A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible, set against a dark background with silhouettes of evergreen trees in the foreground.

# Developing Resources to Advance Collaborative Action on FASD Prevention in Indigenous Communities

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# Territory Acknowledgement

We are grateful to be presenting on the Unceded Territory of the Coast Salish Peoples including the xwməθkwəy'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səl'ílwətaʔ/Selilwítlh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations and wish to acknowledge the Elders past, present, and future from the land on which we gather today.

## Acknowledgement of our Contributing Partners

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Michelle Prouty

Lia Ruttan

Candice Sutterfield

# Introduction



Lindsay Wolfson, Research  
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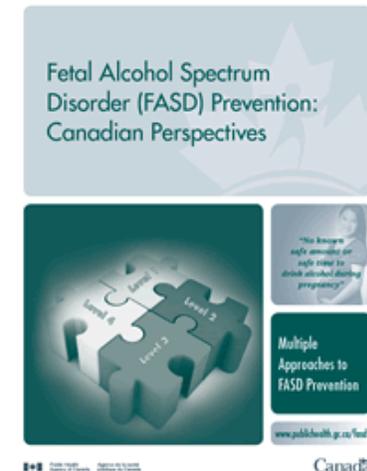
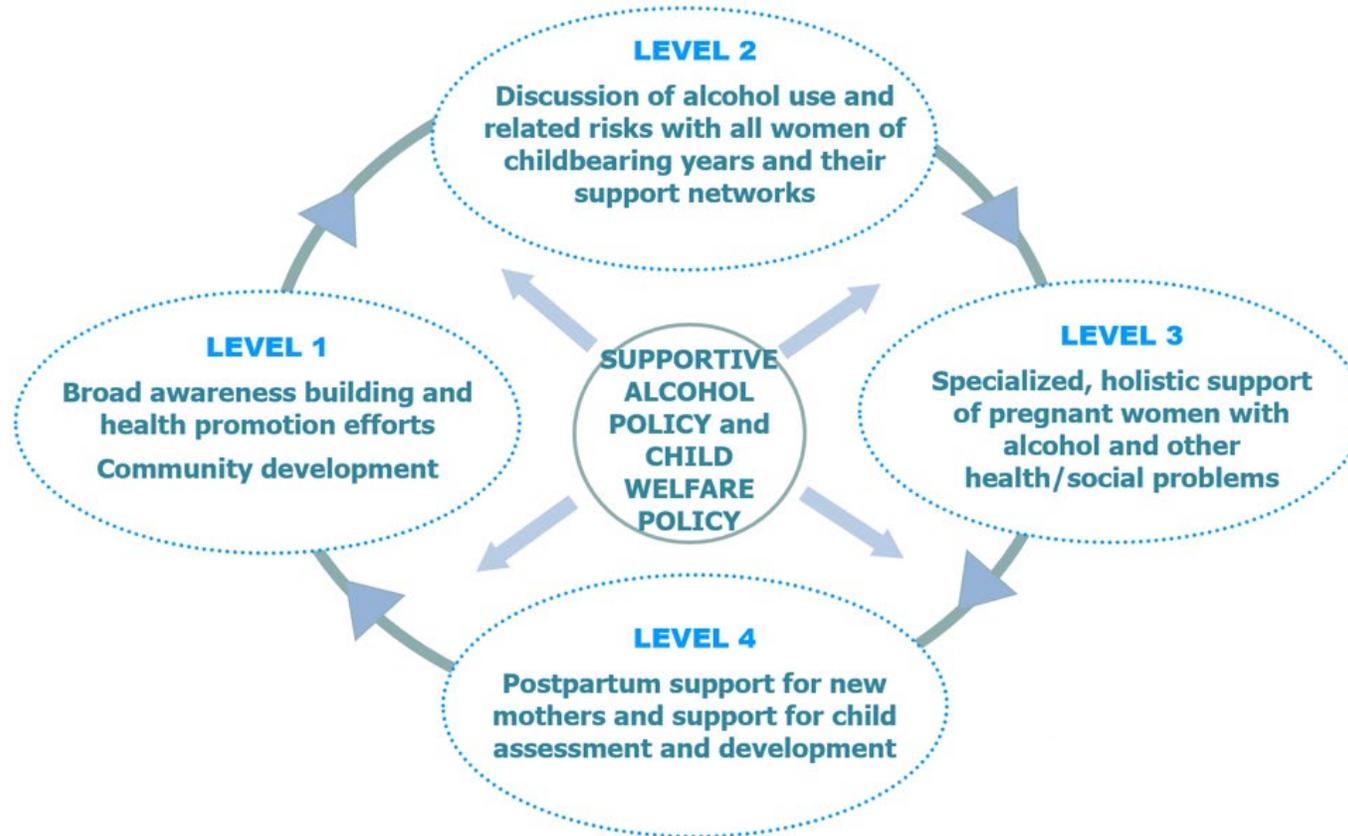
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Denise Lacerte, Senior Specialist,  
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# Foundational Initiatives: Four-Part Model for FASD Prevention



