

E-Learning Series Live Discussion

MOVING THE DIAL

In the April event of the CBRCanada “Moving the Dial” series, Dr. Sarah Marie Wiebe and Kirsten Mah hosted a webinar and live discussion about a project using equity-informed approaches to move the dial on the climate emergency – specifically, equitable solutions to extreme heat in the Capital Region District of British Columbia.

Participants in the live discussion shared their insights on how to include community voices in research without overwhelming organizations that may already be overstretched, and how results of equity-informed, community-engaged research can impact policy outcomes.

HOW CAN WE INCLUDE COMMUNITY VOICES IN OUR RESEARCH WITHOUT OVERWHELMING ALREADY OVERSTRETCHED ORGANIZATIONS?



Build long-term, reciprocal relationships with community organizations that allow them to engage in research while also receiving benefits for their organization.



The provision of compensation that is contextually appropriate for the individual and/or the organization, such as living wage honorariums.



Reduce the burden of participation on organizations by tapping into their existing resources and arranging the research timeline around their schedule when possible.

HOW CAN THE RESULTS OF EQUITY-INFORMED COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH IMPACT POLICY OUTCOMES?

1

Present specific, goal-oriented objectives [i.e., using the S.M.A.R.T. format] based on research findings to policymakers.



2

Decide who the relevant policymakers are and communicate information to them in the way that will ‘speak to them’ the most.



3

Present policy suggestions that will mitigate long-term stressors through less ‘reactive’, upstream approaches to global issues.



Equity-informed community-based research prioritizes the inclusion and engagement of affected communities in the research to create equitable and long-term solutions.

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The CBRCanada secretariat is located at Wilfrid Laurier University.