# Applying participatory evaluation to support community-based approaches to substance use prevention

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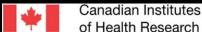
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The Students Commission of Canada

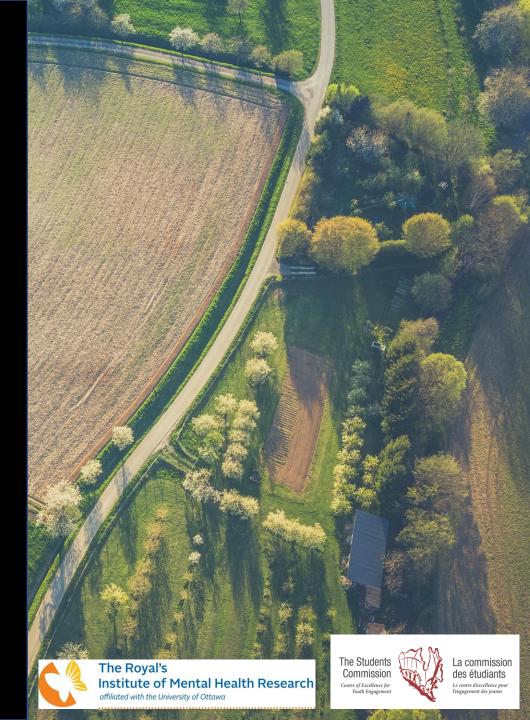
November 13, 2025 - Community-Based Research Canada

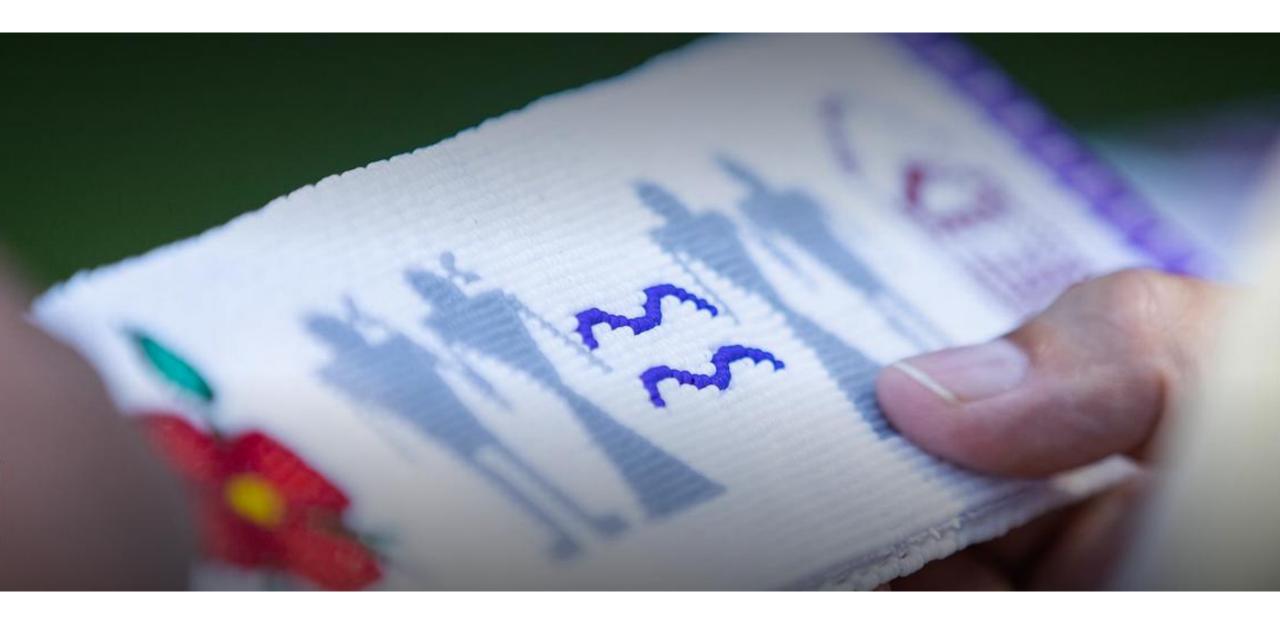


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# Tanya's background

- Evaluation research in youth development and health promotion
- Research focused on creating healthy developmental contexts for children and young people
- Strategies to target emergent critical issues
- Participatory approaches with emphasis on systems transformation



# Matt's background

- Qualitative research: Mental and holistic Health and substance use prevention.
- Centering youth voice as the heart of meaningful change.
- Long-term community-based strategy work for youth facing marginalizations.