Public Health Canada

Canada

# Foundational Initiatives: Truth and Reconciliation Commission

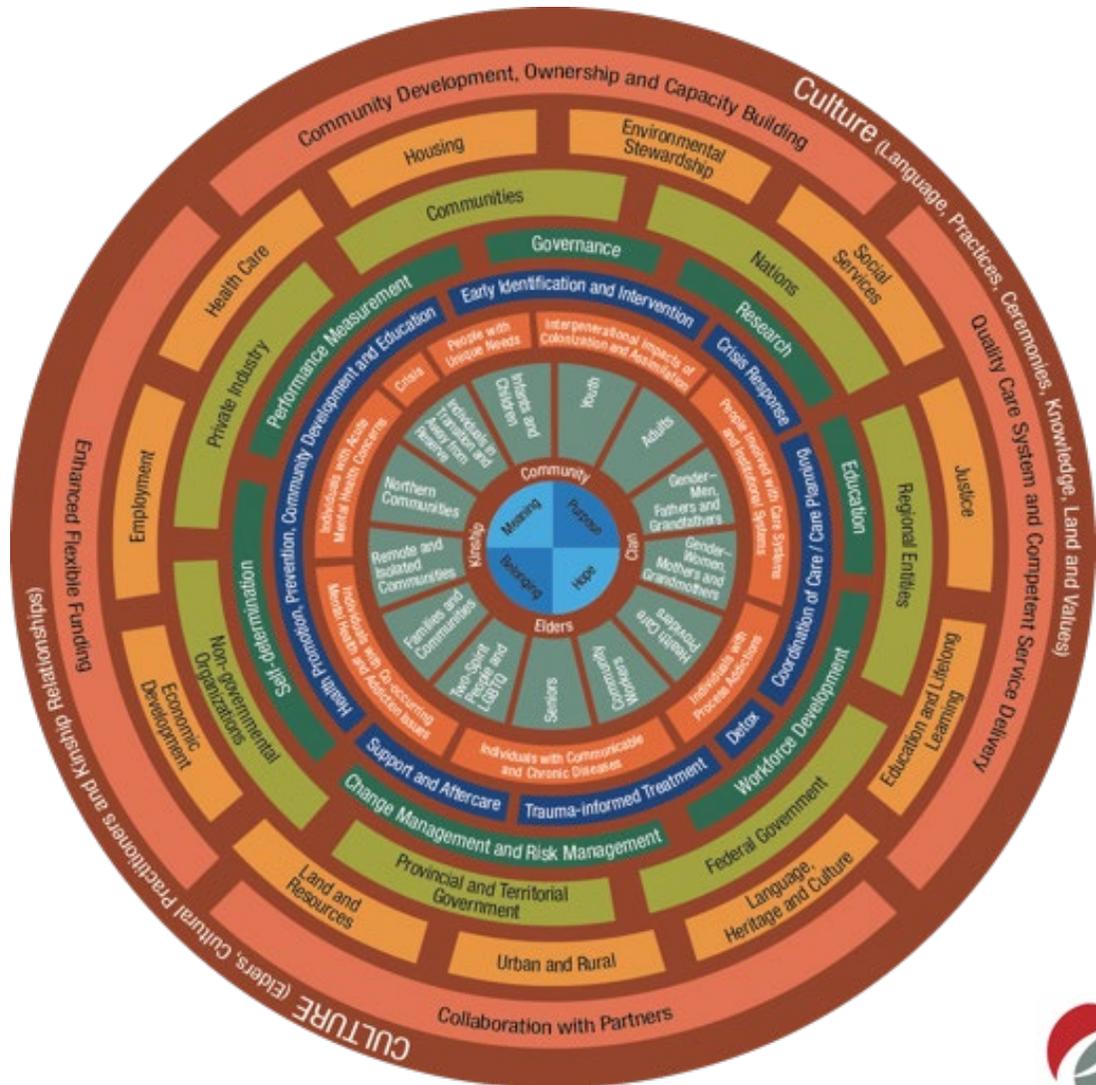


## Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action

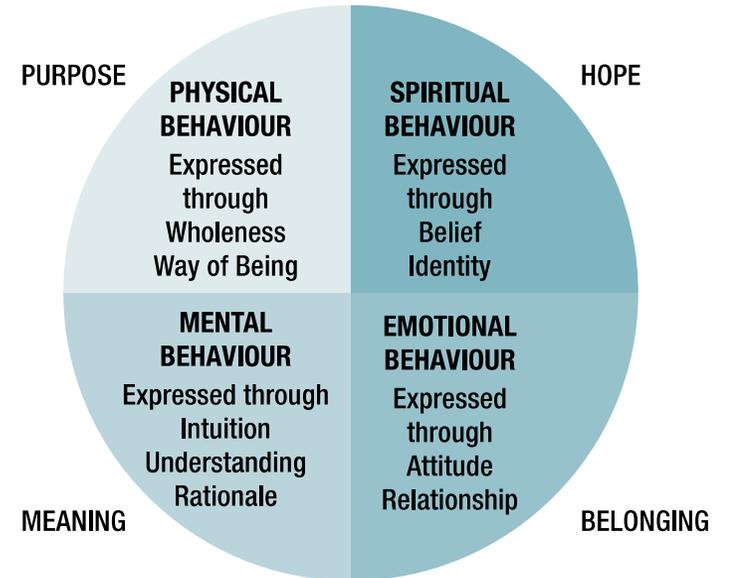


- Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2015) outlines 94 Calls to Action to facilitate reconciliation
- Call to Action 33
  - “We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to recognize as a high priority the need to address and prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), and to develop, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, FASD preventive programs that can be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner”

# Foundational Initiatives: Culture as Intervention



## Indigenous Wellness Framework



# Foundational Initiatives: Consensus Statement



Developing an Indigenous  
approach to FASD



- Participants developed the following Consensus Statement to:
  - **Inform:** robust and culturally-safer approaches to implementing TRC Call to Action #33 thereby delivering better supports and services to mothers, families and communities.
  - **Affirm:** a cross-disciplinary and cross-organizational approach with a priority for Indigenous knowledge to implementing TRC Call #33 while also sharing perspectives and insights with agencies, individuals and stakeholders committed to this same goal.
  - **Promote:** an ongoing and collaborative commitment to reconciliation.

# Developing Resources for Action

- In March 2019, *Advancing Collaborative Action on FASD Prevention* brought together community leaders and leading experts in FASD prevention to share what is known about community-based, community-led FASD prevention programs in Indigenous communities.
- Workshop participants collaboratively developed a booklet to support existing and future FASD prevention program planners and providers. The booklet articulates the diverse approaches to FASD prevention taken by communities and affirms the role of Indigenous knowledge systems and holistic wellness approaches in addressing alcohol use and pregnancy.
- This collaborative work raises awareness about the expansive and diverse approaches to community-based, community-driven FASD prevention programs being taken across Canada.

