

Secretariat Update – 2018

NOVEMBER

Conferences / Meetings

Quest Conference 2018: Katherine and Susan attended this three-day conference of the York District School Board in Richmond Hill, ON November 14-16 and presented *JCSH and the Positive Mental Health toolkit: How Education and Health Ministries Support Each Student*. Please see attached PDF for some takeaway reflections from this conference.



Takeaways from The
Quest Conference 201

Fostering Collaborations to Build Healthier School Communities and Prevent Problematic Substance Use among Canadian Youth: Katherine participated in this one-day forum November 13 in Toronto on the role of healthy school communities in the prevention of problematic substance use. Sponsored by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) of Canada, Dr. Theresa Tam, the forum is to build on the Resilience and Youth Project of Dr. Claire Crooks. The purpose of the forum includes the following: i) to convene diverse school stakeholders (students, educators, youth health organizations, researchers, etc.) from across Canada to discuss challenges and opportunities to bolster healthy school communities and help prevent and minimize the harms associated with problematic substance use among youth and ii) to facilitate collaborative coordinated efforts to achieve these objectives.

OCTOBER

Conferences / Meetings

Partnership Symposium on Cannabis Public Education and Awareness: Katherine attended this annual partnership symposium, sponsored by Health Canada, in Ottawa on October 1. This year's event brought together partner organizations from a range of sectors, Indigenous organizations, provincial, territorial and municipal representatives as well as federal departments and agencies to continue our collective work on public education and awareness.

Canadian Mental Health Association National Conference: Ahead by a Century: The shape of Things to Come: Susan attended this conference October 22-24 in Montreal and presented *Youth Engagement Toolkit: Bringing youth voice to comprehensive school health*. Presentations of particular interest to JCSH include keynote sessions by **Dr. Margaret Barry**, Established Chair in Health Promotion and Public Health, and Head of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research at the National University of Ireland Galway, and by **Norman Lamb**, Liberal Democrat MP for North Norfolk (UK). See attached PDF for a few takeaways

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Takeaways from
CMHA 2018.pdf

SEPTEMBER

Conferences / Meetings

JCSH Statement on Reconciliation: The members of the Working Group met and clarified aspects of this statement; in particular, the group agreed that the purpose is on reconciliation, and not in the more general sense on Indigenous perspectives. The group continues to work diligently on this so that it might have a draft version to present to the fall face-to-face meetings.

ON Health and Physical Education Advocacy Meeting: Susan attended this meeting, held August 27 at the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario office in Toronto. The invitation had been extended in light of its proximity to a meeting of the Canadian Alliance of Healthy School Communities in Toronto August 28. It was a helpful insight into the collaboration among the bodies involved in delivering Health and Physical Education curriculum content and the possible changes to curriculum in this school year. There was some interest expressed in how other jurisdictions, nationally and internationally, deliver this content, including sexual health curriculum.

Canadian Alliance for Healthy School Communities Meeting: Katherine and Susan attended this meeting of the Alliance stewards, scheduled to develop a Terms of Reference for this coming year. Ken Bain, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of School System Administrators (CASSA), also attended and advised the group he would discuss CASSA participating as a steward. In addition to CASSA, the steward bodies are JCSH, PHE Canada, EverActive Schools, DASH BC, and Ophea.

AUGUST

Conferences / Meetings

Atlantic Summer Institute 2018: Katherine, Susan, and Craig attended this annual conference at University of PEI in Charlottetown August 20-22. Katherine and Susan presented on *How the Youth Engagement Toolkit Brings Youth Voice and Inclusion into School Communities*. There were two other presentation teams with sufficient time for discussion from the entire group, both presenters and audience members on ways of enhancing youth mental health literacy, engagement, and leadership development. Among the other highlights was a workshop by Ellen Coady and her colleague Rhonda McKinnon on *The Roadmap for Integrating Social and Emotional Learning into Practice*. In this workshop, the Comprehensive School Health framework, the NL government's commitment to improving educational outcomes in [The Way Forward](#) and [Now Is the Time](#), and JCSH work on Positive Mental Health were all featured.

Statement on Indigenous Perspectives: The members of the Working Group met on August 23 to continue to development this document. It will be shared with the JCSH members for review and feedback when a final draft is complete.

Developmental Evaluation: The Partners' Survey was sent to JCSH partners / collaborators with a request for response returns by the end of August.