Examine some frameworks that have informed our research

# Overview



Describe the research related to the implementation and evaluation of the Icelandic Prevention Model in Canada



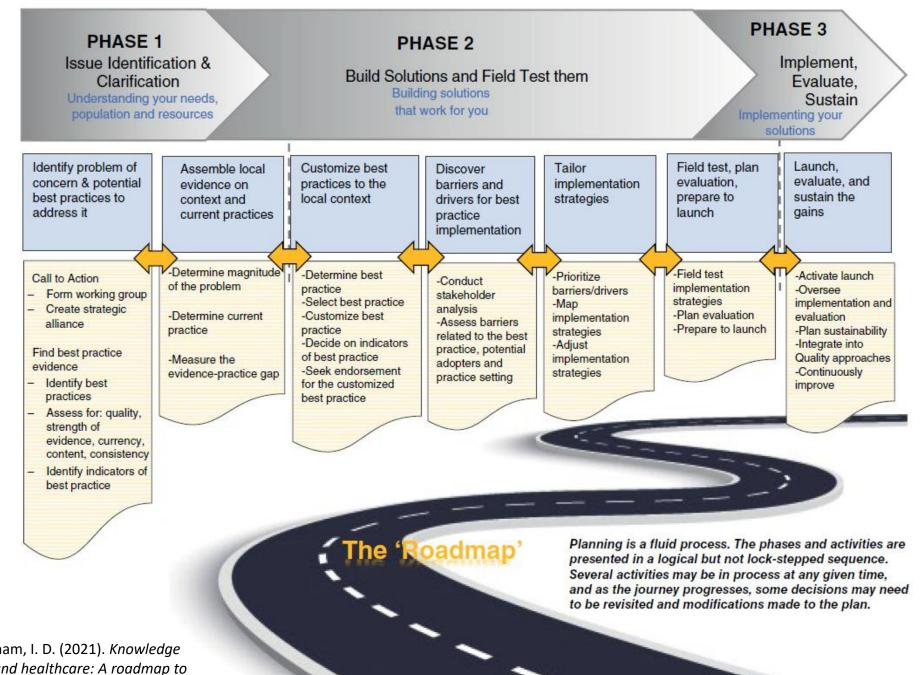
Describe partnerships and processes implemented through this work

# Utilization-Focused Evaluation

(Patton, 2008)

https://files.wmich.edu/s3fspublic/attachments/u350/2014/ UFE checklist 2013.pdf

- **Step 2** Assess and enhance evaluator readiness and competence to undertake a utilization-focused evaluation.
- **Step 3** Identify, organize, and engage primary intended users.
- Step 4 Conduct situation analysis with primary intended users
- Step 5 Identify primary intended uses by establishing the evaluation's priority purposes.
- **Step 6** Consider and build in process uses if appropriate.
- Step 7 Focus priority evaluation questions.
- Step 8 Check that fundamental areas for evaluation inquiry are being adequately addressed.
- Step 9 Determine what intervention model or theory of change is being evaluated.
- **Step 10** Negotiate appropriate methods to generate credible findings and support intended use by intended users.
- **Step 11** Make sure intended users understand potential controversies about methods and their implications.
- Step 12 Simulate use of findings.
- Step 13 Gather data with ongoing attention to use.
- **Step 14** Organize and present the data for use by primary intended users.
- **Step 15** Prepare an evaluation report to facilitate use and disseminate significant findings to expand influence.
- Step 16 Follow up with primary intended users to facilitate and enhance use.
- Step 17 Metaevaluation of use: Be accountable, learn, and improve



Harrison, M. B., & Graham, I. D. (2021). *Knowledge translation in nursing and healthcare: A roadmap to evidence-informed practice*. John Wiley & Sons.

