Promising Practices Toolkit Overview

This overview is a partner resource for the CAAN Promising Practices Toolkits. We hope that it gives facilitators, community leaders, and anyone else working toward wholistic health in their communities some guidance in how to use the toolkits in a good way. No matter where you are in your journey – whether new to community health work or a long time champion – this overview can help you navigate the information of the toolkits and give you some ideas to help you on your way.

One of the biggest challenges when addressing an issue in a community or nation is knowing just how to begin the journey. Finding the supports and resources to develop an effective response that is unique to your community can feel overwhelming. The Promising Practices Toolkits were created with just that in mind. A combination of background information, current statistics, resources like posters and cards that can be printed and shared, and success stories from communities that have done good work in addressing these health issues, the toolkits are a “all in one” resource to help you develop your own strategy toward health in your community.

The toolkits are divided into four categories, each one addressing an issue that is central to the holistic health and well-being of our communities: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis C (Hep C), Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections (STBBIs), and Harm Reduction. While many of the components of each category are shared, each resource has been chosen to best reflect the current realities and practices within each area. As well, each category has been duplicated into four versions – First Nation On Reserve, Indigenous Off Reserve, Métis, and a French language translation – each with a unique visual look and a few people-specific resources to make the toolkits as effective as possible.

The following lists give you a snapshot of the various components of each toolkit, so you can see where there are common elements, as well as any unique resources that are culturally-specific where applicable.
We hope that these toolkits and the resources in them will give you the support and information you need to build holistic health in your community that will last for generations to come!

**Toolkits:**

**HIV**
- Section One: Statistics and Perspective
- Section Two: HIV Basics
- Section Three: Posters
- Section Four: Treatment: Strong Medicine video
- Section Five: Pre & Post Counselling
- Section Six: Self Assessment & Personal Bill of Rights
- Section Seven: Criminalization
- Section Eight: Consent
- Section Nine: Stigma & Discrimination
- Section Ten: Promising Practices
- Section Eleven: Community Readiness & Take Me To Your Leader (background info)

**Hep C**
- Section One: Statistics and Perspective
- Section Two: What is Hep C?
- Section Three: Hepatitis C Resources, Self Assessment, Personal Bill of Rights
- Section Four: Posters
- Section Five: Hepatitis C Awareness Event Planning
- Section Six: Promising Practices

**STBBIs**
- Section One: Statistics
- Section Two: First Nation Perspective on the Wholistic Model
- Section Three: Self Assessment & Personal Bill of Rights
- Section Four: STBBI Fact Sheets

**Harm Reduction**
- Section One: Statistics and Perspective
- Section Two: What is Harm Reduction?
- Section Three: Indigenizing Harm Reduction
- Section Four: Harm Reduction Fact Sheets
- Section Five: Harm Reduction Implementation Guide
- Section Six: Videos and Other Resources

During this time, CAAN has been instrumental in the development of four key strategies:

1. **Aboriginal Strategy on HIV and AIDS in Canada (ASHAC II 2009-2014).**
2. **Environments of Nurturing Safely (EONS 2010-2015).**
3. **National Aboriginal Youth Strategy on HIV and AIDS in Canada (NAYSHAC 2010-2015).**
4. **International Indigenous Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS (IIWGHA 2011-2017).**

These strategies share goals to lower the incidence and prevalence rates of HIV and AIDS amongst Indigenous People within Canada and to contribute to the global HIV and AIDS efforts of Indigenous peoples. CAAN recognizes that prevention, education and support services, public awareness and health promotion, and capacity development is vital to the success of a strategic response. These documents can be used to further your own sexual and reproductive health work.