JULY

Conferences / Meetings

Canadian Association of School System Administrators Annual Conference: Katherine attended this event in Ottawa July 4-6 and gave 2 presentations: one with ON Concussion in Sport and the Education Sector with Jocelyn East and one on JCSH as a whole, focusing on the Youth Engagement Toolkit, the Positive Mental Health Toolkit, and the Healthy School Planner. She was also part of a panel led by Dr. Antony Card: A Contemporary Focus on Comprehensive School Health in Canada.

National Trustee Gathering on Aboriginal Education and Canadian School Boards Association Congress 2018: Susan attended this joint gathering / conference held in Halifax 4-7 and gave a presentation: "Joint Consortium for School Health: Tools and Resources Support Student Health, Well-Being, and Achievement". Please see the attached PDF for some takeaway reflections from this event.



Takeaways from
National Trustee Gath

JUNE

Conferences / Meetings

Annual Report Committee: This committee met June 5 and reviewed previous Annual Reports and suggested possible changes for this year and / or subsequent years. Among the changes suggested include (1) laying out jurisdictional pieces as areas where the ministries of health and education have collaborated in the past year, with examples; (2) a list of highlights with citations attached to show the connection of the province's / territory's work with research; (3) provide examples of ways in which JCSH resources are being used; (4) connect highlights with JCSH vision – what changed for school kids, school communities because of this work.

Youth Positive Mental Health Steering Committee (PHAC): Katherine attended a meeting of this group, held in Toronto June 6 to (1) share findings of literature synthesis and consultation interviews; (2) develop consensus on 3-5 key main messages for KM about importance of upstream prevention; (3) develop KM plan of how, when, and where to promote these messages; (4) develop list / calendar of key strategic opportunities through different networks; and (5) discuss youth involvement.

Positive Mental Health Toolkit Indigenous Module: The Secretariat met with Kevin Lamoureux and his colleague Sarra Deane June 11 to outline plans for this new module. The team at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation will draft a Project Charter this summer and share with JCSH Secretariat; it will include timelines and deliverables.

Position Statement Working Group: This group met June 13 to begin discussion of the purpose of a position statement on Indigenous Perspectives placed within the context of Comprehensive School Health. Some examples of other statements on reconciliation ([MB's Klinik Community Health's Statement on Reconciliation](#); [Inuit Qaujimagatuqanjit: The Role of Indigenous Knowledge in Supporting Wellness in Inuit Communities in Nunavut](#)) were shared to support discussion. The Working Group members have continued to provide draft suggestions since this meeting.

Healthy School Planner Advisory Committee: This group met June 14 to consider uptake and use of the Planner and suggestions for rewrite / refresh. A set of 4 questions were sent out to Committee member contacts for feedback.

MAY

Developmental Evaluation

Katherine and Craig met via teleconference with Jamie Gamble on May 31st to discuss next steps related the ongoing work of the Developmental Evaluation process. The next piece in this work is the Partners' survey which will be conducted late summer or early fall.

APRIL

Conferences / Meetings

Senate Committee on Bill C-45: Katherine will appear on behalf of JCSH as a witness before the Senate Committee hearings on Bill C-45 (Cannabis). The hearings will take place on Thursday April 19 in Ottawa. The invitation from the Senate is to organizations to participate in its public hearings on this study of Bill C-45. If selected from the invitations sent, the organization's representative participates in a panel of 1 or 2 other organizations/individuals by making a brief statement (no more than 7 minutes) followed by a question and answer session with committee members. This session will last approximately 1.5 hrs.

Youth Positive Mental Health Steering Committee (PHAC): Katherine has been invited to be a member of a steering committee established by the Public Health Agency of Canada to guide the direction of a new project on youth positive mental health. The project will run from May 2018 to March 2019. Led by Claire Crooks and her team at Western University, the steering committee will have two roles: (1) providing content expertise to guide direction and (2) supporting the dissemination of the knowledge mobilization products to encourage uptake of effective practices.

MARCH

Developmental Evaluation

The Members' survey has been sent to all Management Committee, Alternates, and School Health Coordinators' Committee members. Deadline for completing this is March 23.

The next piece in this work will be the distribution of the Partners' survey, which will include questions on research interests related to Comprehensive School Health (whole child, whole school approach).

Annual Report

The call for jurisdictional submissions is made during the March School Health Coordinators' Committee teleconference.