# The Planet Youth Guidance Model: The 10 core steps of the Icelandic Prevention Model



### Step 1

Local
Coalition
Identification,
Development,
and Capacity
Building



Step 2
Local Funding
Identification,
Development,
and Capacity
Building



**Step 3** Pre–Data Collection

Planning and Community Engagement



Step 4

Data Collection and Processing, Including Data Driven Diagnostics



Step 5

Enhancing Community Participation and Engagement

### Step 6

Dissemination of Findings



Step 7

Community
Goal-Setting
and
Other
Organized
Responses to
the Findings



Step 8

Policy and Practice Alignment



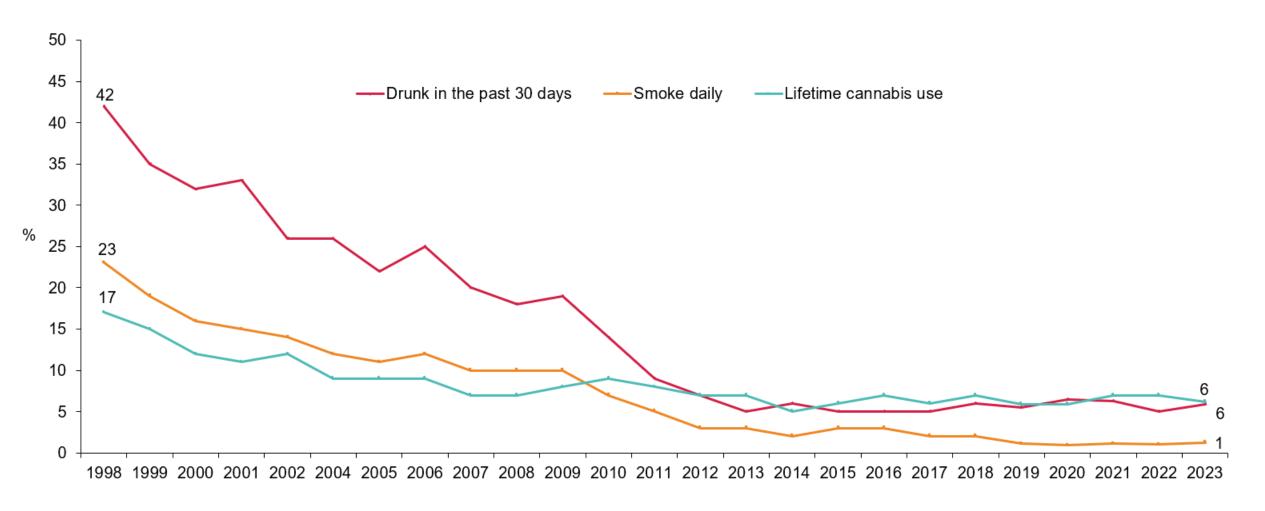
Step 9

Child and Adolescent Immersion in Primary Prevention Environments, Activities, and Messages