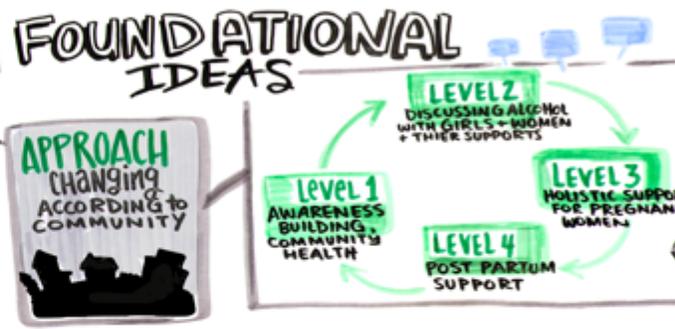
MARCH 5, 2019

# ADVANCING Collaborative ACTION ON FASD PREVENTION

**ELDER LARRY** "Welcome to MUSQUEAM TERRITORY"

**WE MUST Love AND ACCEPT OURSELVES IN ORDER TO HEAL**

**Belonging IS ESSENTIAL TO Health**



**WOMEN HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW**

**WE MUST BE ABLE TO HAVE OPEN AND SAFE AND HONEST Dialogue ON ALCOHOL**

**WE MUST CONSIDER "How ARE WE DOING" HOLISTIC SUPPORT?** COMMUNITY FAMILY

**INDIVIDUAL MEETING WOMEN WHERE THEY'RE AT, HARM REDUCTION**

**CONSENSUS STATEMENT FIGHT TENANTS**

**What are OTHERS DOING?**

**AUSTRALIA** LINKING PREVENTION TO DIAGNOSIS

**MUSHUAI INUUK & SHESHATSIU** FIRST NATIONS - LED STRATEGY ON PREVENTION

**WE ARE HERE TO... LEARN FROM EACH OTHER**

**RE-THINK** HOW CAN WE RE-THINK WHAT WORKS FOR COMMUNITY?

WHAT IS WORKING? NOT WORKING?

**COMMUNITY DESIGNED** WE MUST BE FLEXIBLE AND OPEN

OUR APPROACH to RESEARCH & EVALUATION

EDUCATION & SUPPORT

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

FASD PLANNING & LEAD BY & FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

**Building on good work done**

**HISTORY AND CURRENT EXPERIENCE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

RECOGNIZE AND UNDERSTAND THE HISTORY AND CURRENT EXPERIENCE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

**HISTORY OF FASD TOO!**

**TRADITIONAL Knowledge** HAS ALWAYS HAD HEALTHY PRACTICES FOR PREGNANCY

- SIMPLE LIFE GOALS SETTING
- YOU CAN BE A DIFFERENT PARENT FROM YOUR PARENTS
- EDUCATION ON DRUGS & ALCOHOL

what **BARRIERS** CAN WE REMOVE?

What works for **you?**

**FNHA** GIVING FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN THE BEST START

TRIPARTATE AGREEMENT WITH BC FIRST NATIONS SO FIRST NATIONS CAN DIRECT & CONTROL THEIR CARE

**Relationships are KEY**

**Advocates** SUPPORTING WOMEN THROUGHOUT PREGNANCY

SOME WOMEN WILL ONLY SPEAK WITH THEIR ADVOCATE...

... HOW CAN WE FILL GAPS IN TRANSITIONS BETWEEN SERVICES?

**Sharing** KNOWLEDGE AND WAYS OF WORKING

SUPPORT the **WHOLE FAMILY**

FOR GRANDPARENTS

FOR MOMS

FOR DADS

FOR COMMUNITY

**Collaborate** HOW CAN WE COLLABORATE ACROSS ALL THE WORK WE'RE DOING? WE'RE ALL PIECES OF A LARGER PUZZLE

RECOGNIZE the INITIATIVES & WORK ACROSS CANADA... ... AND THE WORLD!

