocacy intervention for women in midlife and older who experience intimate partner violence.*

*The project will reach up to 60 older women in three Atlantic provinces- Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. The project provides tailored interventions to 60 women through a program that assists in the development of a safety plan adapted for older women; providing information about cycles of violence, community, and legal resources; and developing goals and strategies for the future.*

### **Small Group Discussions**

Meeting participants were put into small group discussions, with approximately 6 members per group plus a facilitator from the Knowledge Hub team, talking about members' experiences in implementing various stages of their projects. Specifically, facilitators opened with a broad discussion question: Which parts of your project enactment or realization, so far, have required the most modifications or change, positively or negatively, in comparison to your original proposal and plans?

### **Discussion Highlights**

Once back in the main room, Sabry invited CoP members to speak about some of the highlights from their small group discussions, specifically any themes that stood out that CoP members may take forward in their work or that reinforces something they are already doing.

CoP members briefly spoke about some of their challenges in recruitment for both team members and research participants. It was noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has changed people's understandings and priorities related to employment as well as participation in community programs and interventions, and members are having to adjust their project implementation, such as by re-defining the roles and responsibilities assigned to employment positions, or extending their networks to use social media for recruiting and partnerships.

One group suggested that it would be helpful if CoP members shared any training manuals or other documents they are using in their projects to help with training facilitators of their programs and interventions. Sabry and Lillian will reach out to every project to ask about any existing manuals or other documents that CoP members may be willing to share or provide links to, that the Knowledge Hub team will post to the members-only section of their website (not viewable or accessible by the general public).

It was also suggested that members may wish to collaborate on writing something together that connects the training of facilitators with trauma-informed practice. Interested parties are encourage to reach out to Anna-Lee to think about forming a relevant working group on the subject.

### **Framework update**

Allison provided an update on responses from the feedback survey that was sent out to CoP members to provide an opportunity for further collaboration on the CoP Framework. Allison noted that the survey will remain open for a couple weeks longer in order to allow

anyone who was unable to complete the survey, and wanted to, to do so still. Allison asked that if anyone would like to provide further feedback (beyond the survey), or discuss any aspect of the Framework, to please contact her via email ([agray28@uwo.ca](mailto:agray28@uwo.ca)) before **March 31, 2023**.

### **Calendar of meetings**

Anna-Lee presented the future dates of events for the CoP, including all known or planned in-person and virtual meetings for the coming year.

- Virtual meetings:
  - September 20th, 2023 (Zoom)
  - November 22nd, 2023 (Zoom)
  - January 17th, 2024 (Zoom)
  - March 6th, 2024 (Zoom)
  - *Pending (April)* – special meeting to meet new members (new projects announced earlier in the meeting)
- In-person Knowledge Exchange
  - June 6-7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (London, Ontario)

Due to requests by many CoP members for clarification on the location of the Knowledge Exchanges, Anna-Lee shared that the Knowledge Hub's funding allow us to host meetings in London, ON, and therefore to not need funds for all team members to travel. The first Knowledge Exchange (2022) that was held in Toronto was a special, unplanned, circumstance that arose out of transitioning funds from elsewhere.

Some members of the CoP indicated that their budgetary proposals included travel to the Knowledge Exchanges based in Toronto. Anna-Lee confirmed she will work with the PHAC team on finding possible solutions moving forward. Due to timing and the logistics involved in hosting within that timeframe, the next Knowledge Exchange (2023) will be held in London, Ontario, as originally planned, but the location of future meetings will be discussed.