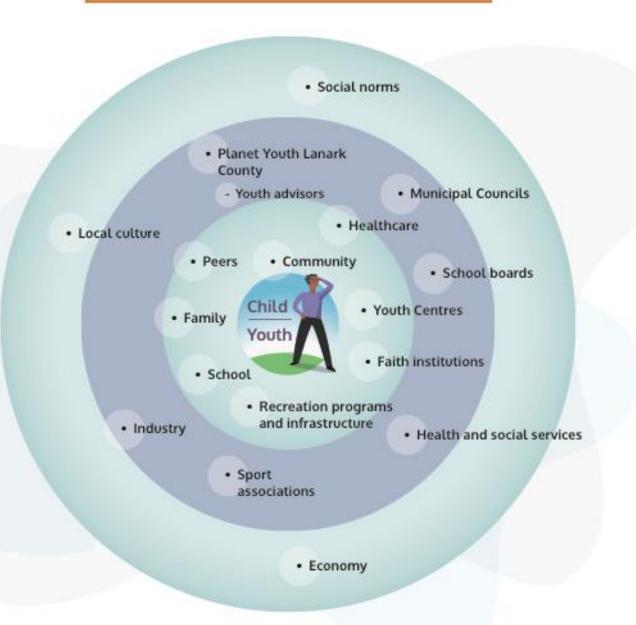


**Step 10**Repeat Steps
1-9 Annually

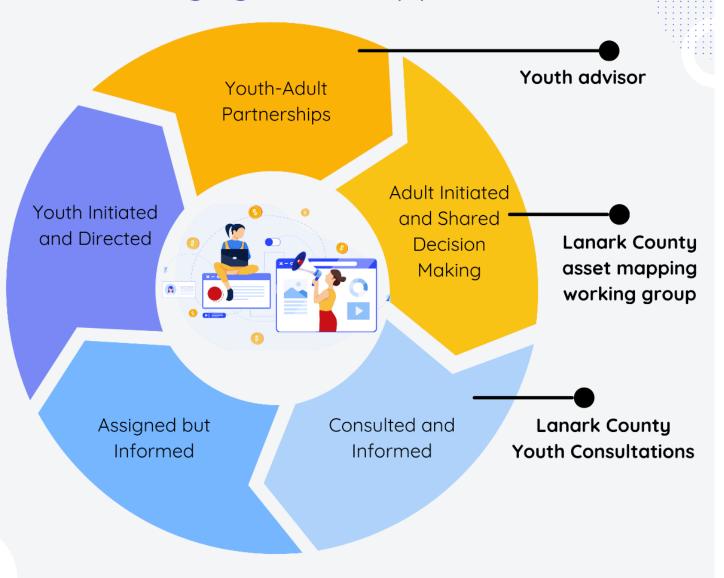
Development of substance use among 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in Iceland, years 1998-2023



## Planet Youth Lanark County



### Youth Engagement Approach





### Agence de la santé publique du Canada

### **Public Health** Agency of Canada





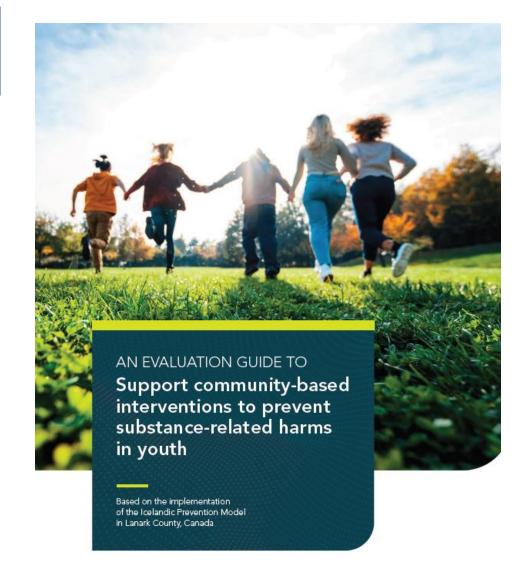
Centre of Excellence for Youth Engagement



### La commission des étudiants

Le centre d'excellence pour l'engagement des jeunes













### Youth Substance Use Prevention Program (YSUPP)

# WHAT IS THE YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION PROGRAM (YSUPP)?

A community-based funding program designed to help prevent and delay substance use among youth in Canada

### WHAT ARE WE WORKING TOWARDS?

- Preventing and delaying substance use in youth, and lowering experiences of substance use and associated harms into adulthood
- Generating knowledge on:
- The implementation and adaptation of the Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM) in the Canadian context
- What population-level interventions work, in what ways, and in what contexts

### YSUPP GUIDING PRINCIPLES



### Scalable

Support communities to build a strong evidence-informed foundation for continuous expansion and success



### Sustainable

Achieve sustainability through effective and collaborative partnerships at the community level



### **Cultural Adaptation**

Adapt the IPM to reflect the diverse cultural perspectives, practices and values in Canada



