Health Equity and Environmental Public Health Workshop Toolkit: Facilitator’s Guide

Prepared by: Karen Rideout

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Introduction

The *Health Equity in Environmental Public Health Workshop Toolkit* is a collection of customizable resources (agendas, PowerPoint presentation modules, interactive exercises, discussion questions, and handouts) that can be used to create a professional development or planning session for staff and management. Although background knowledge will help, specific health equity expertise is not required. If you are new to health equity, you may wish to consult with colleagues or a health equity specialist (such as a population health equity specialist, medical health officer, or social determinants of health/health equity nurse).

This Facilitator’s Guide provides an overview of the *Toolkit*. It is designed to highlight the contents of the Toolkit and guide potential users through the process of creating a health equity discussion, module, session, presentation, or workshop based on this collection of resources.

Purpose of the *Toolkit*

This *Toolkit* supports managers and other environmental public health (EPH) leaders to facilitate professional development or planning sessions with their teams to build internal capacity around health equity. This will enable EPH and other public health staff to engage in ongoing learning about health equity and to work together to integrate a health equity perspective into EPH practice.

The short-term objectives for this *Toolkit* are:

- Environmental public health practitioners (EPHPs)\(^1\) have increased access to health equity training, regardless of whether they are able to attend external conferences and workshops.
- EPHP leaders are better equipped to respond to equity-related organizational policies and practices.
- Health equity becomes better understood as a core component of EPH practice.

Over time, development of and participation in these health equity workshops means that:

- The *Handbook of Health Equity in Environmental Public Health*, along with complementary resources from BCCDC and the National Collaborating Centres for Environmental Health and Determinants of Health (NCCEH, NCCDH) will continue to be disseminated and used to support the integration of health equity into EPH practice.
- Environmental health staff will collaborate more closely and/or more frequently with other public health professionals to support population health equity.

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\(^1\) Environmental public health practitioners include environmental health officers (EHOs), public health inspectors (PHIs), and other public health practitioners who focus on environmental health issues.
What’s included in the *Toolkit*

The Facilitator’s Guide (this document) includes:

- Instructions for creating and facilitating one of three [ready-made sessions](#) or a [custom session](#) for your staff or colleagues
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Agenda template](#)
- [Workshop component selection matrix](#)
- [Additional resources and links](#)
- [Dissemination and promotion materials](#)

**Accompanying materials** include:

- Three ready-made sessions with agendas, presentation slides, and other materials
- Materials and templates to create a custom session
- Interactive workshop exercises, including handout materials and instructions for facilitators
- Workshop evaluation and feedback tools

**How to use the *Toolkit***

The Facilitator’s Guide explains how to use the resources in the *Toolkit* to facilitate a discussion or create a presentation, workshop, or educational session about health equity and environmental public health practice. You may choose a ready-made session or create your own custom session. You might also use the *Toolkit* to add a short presentation about health equity to a team meeting or use an individual element (such as a PowerPoint slide, handout, video, group discussion question, or interactive exercise) to facilitate discussion in an informal setting or meeting with staff and colleagues. The materials can be adapted for local use or supplemented with additional resources.

**Ready-made sessions**

Three ready-made session packages include everything you need to offer a health equity presentation or workshop to introduce health equity, explore ways EPHPs can put health equity knowledge into practice, or brainstorm about how to increase organizational capacity for health equity. Each package includes a session agenda and PowerPoint slide module with speaking notes, as well as interactive exercises with visual aids, handouts, and facilitator instructions.
**Health Equity in Environmental Public Health Workshop Toolkit – Facilitator’s Guide**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session name</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to health equity for EPHPs</td>
<td>20–30 min</td>
<td>A short <a href="#">presentation</a> to introduce concepts of health equity and social determinants of health, illustrate how these concepts intersect with EPHPs’ practice, and briefly introduce ideas about how EPHPs might respond to health equity issues. This session is suitable to introduce health equity to any EPH staff. <strong>OPTIONAL ADD-IN:</strong> <a href="#">Interactive component</a> in which participants explore scenarios and discuss equity-related issues and how they could respond in practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following workshops build on the information included in the Introduction presentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. Health equity knowledge to action for EPHPs</th>
<th>1–2 hours</th>
<th>This <a href="#">workshop</a> includes a brief introductory <a href="#">PowerPoint presentation</a> and interactive small group sessions (<a href="#">Using a Framework</a> and <a href="#">A Role to Play</a>) to introduce specific practice tools. It is intended for <a href="#">frontline practitioners and managers</a>.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Organizational capacity for health equity action</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>This <a href="#">workshop</a> includes a brief introductory <a href="#">PowerPoint presentation</a>, <a href="#">scenarios for review</a>, and a <a href="#">World Café</a> to explore how to increase capacity for health equity action in your department or organization. This session is designed for <a href="#">managers and senior leadership</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Custom sessions**

You can create a custom presentation or workshop to fit your time, audience, needs, and goals. All the materials and background information are included in this Facilitator’s Guide and in the accompanying resource files.

