

PREVENTING YOUTH DATING VIOLENCE



Building Capacity for Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Canada

Project Goal

The project will address dating violence prevention through the adaptation, implementation, and evaluation of an existing comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) curriculum that will be delivered in school and community settings across Canada.

Objectives

- 1 Increase youth (ages 12 to 19) knowledge and skills relating to healthy romantic and/or sexual relationships that are free of violence.
- 2 Increase the capacity of professionals to deliver an evidence-based CSE curriculum to youth within school and community-based settings in order to help reduce youth dating violence in Canada.
- 3 Increase understanding of the factors that contribute to the effectiveness, feasibility, and acceptability of CSE as an intervention for youth dating violence prevention

Developed & delivered by:



CANADIAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE

In collaboration with:

Centre for Sexuality



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Public Health Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé publique du Canada

CONTENT



The adapted CSE curriculum will encompass a range of topics (e.g., sexual and gender identity, gender equity, consent, communication, etc.) relevant to healthy youth relationships.

The curriculum will incorporate experiential activities founded on the principles of health equity and trauma-informed practice, ultimately allowing youth to develop and practice the skills needed to make healthy decisions related to their sexuality and relationships.



PEOPLE INVOLVED

The project will reach diverse youth of all genders within schools (Grades 7-12 with an emphasis on Grade 9 students) as well as youth aged 12-19 accessing community-based programs.

This project will seek partnership with and support health and social service professionals in delivering the adapted CSE to youth in their respective settings.

TIMELINE & SITES



When: 2018 to 2023.

Where: Schools and community settings across Canada.

1 SCOPING

COLLECT EVIDENCE Conduct literature reviews and interview experts in fields of sexuality education, violence prevention, and intervention research.



ENGAGE YOUTH THROUGH YOUTH-INFORMED APPROACH

Conduct 6-10 semi-structured focus group conversations with youth in schools and communities across the country, as well as invite youth to respond to a self-report online survey.

USE EVIDENCE TO ADAPT PROGRAM

Program will be adapted based on literature reviews, expert interviews, and information from youth focus groups and self-report online survey responses.



ADAPTATION 2

APPLY FINDINGS FROM SCOPING ACTIVITIES Adaptations will consider youth feedback related to facilitator and setting preferences, learning needs and gaps in knowledge/skills on relevant topics

3 IMPLEMENTATION

PROGRAM DELIVERED BY HEALTH AND/OR SOCIAL PROFESSIONALS These professionals may include health educators, social workers, and public health nurses. CPHA and Centre for Sexuality will provide ongoing training and support.



ENGAGE YOUTH THROUGH YOUTH-INFORMED APPROACH

In each of the six pilot communities, the program will be delivered and evaluated in at least one school and community-based setting.

EVALUATE PROCESS OF DELIVERY

The evaluation will consider the optimal ways of supporting health and social service professionals in delivering CSE, and on ensuring program fidelity and sustainability.



EVALUATE PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

Evaluate effectiveness in: (1) reducing youth attitudes and behaviours that contribute to youth dating violence; (2) increasing youth skills needed for building and maintaining healthy romantic and/or sexual relationships.

EVALUATION 4

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