

August 21, 2018

Concurrent Workshops

Developing skills to foster mentally healthy communities

5 concurrent workshops will be offered to enhance skills in the use of tools and methods for practice and policies that support population child and youth mental health promotion.

1. Roadmap for Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Implementation

Presenters: Ellen Coady and Rhonda McKinnon, Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

So you want to make a start on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in your practice! This session will provide you with some practical tips on how to start using Social and Emotional Learning where we work, live and play. Participants will have an opportunity to collaborate with other participants and practice some SEL strategies. Group facilitated discussions aim to provide guidance on introducing social and emotional learning to your organization using a roadmap analogy that will provide participants with information and insight on important steps to consider on the road to implementing social and emotional learning.

Connection with the ASI theme:

This session explores the implementation of Social and Emotional Learning using a Comprehensive School Health (CSH) approach and acknowledges the importance of SEL across the lifespan and in all settings. Working in all four components of CSH to implement SEL promotes a whole society approach to promoting child and youth mental health.

Participants will learn:

Participants will learn about a comprehensive school health approach, the competencies of Social and Emotional Learning and how to develop the same in individuals. Practical tools that will help participants begin the process of using social and emotional learning in their daily practice will be explored in both an individual and group context.

Evidence for policy and practice:

One of the outcomes of this session is bringing focus to the value of working together to promote child and youth mental health. Successfully scaling up or delivering policies and programs requires the development of partnerships to support the work.

Presenters:

Ellen Coady

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Ellen Coady and Rhonda McKinnon are Program Specialists with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development; Rhonda for Safe and Caring Schools and Ellen with Program Development. Rhonda holds a Bachelor of Education Degree (B. Ed) from Memorial University and a Master Degree in Counselling Psychology from the University of Toronto (OISE). She has been an educator for 27 years. During that time she has been a classroom teacher, special education teacher, a guidance counsellor and a school administrator. Her current work revolves around working with school districts to support the implementation of the provincial Safe and Caring School Policy in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. Ellen holds a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.) from Memorial University and a Master Degree in Education (Curriculum and Instruction) from Concordia University. She has been involved in education for 28 years both at the classroom and policy levels.

Social and emotional learning is an integral part of both Ellen's and Rhonda's work. Most recently they have been working to embed social and emotional learning outcomes directly into the provincial curricula using a comprehensive school health approach.