### **Health Equity**

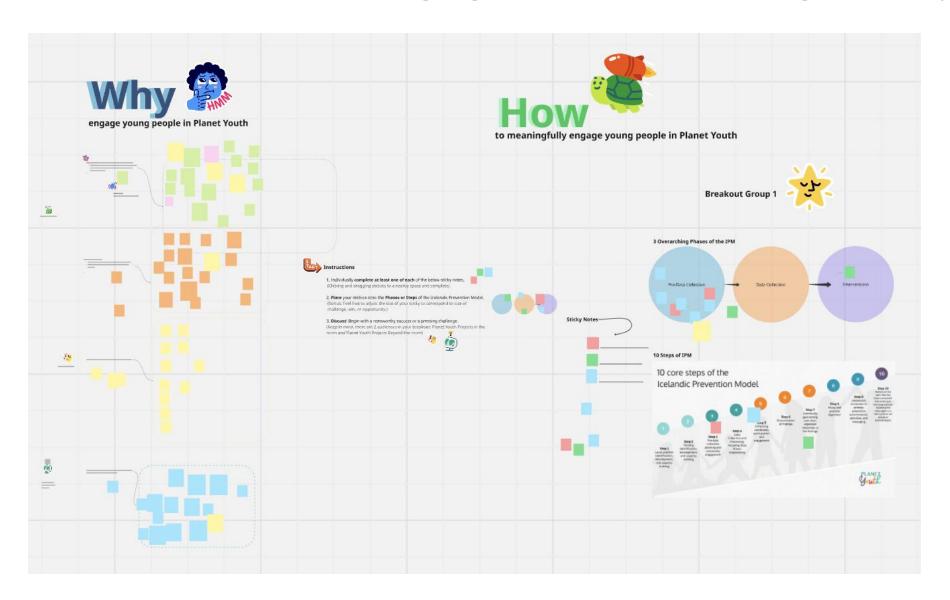
Ensure fair and just opportunities for all to attain their highest level of health



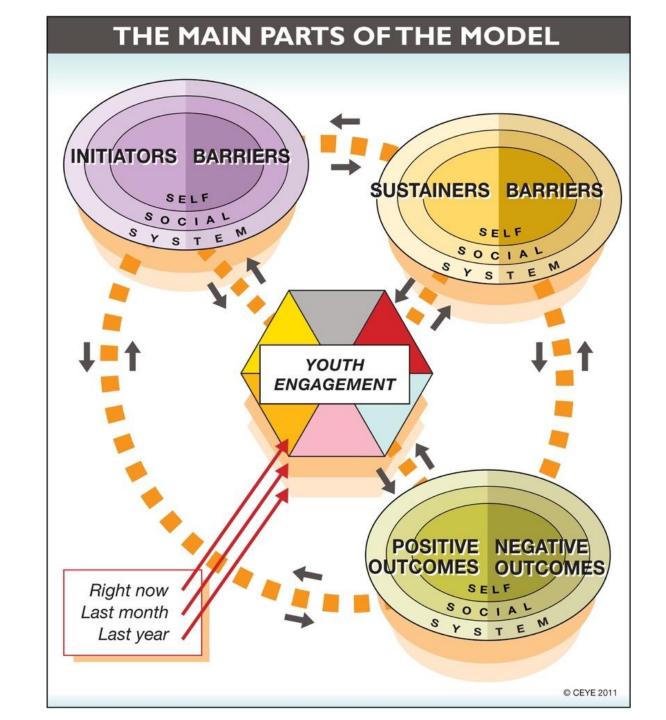
### Youth-centred

Engage youth as essential partners to inform action at the community level

# SCC/KDE Hub Youth Engagement Working Group



What is Youth Engagement?



### **The Young Decision Makers Project Model**



**LEGEND** 

Completed

Underway

□ Not started

**Decision Making** 

☐ Deciding how we decide.

☐ YDM positions on topics. ☐ Defining our voice to others.

☐ Space for exploring and CHILDREN AND YOUTH communicating ideas. **Inform Policy Makers** CONSTITUENCY BUILDING Recommendations to ☐ Choosing how youth ☐ Ensuring Reps ☐ Creating action participate and/or are consult and represent governments, businesses and diverse youth youth organizations. Reporting responses back to members. **Studying Issues WIDESPREAD PARTICIPATION** ☐ Identifying the issues related Decision Making to the topic. Gathering research: our own **Action: Child** experience, others' experience and Youth Programs and science. INITIATOR: Action or idea identified by a Intergenerational young person or organization to explore. SUPPORTS SUSTAINER: Acting upon some of the recommendations and evaluating Sustainers: new action steps 