Conferences / Meetings

Ontario Healthy Schools Coalition 2018 Healthy Schools Conference: Katherine and Susan gave two presentations to this year's conference, which was entitled *Integrating Health and Learning: Roles, Relationships and Results*, held in Hamilton March 26-27. The first presentation was a plenary on JCSH work in building capacity in the health and education sectors to work together and promote understanding of comprehensive school health. The second was a session on roles and relationships in (re)developing the Positive Mental Health Toolkit and the Youth Engagement Toolkit.

A Public Health Approach to Cannabis Expert Reference Group Meeting: This meeting, held in Toronto February 28 and March 1, gathered together people representing a variety of disciplines and sectors throughout Canada to look at the findings from the community consultations, identify the capacity gaps of public health workers in communicating knowledge and evidence about cannabis, and determine priority areas for CPHA as it moves forward in the public health approach to communications and education on cannabis.

Based on the discussion, the key areas of focus for CPHA in building the capacity of health promotion providers will be 1. Awareness of, and access to, up-to-date evidence-based cannabis resources; and 2. Knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities to deliver health promotion messaging related to cannabis consumption.

Environmental Scan: Youth Health Centres

The NS Health Authority, through Michelle Amero, has shared with JCSH the rapid jurisdictional scan they completed from responses to their request for jurisdictional information on youth health centres in the country. The scan can be found on the private side of the website. In sharing the scan, Michelle noted that this is not an exhaustive listing, but rather a summary of the information provided. Also, she did not include information that wasn't specific to YHCs (e.g. comprehensive school health initiatives) as this was beyond the scope of this project.

FEBRUARY

Conferences / Meetings

Canadian Guidelines for Sexual Health Education Working Group Meeting: The purpose of this meeting, held February 26 and 27 in Ottawa, was to use a series of roundtable discussions to have high-level consensus building dialogue on key components of the Guidelines. The areas covered by the roundtable discussions include the following: 1. Situating the Guidelines within the broader context of sexual health promotion; 2. Elements of sexual health education; 3. Theory and research on sexual health education; 4. Training of sexual health educators; and 5. Sexually-transmitted and blood borne infection (STBBI) education and testing. The new guidelines document is expected to be completed later this year.

Youth Engagement Toolkit

The reviewed Youth Engagement Toolkit has been completed in English and is available on the JCSH website; the French version will be posted as soon as the revision is finalized.

'GoTo' Teacher Resource

A teleconference to discuss this resource and its use/availability in Canadian schools was held February 15.

Developmental Evaluation

The Secretariat had a productive meeting with Jamie Gamble on February 12 to receive feedback and support for the ongoing work of the Developmental Evaluation process.

The draft version of the members' survey was shared with the Evaluation Working Group for review.

Core Indicators Model of CSH and Student Achievement

Dr. Alicia Hussain has developed a set of survey questions on the CIM of CSH and Student Achievement intended for school health champions; these will be able to be adapted for other stakeholders to support CSH and achievement links in schools. A draft of this survey is with the Secretariat for review and will be sent to School Health Coordinators in the near future.

JANUARY

JCSH Evaluation Framework

The Secretariat is populating information to answer questions on the JCSH Evaluation Framework in advance of a planned meeting with Jamie Gamble set for February 8 and also to inform discussions on Developmental Evaluation during the spring 2018 face-to-face meetings of Management Committee and School Health Coordinators' Committee. Planned for this year are an online survey of Management Committee and School Health Coordinators, an online survey of partners, and ongoing monitoring of our work through review and analysis of data from Records of Discussion/Decision, Annual Reports, Secretariat Updates, website, resources, and other pieces as developed.

Youth Engagement Toolkit Revision

The revision of the Youth Engagement Toolkit has been completed in English and is available on the JCSH Website. The French will be published on the website as soon as it is complete. The toolkit now features individual modules and a new one on implementing youth engagement: “Youth Who Thrive.” Once again, the Students Commission has done this work for JCSH, led by new Executive Director Sharif Mahdy and Shanti McFronton.

Meetings/Conferences:

Katherine attended the annual Shaping the Future conference, held this year in Lake Louise, AB from January 31-February 3. During the conference, she gave a presentation on the newly-revised Positive Mental Health Toolkit.

Held in conjunction with the Shaping the Future conference was a one-day National Stakeholders meeting – *Towards a Better Way, Part Two*. This meeting was attended by national and regional leaders working in school health throughout the country and continued the work begun during the meeting held before the national PHE Canada conference in Ottawa in November 2017.