1. **Agenda** – Copy the agenda template ([Appendix A](#)) and fill it in as you plan your session.

2. **Parameters** – Determine who your audience will be (frontline EPHPs, HBE teams, managers, senior leadership), their knowledge level, time available for the session, number of people to attend, room capacity, format (presentation or workshop), etc.

3. **Goal** – Articulate your own goal and objectives for the session. The Toolkit is designed to create sessions focused on specific objectives you might have in mind for your team such as:
   - Introduce concepts related to health equity and the social determinants of health
   - Go deeper to build on basic knowledge about health equity and the social determinants of health
   - Clarify the relevance of health equity to environmental public health practice
   - Implement health equity concepts in environmental public health practice
   - Build EPHP skills to apply an equity lens
   - Build organizational capacity for health equity – integrate equity into policies and processes

**VERSION:** 19 November 2018
• Stimulate ideas or dialogue about how health equity arises among your colleagues, or about how to integrate a health equity lens into your department or organization
• Learn practical tools for taking action on health equity in environmental public health practice

4. **Content** – Use the selection matrix (Appendix B) to choose the components that will comprise your session. The matrix includes PowerPoint slides, interactive exercises, and handouts, as well as background information and facilitator instructions.
   a. **Presentation sections:**
   • The **PowerPoint Master file** contains slides focusing on a range of health equity topics. Slides are organized into sections by topic so that you can easily identify which slides to choose from for your session. For some topics, you will have a choice between a short presentation section (approx. 5–10 slides) or a summary slide (or slides) if you which to briefly review or highlight a topic without going into detail.
   • Speaking notes are included with all slides to provide additional background and ideas for how to present the material. You are welcome to revise the speaking notes or slides to fit your own goals and presentation style.
   • After compiling your slides, review the complete package to ensure flow. You may need to add transition slides between some topics or allow time for questions. You many also wish to edit or add to the speaking notes. Because some slides are included in more than one category in the master file, it is advisable to carefully review your complete slide section and remove any repetitious material.
   b. **Interactive components:**
   • Interactive components include small group or plenary discussions, World Café sessions, case study or scenario reviews, guided group exercises, and individual reflection.
   • Select interactive components based on your health equity topic of interest and the amount of time available.
   • We recommend including at least one brief interactive component for any session longer than 20–30 minutes. Sessions of 2 hours or more will benefit from one longer interactive component or several shorter ones. These components help keep the audience engaged and provide opportunities to practice using tools or connect new ideas to practice.

5. **Materials** – Depending on your focus, you may wish to provide printed handouts of the PowerPoint slides. If you are doing an interactive session, there may be discussion questions, scenarios, or other materials that attendees will need.
6. **Equipment** – If you are including a discussion session, small group report to plenary, World Café, or other interactive components, you may need additional equipment or supplies (e.g., note paper, pens, whiteboard and markers, easel paper, sticky notes, etc.)

7. **Practice** – Everything you need should be included in your assembled package. Note that the timings are approximate and will vary from person to person.

**Preparing for your session**

There are two lists of additional resources (Appendices C and D) with links to additional resources, reports, and websites that provide information about health equity and environmental public health practice. **Appendix C** includes resources from the BCCDC Through an Equity Lens project. **Appendix D** includes resources from other agencies or jurisdictions. **Appendix E** includes draft text to help you promote your health equity in EPH session.
FAQs

• What are these presentations and workshops based on?
  This Toolkit was developed from the BCCDC project, *Through an Equity Lens: A new look at environmental health*. This project aimed to better understand the intersections between EPH and health equity and to develop resources to better support the use of an equity lens in EPH practice. Much of the information in the Toolkit is included in the 2017 *Handbook of Health Equity in Environmental Public Health Practice*, a compilation of health equity tools and resources for EPHPs and EPHP leaders.

• Who do I contact for help downloading files?
  Contact pph@bccdc.ca.

• What if I need more information or want to clarify the content of my workshop?
  Visit the BCCDC *Health Equity & Environmental Public Health* web page for additional information and health equity resources for environmental public health professionals. The NCCDH provides health equity information for public health practitioners, including EPHPs. Visit the NCCEH Health Equity and EPH Practice topic page for additional information and resources specific to EPH.

• Is there support if I want to organize a session but I don’t feel comfortable enough with the information to facilitate by myself?
  Yes. We may be able to link you with a content expert who can answer your questions or possibly co-facilitate a session with you. We may also be able to connect you with someone who has already facilitated a session. Contact pph@bccdc.ca for more information.

