

### COMMON BRIEFING NOTE<sup>i</sup>

**SUBJECT-** Canadian Alliance for Healthy School Communities (CAHSC)

**DECISION(S) / DIRECTION(S) REQUESTED**

Decision

Discussion

Information

**PURPOSE:**

To provide information to JCSH member jurisdictions regarding the most recent meeting of the Canadian Alliance for Healthy School Communities (CAHSC)

**PREVIOUS DIRECTION FROM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

- JCSH will not have a direct role with the Alliance- member, observer, or advisor. It would like to receive communications, including minutes of Alliance meetings.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM JANUARY MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE:**

- This meeting was co-designed and co-facilitated by the CAHSC stewardship group (CASSA, DASH BC, Ever Active Schools, Ophea and PHE Canada).
- The meeting was held on January 30th, 2019 in Lake Louise, with 26 participants from across the country representing multiple organizations dedicated to the promotion of healthy school communities. Along with the CAHSC stewardship group, representatives from the following were present: University of Alberta, Western University, APPLE Schools, Wellahead/McConnell Foundation, Alberta Health Services, Canadian Parks and Recreation Association, Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability, French- Canadian School Boards Association, Alberta Healthy School Community Wellness Fund, Alberta Schools Employee Benefit Plan, and Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan.
- The workshop was designed to meet the following outcomes:
  - Bring together thought leadership and organizations around school health
  - Strengthen relationships to enhance knowledge exchange and generate collaboration
  - Build a coordinated effort to connect stakeholders across various school health systems
- All participants were afforded the opportunity to share what they were each working on in regards to the promotion of healthy school communities. Key words from the round table sharing included: bridge, facilitate alignment, barrier reduction, communications, interconnection, all abilities, partnership, wrap around, from single school to the forest, trauma informed schools, inclusion, evaluation/research, teacher staff capacity, knowledge mobilization, fit, transfer, e-learning, knowledge exchange, resource sharing, policies and guidelines, open the doors to the school, student leadership/voice, continuous learning.
- Brian Torrance (Ever Active Schools) spoke to the day's purpose: "Developing a common agenda to ensure every school in Canada is a healthy school community."

- Melanie Davis (PHE Canada) recapped the Alliance’s conversations and work to date, highlighting the great strides forward in common understanding and trust building.
- Chris Markham (Ophea) shared a high-level overview of Comprehensive School Health and the four components: Teaching & Learning, Social & Physical Environments, Partnership & Services and Policy. This was followed by a professional development session by Dr. Kate Storey on the core essential conditions necessary for a CSH approach to be successfully implemented.
- The stewardship team presented the theory of change for input. By creating a theory of change, the Alliance will be able to be more focused and confident that their actions are mutually reinforcing, and are the smartest route forward.
- The Common Agenda was then presented. This agenda is a culmination of the previous three meetings inputs as well.
- Ken Bain (CASSA) reviewed the Alliance’s Terms of Reference and membership. Some recommendations were noted to help refine them.
- Various participants declared that the Alliance goals did align with their respective organization’s goals and interests. Some could see themselves being able to support the Alliance goals even though their organization may not be explicitly use a CSH model in their work. No one identified that the Alliance was not a fit at least conceptually.
- There was as request for clarity regarding membership. This will further help guide organizational decisions if they aim to contribute and be a “member.”
- The next Alliance meeting is scheduled for July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.

## **APPENDIX:**

Meeting notes (Canadian Alliance for Healthy School Communities meeting- January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019)

Prepared by: JCSH Secretariat

Date: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

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<sup>i</sup> *The information in this Common Briefing Note (CBN) is confidential, privileged and intended solely for the use of Joint Consortium for School Health. It is subject to each jurisdiction's legal requirements and, more specifically, to their respective access to information and privacy legislation. Information in this CBN will not be disclosed without prior consultation among jurisdictions about its confidential status.*