

The Power of Networking

Highlights of the work of the Network Action Team on FASD Prevention from a Women's Health Determinants Perspective (pNAT)

In the fall of 2006, the Canada FASD Research Network began funding our Prevention Network Action Team (pNAT) focusing on women's health issues in the prevention of FASD. Since that time, the pNAT has been building a network of researchers, service providers, health planners, community partners, and birth mothers working on FASD prevention issues.

Our pNAT has over 70 active members from across the country. We work with a broad spectrum of organizations and institutions, located all across Canada's vast geography: from Whitehorse to Iqaluit, from St John's to Victoria.

A few examples of recent member activities, projects and resources are:



**Co-Creating
Evidence**

National Evaluation of Multi-service
Programs Reaching Pregnant
Women at Risk

EVALUATION RESEARCH PROJECT

The 'Co-Creating Evidence' project is a multi-site evaluation involving community-based programs that support women to prevent FASD. The programs are located in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia and the NWT. The project's overall goals are to: bring together many of Canada's holistic ('Level 3') FASD prevention programs to share promising practices and key outcomes/indicators; and to undertake a multi-site evaluation that evidences the effectiveness of this level of FASD prevention programming and identifies characteristics that make these programs successful.

The project is being led by Nota Bene Consulting Group (Deborah Rutman, Carol Hubberstey and Marilyn Van Bibber) in partnership with the Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (Nancy Poole). The project, which started in February 2017 and runs until September 2020, has been funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

MEETING WOMEN WHERE THEY ARE AT: COMMUNITY MAKING A DIFFERENCE - DOCUMENTARY

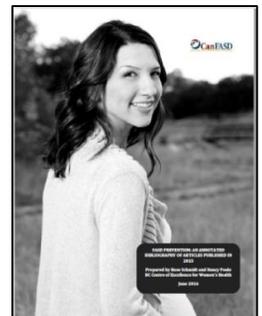
The Mothering Project in Winnipeg created a mini-documentary featuring several women who participate in its programs and services. Viewers witness the strength and resilience of each woman in facing barriers and in building healthy relationships with herself, her community, and her children. The documentary was developed in collaboration with 14 Manitoba FASD Coalitions and as part of the "Looking After Each Other: A Dignity Promotion Project" they created. The Mothering Project takes a relational approach to supporting women in their lives and as parents.

<http://www.fasdcoalition.ca/looking-after-each-other-project/mini-documentaries/>



ANNUAL ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Annually, researchers associated with the pNAT of the CanFASD Research Network search the academic literature for articles on FASD prevention. The findings are organized using a four-level prevention framework used by the pNAT to describe the wide range of work that comprises FASD prevention. The annual literature search is intended to update those involved in FASD prevention in Canada, so they can inform their practice and policy work with current evidence. https://canfasd.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2017/06/AnnotatedBib2016Articles_FASDPrevention_2017-05-22.pdf



A View of Our Work

More Examples of Recent Network Member Activities
related to Policy, Research and Practice



ALCOHOL-FREE IS SUPPORTIVE - CAMPAIGN

The Yukon FASD Interagency Advisory Committee has created a "Alcohol-free is Supportive" campaign. It consists of posters in English and French, ads in the local theatres, online ads, and radio ads. The website offers ways to support an alcohol-free pregnancy, where to go for help, and both Yukon-wide and community-specific resources. Partners in this project include people with FASD, family members and caregivers, First Nations, NGO, RCMP, and the Yukon Government, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society of the Yukon (FASSY), and Child Development Centre.

<http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/supportive.php>



DEVELOPING AN INDIGENOUS APPROACH TO FASD - CONSENSUS STATEMENT

In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Call-to-Action #33 on FASD Prevention, leading experts in Indigenous health and wellness, and FASD gathered at the Dialogue to Action on Prevention of FASD project meeting in May 2017. Participants developed 8 tenets for enacting the Call-to-Action, which provides a framework for furthering Indigenous approaches to FASD prevention. The project is a collaboration of the Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, the Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, and Canada FASD Research Network.

<https://canfasd.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2017/06/Consensus-Statement-Eight-Tenets-June-1.pdf>



- Drinking?
- Sexually Active?
- Using Protection?

**YOU ARE AT RISK
OF HAVING A CHILD
WITH FASD**
(Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)

THE FASD PREVENTION CONVERSATION: A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY PROJECT

The Adolescent FASD Prevention Conversation Project is a new awareness and prevention curriculum specifically for those 12-18 years old. As part of the successful Prevention Conversation project, it will engage individuals and professionals in trainings and conversations to increase awareness and education of FASD among adolescents in Alberta.

This project was developed by the province of Alberta and its 12 FASD Service Networks.

<https://preventionconversation.org/>



Dialogue + Action PROJECT
Women and Substance Use

The Dialogue + Action: Women and Substance Use Project has the goal to inspire and facilitate a range of health and social care providers to incorporate brief intervention on alcohol, tobacco, cannabis and prescription opioids in their daily practice with girls, women and their partners. Regional meetings and webinars have been held across Canada, and resources to support discussion and action have been developed. Partners on this project include the Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, UBC Midwifery Program, and the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction.

<http://bccewh.bc.ca/featured-projects/dialogue-to-action-on-discussing-alcohol-with-women-project-2/>

Visit our blog : <https://fasdprevention.wordpress.com/>

The pNAT is facilitated by the Centre of Excellence for Women's Health

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