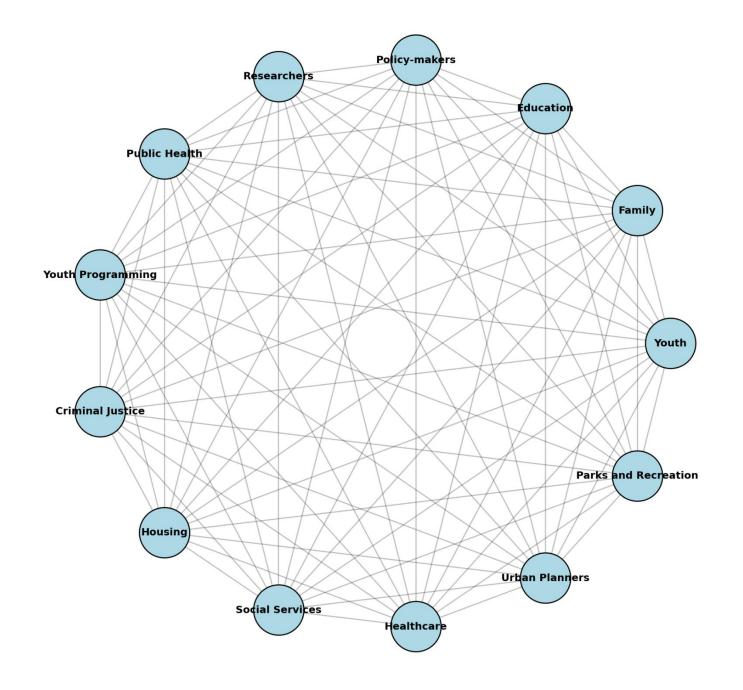
Young Decision Makers (YDM)

**Discussing Issues** 

☐ Materials for young people to inform and explore with others.

Project:

through Partnership



# Future directions

# Measurement to improve fidelity to upstream approaches

### **Upstream-Downstream Continuum**

Midstream **Upstream** Downstream

### **Upstream**

### Social and Structural **Determinants**

Policies that aim to redistribute wealth and power to support increased equity

Example: Establishing a progressive tax system at the municipal level

### **Upper Midstream**

### **Living Conditions**

Interventions that aim to modify context to create healthy living conditions for all

### **Parents** and Family

Example: Contracts to reinforce parent collaboration to support young people

### School

Example: Installing vape detectors in school bathrooms

### Peer Group

Example: Training students to facilitate healthy spaces at school

### **Leisure Time**

**Example: Creating** a universal leisure card program

### **Lower Midstream**

### **Programming**

Targeted programs designed to support at-risk populations

Example: Facilitating a peer support group for LGBTQ+ youth

### **Education**

Interventions that aim to modify risk behaviours through education

Example: Helping young people give awareness presentations in schools

### Downstream

#### Healthcare

Interventions that focus on treatment of a health problem to lessen its effects and to prevent further deterioration and recurrence

> Example: Addictions treatment clinics

#### Inspired by:

Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (2023). A Public Health Framework for Reducing Health Inequities. https://barhii.org/framework/ Chief Public Health Officer of Canada (2021). A Vision to Transform Canada's Public Health System. https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phacaspc/documents/corporate/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/state-public-health-canada-2021/summary/summary-en.pdf National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (2014). Let's Talk: Moving Upstream. https://nccdh.ca/images/uploads/Moving Upstream Final En.pdf

# Measurement to improve fidelity to upstream approaches

Applying implementation science frameworks and adapting measurement approaches

Measuring contextual risks

Measuring fidelity
to evidence-based
interventions
designed to impact
the SDoH and the
living conditions

Measuring knowledge and understanding

Creating opportunities to incentivize fidelity

Creating
opportunities to
examine
associations
between fidelity
and outcomes

# Contrasting approaches – Safe spaces

### **Targeted programming**

- Individual organization
- After school program
- Delivered to youth experiencing discrimination/bullying
- Development of inclusive safe space
- Strengths-based
- Positive role modelling
- Relationship building
- Coping skills

### **Living conditions**

- Partnership approach
- Whole school implementation
- Delivered to all young people (perpetrators, bystanders and victims)
- Increased supervision and structure
- Policy change
- Peer engagement
- Strengths-based
- Positive role modelling
- Relationship building
- Focus on school climate



THANK YOU

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YOUTH Lab