• Can I change the design or use my organization’s logo and templates for the presentation?
  For a single slide, you can change the background and template (to your own or to “Blank Presentation”) using the Layout option in PowerPoint. If you wish to remove the *Through an Equity Lens* branding, you can check “Hide background graphics” in the Format Background option in PowerPoint; this can be applied to a single slide or to all slides. You can add your own logo using the “Slide Master” view in PowerPoint. Colour schemes can be changed using the Themes option on the PowerPoint Design tab.

• Can I change the content in the Toolkit materials?
  Feel free to change or adapt any of these materials to meet your organization’s learning needs, with permission from pph@bccdc.ca.
  Any time you use these materials, please acknowledge BCCDC by citing this Toolkit: BC Centre for Disease Control. Health Equity in Environmental Public Health Workshop Toolkit: Facilitator’s Guide. Vancouver, B.C. Provincial Health Services Authority, 2018. Available from: http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/professional-resources/health-equity-workshop. Adapted materials should indicate that they were adapted from this Toolkit and cited as such.
Evaluation and reporting

Feedback from session participants

Feedback from every session is useful for your own evaluation and future planning. There is a generic Session Feedback Form (fillable or print) you can use to collect feedback from session attendees. Feel free to add your own logo or branding to the form. You may also add, remove, or change some of the questions to meet your own evaluation needs. There is a printable version that people can fill out immediately following a session (allow 5 minutes at the end of your agenda) and an electronic fillable version that may be emailed to participants. If you prefer to collect digital information, you can use these questions to create an online survey that will automatically compile feedback. If your organization does not have an online survey account, many platforms (e.g., SurveyGizmo, Checkbox, SurveyMonkey) have a limited or trial version available for free.

Session feedback results can help you plan future workshops, learn which aspects resonated most with staff and colleagues, and identify next steps to support health equity action in your organization (department, health authority, or public health unit). Please let us know if there are any suggestions to improve the content of the Toolkit and Facilitator’s Guide, or any other feedback that you feel we should know, by email to pph@bccdc.ca.

Professional Development Hours

Facilitators and attendees who are certified public health inspectors are eligible to obtain professional development hours (PDHs) that can be applied to the CIPHI Continuing Professional Competencies (CPC) Program. Facilitators can use the Certificate of Attendance template to provide written documentation to staff who attend a session. Participants and facilitators can log in to the CIPHI Member Service Centre to apply for professional development hours credit (1 hour for attending or 3 hours for planning and hosting a session).

Toolkit evaluation

Please let BCCDC know if you use the Toolkit to design a presentation or workshop session by sending an email to pph@bccdc.ca. Please also complete a Session Feedback Form to let us know how your session went. We may re-connect with you within a few months to find out how we can improve future versions of the Toolkit and inform the development of new resources.

BCCDC would also like to follow up with your session participants about their experience. Please use the Sign-up sheet template to collect and share your participant list and email addresses (with their permission) and let them know that we may follow up directly with them.

BCCDC will evaluate the Toolkit 8-12 months after its release. We will share our findings with all facilitators who have let us know they used it.
APPENDIX A: Agenda template

Use and adapt this template to outline the structure for your presentation or workshop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Facilitator:</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Objective:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Workshop structure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start time</th>
<th>Allotted time</th>
<th>Section title</th>
<th>Description/Objective</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>e.g. Introduction</td>
<td>Introduce topic and outline for session</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:05</td>
<td>10 min</td>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to health equity in relation to environmental health practice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>e.g. Conclusion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APPENDIX B: Workshop component selection matrix