**GRANDMAS** WHAT'S HER HOME LIFE LIKE?

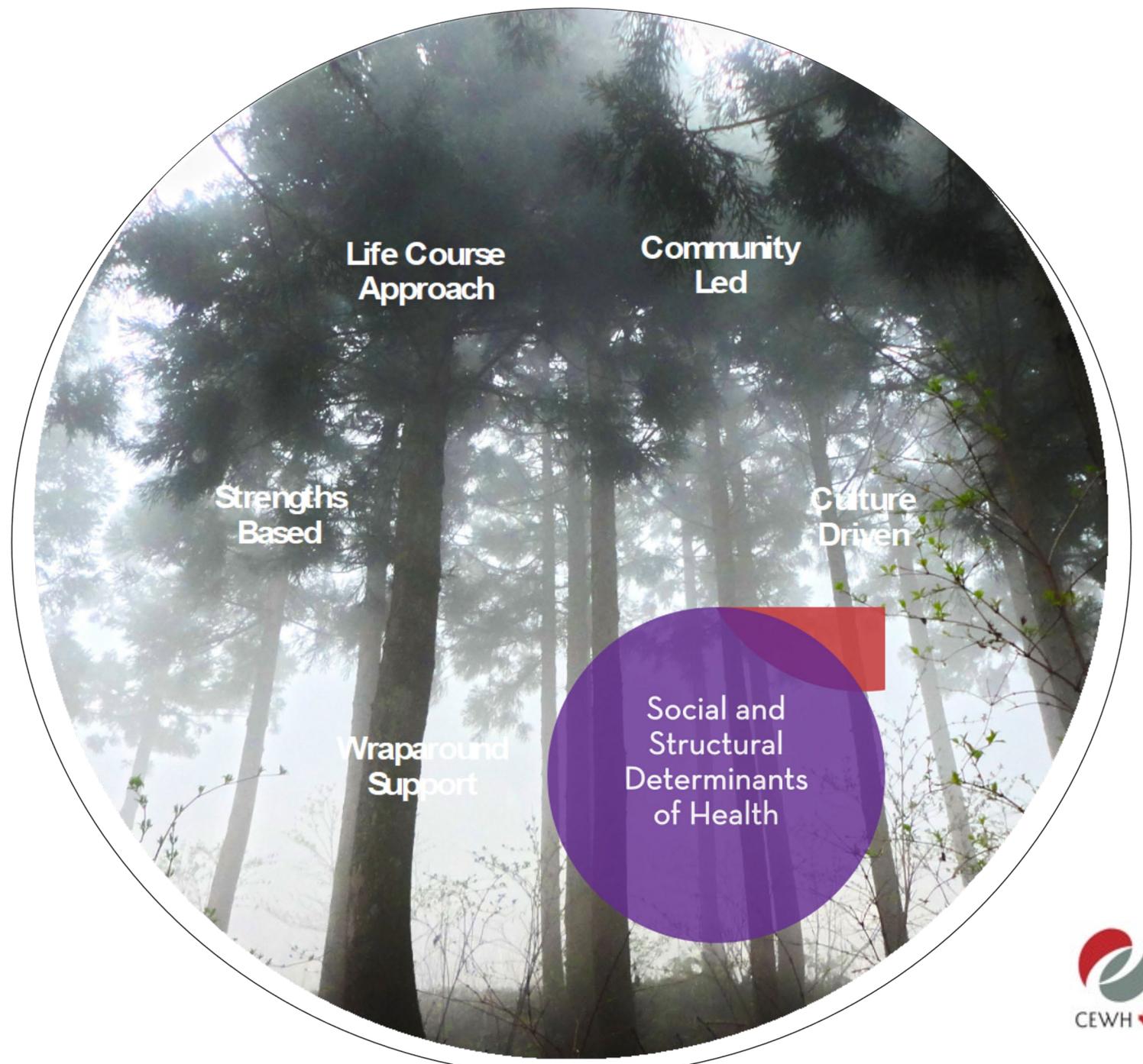
**AUNTIES SISTERS**

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES are EXPERTS IN WHAT'S NEEDED**

WHAT does Prevention LOOK LIKE?

WHAT does Awareness LOOK LIKE?

# Principles of FASD Prevention in Indigenous Communities





## **Revitalizing Culture and Healing in FASD Prevention**

# Developing a Resource for Action

This booklet features:

- A foreword from Marilyn Van Bibber, the author of *If Takes a Community*
- Examples from seven community-based, culture driven FASD prevention and wellness programs
- Considerations for expanding and developing a community-based FASD prevention and wellness program
- Reflection questions for future program providers

# Developing and Expanding FASD Prevention and Wellness Programs

There are important actions we can take even if we are not ready to develop a holistic, community-based program or expand the existing program in our community.

1. Using Non-Stigmatizing Language
2. Identifying Existing Community Strengths and Programming
3. Identifying Potential Funding Partners
4. Connecting with those who have Walked the Path Before Us



# Reflection Questions

1. How does our program support women, children, and their families?
2. How does our program support women in addressing the issues that impact their substance use?
3. How are we reaching women who are most at risk for substance use in pregnancy?
4. How does our program integrate our Ancestors, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, culture and language?
5. Have we followed the proper community protocol(s) in all of our interactions with community members, community partners, and external partners?
6. Have we created a safe and welcoming space for women? Are our services trauma-informed, FASD-informed, and harm reduction-oriented?
7. Is our program welcoming, harm reduction oriented, trauma-informed and FASD-informed?
8. How can our program reduce stigma associated with FASD and substance use in pregnancy?

# Thank You!



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