

ACEWH Initiatives

Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities

The Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities (ASI) is a learning institute that brings people together working in economic and social development, justice, crime, disease and injury prevention, and health promotion. It has been held annually since 2004 at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown, PEI. ACEWH is the lead partner and administrator of the resources for the Institute.

Fostering Innovation in Social Development: Health Meets Safety in Atlantic Canadian Communities

To assist community organizations in acquiring the understanding, tools and skills that will enable them to foster social development in their communities – of interest, location or identity -- by addressing the root causes of crime and the determinants of health at the same time.

What's Gender/Sex Got To Do With It?: Health Research, Policy and Practice in Nova Scotia

This workshop was designed to provide health researchers, policy analysts, planners, and clinicians the skills to understand when and how gender, sex and other social determinants of health influence their work.

Healthy Balance: A community alliance for health research on women's unpaid caregiving

The goal of the Healthy Balance Research Program is to better understand the connections between women's health and well-being, family life and earning a livelihood within Nova Scotia.

Finding a Healthy Balance: Research, policy and practice on women's unpaid caregiving in Nova Scotia

In May 2006, the Healthy Balance Research Program hosted a forum which brought together over 100 participants from across the province and beyond where five years of research on the impact of unpaid caregiving on the health and well-being of women in Nova Scotia was shared. It marked the beginning of a year of sharing our findings and moving forward on strategic priorities for caregiving research, policy and practice.

On the Margins: Understanding and Improving Black Women's Health in Rural and Remote Nova Scotian Communities

The project centred on an investigation of health status, health care delivery, and health services utilization among African Canadians residing in rural and remote regions of Nova Scotia, specifically the towns and villages along the south and west shores of the province, from Liverpool to Annapolis Royal.

Rethinking Health Inequities: Social and economic inclusion (SEI) and the case of 'Lone Mothers'

A qualitative, exploratory study that included eleven focus groups in eight communities in Atlantic Canada, representing 77 lone mothers and 26 lone mothers who completed in-depth follow-up interviews. We heard from lone mothers, however, about how they have sometimes felt excluded and not been able to participate in their own communities, not being able to allow their children to go on school trips, not having enough money to provide healthy food for themselves and their children, all the while facing prejudice and discrimination.

Farm Family Health

This study is a large cross-Canada study called A Cohort Study of the Impact of Prion Disease on Farm Family Community Health. Its purpose is to investigate the impact of BSE and related prion diseases on the health and well-being of farm families and communities.

State of Women's Cancer in Atlantic Canada

Develop a consolidated report of 1) a statistical profile of breast, cervical, ovarian and uterine cancers in four Atlantic provinces, based on available secondary data analysis; 2) an environmental scan of supports and services available to those with breast, cervical, ovarian and uterine cancers in the Atlantic provinces; 3) qualitative data from 8 focus groups to capture voices of marginalized women living with the breast, cervical, ovarian and uterine cancers; and 4) key informant interviews with representatives from NGO and government agencies supporting women living with breast, cervical, ovarian and uterine cancers.

Immigrant Women, Family Violence and Pathways Out of Homelessness

This project was a multi-site study with research being collected in collaboration with academic and community partners in Calgary, Winnipeg and Halifax which identified key systemic and individual causes of persistent and repetitive homelessness of immigrant women experiencing family violence.

Inaugural International Institute on Gender and HIV/AIDS (IIGHA) was held in Johannesburg, South Africa on June 7 – 11, 2004. Eighty-eight participants, including senior government decision makers, researchers, program managers and practitioners, activists and advocates from Botswana, Canada, Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland, gathered together with representatives from regional and international organizations to share their experiences and expertise on the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and to build partnerships and capacity to address the role of gender in HIV prevention, treatment, care, support and impact mitigation.

The Midwifery Way: A National Forum Reflecting on the State of Midwifery Regulation in Canada

In an effort to learn from the experiences of the regulated provinces and to ensure that midwifery services are made available to more women, the Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health and the Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence hosted *The Midwifery Way: A National Forum Reflecting on the State of Midwifery Regulation in Canada*, on July 22 and 23, 2004 at Dalhousie University.

Leadership Award for Women's Health in Atlantic Canada

At the community level, ACEWH has recognized the contribution individuals and community groups make to the improvement of women's health through the *Leadership Award for Women's Health in Atlantic Canada*. Since November 2000, ACEWH has presented 78 awards at ceremonies held in the 4 Atlantic provinces. Examples of award recipients include a creative writer, film makers, physicians, a mayor, health education consultant, and nurses.