Note that there may be some overlap between modules, so repeated slides may be removed when compiling a session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time required</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Health equity topic</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PowerPoint presentation modules (select sections or slides from the master PowerPoint presentation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 min</td>
<td>Introduction to session</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-15 min</td>
<td>What is health equity?</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Definition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-15 min</td>
<td>Equity concepts in the context of EPH practice</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Equity is relevant to what EPHPs do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-10 min</td>
<td>Areas of EPH practice affected by equity and SDOH</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Health equity impacts all areas of practice in different ways.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Responding to equity in practice</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>There are emerging practices that EPHPs use to respond to health inequities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Equity focus groups summary</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>How we first identified the intersections between health equity and EPH practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10 min</td>
<td>Tools for applying an equity lens in practice</td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>There are some existing tools EPHPs can use to apply an equity lens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10 min</td>
<td>Upstream and systems thinking</td>
<td>Policy and programs</td>
<td>Senior staff</td>
<td>Health equity action requires broad, upstream thinking and changes at the system level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Future directions re equity in [YOUR ORGANIZATION]</td>
<td>Policy and programs</td>
<td>Leadership to all staff</td>
<td>Summarize what is happening in your organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-20 min</td>
<td>How to operationalize equity into EPH – Organizational structure and leadership</td>
<td>Organizational capacity</td>
<td>Senior staff Leadership</td>
<td>Suggestions for how to begin integrating health equity to program planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min (longer with videos)</td>
<td>Facilitators and barriers to integrating equity in EPH practice</td>
<td>Organizational capacity</td>
<td>Senior staff Leadership</td>
<td>Factors that prevent or support the use of an equity lens in EPH practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Using 2-1-1 for referral and collaboration</td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>How EPHPs can use 2-1-1 to support clients with complex needs or issue outside the EPH scope of practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time required</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Health equity topic</td>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>Goal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Examples of equity lens in practice</td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Here are some projects that involved putting equity into practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 min +</td>
<td>Additional resources</td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Direction to additional resources not fully covered in this session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-10 min</td>
<td>Health equity and HBE work</td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>HBE teams</td>
<td>How HBE work can support health equity goals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PowerPoint summary slides**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time required</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Health equity topic</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 min</td>
<td>Making the connections: Our city, our society, our health</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>How health is shaped by a complex set of interconnected and dynamic social factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 min</td>
<td>Canada Without Poverty</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>How socio-economic factors can influence the lives and health of one family in many ways over time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 min</td>
<td>Equity 101-1: Introduction to health equity for EPH professionals</td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Introduces the concept of health equity and how it relates to EPHP practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equity 101-2: Introduction to</td>
<td>Intro to equity</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Introduces the social determinants of health,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time required</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Health equity topic</td>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>Goal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 min</td>
<td><strong>the social determinants of health for EPH professionals</strong></td>
<td>&amp; SDH</td>
<td></td>
<td>with examples of how they impact practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 min</td>
<td><strong>Equity 101-3: How social determinants of health impact EPH practice settings</strong></td>
<td>Intro to equity &amp; SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Shows how social determinants arise across different EPH practice settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 min</td>
<td><strong>Equity 101-4: What Health Protection can do to support health equity</strong></td>
<td>Organizational capacity</td>
<td>Senior staff Leadership</td>
<td>Identifies organizational facilitators and barriers to show how health authorities can integrate health equity lens to environmental health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 min</td>
<td><strong>Equity 101-5: What EHOs can do to support health equity</strong></td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Identifies concrete actions that individual EPHPs can take to support health equity through their practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interactive exercises**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time required</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Health equity topic</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60+ min</td>
<td><strong>World Cafe</strong></td>
<td>Various topics</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Varies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-30 min</td>
<td><strong>Framework exercise</strong></td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Identify actions individuals and departments or organizations can take to support health equity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-20 min</td>
<td><strong>A role to play exercise</strong></td>
<td>Intro to equity and SDH</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Identify actions individuals can take in their day to day work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 min</td>
<td><strong>Case study discussions</strong></td>
<td>Organizational capacity</td>
<td>Senior staff Leadership</td>
<td>Identify success factors for equity-integrated EPH practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 min</td>
<td><strong>Scenario review and discussion</strong></td>
<td>Various topics</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Illustrate the kinds of health equity issues that arise in environmental public health. Encourage self-reflection and provoke new ways of thinking about these issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>General discussion</strong></td>
<td>Practical tools</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Varies. Use to assess feelings in the room or other specific goals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C:
BCCDC Health Equity & Environmental Public Health resources

For EHOs and leaders new to health equity concepts and equity-integrated practice

Equity 101 Video series
Five animated whiteboard videos that provide a simple and quick overview of health equity concepts and issues to build basic knowledge and a stronger foundation for identifying first steps to possible actions:
1. Introduction to health equity for environmental public health professionals
2. Introduction to the social determinants of health for environmental public health professionals
3. How social determinants of health impact environmental public health settings
4. What health protection can do to support health equity
5. What EHOs can do to support health equity

Primer on Equity and Environmental Public Health practice
Three-part Primer on Equity and Environmental Public Health (EPH) practice, written for practitioners, managers, and program directors:
1. Five Things to Know About Equity in EPH highlights the ways that equity intersects with EPH practice and illustrates how an equity lens might be used.
2. Areas of EPH Practice Impacted by the Social Determinants of Health illustrates how equity issues impact different areas of EPH practice.
3. Equity in EPH Practice discusses ways to integrate an equity lens into practice.

Health equity and environmental public health practice: Stories from public health inspectors
Stories from environmental public health practitioners who are pioneering the use of an equity lens in different ways, from the NCCDH blog.

For EHO leaders to support practice change

Equity-Integrated Environmental Public Health: From Concept to Practice
Summary of conceptual frameworks and their potential application to environmental public health practice, which will guide managers and directors wishing to incorporate a health equity lens into their organizational programming.

Success factors for equity-integrated environmental health practice: A discussion guide
Discussion guide with short case study examples that highlight critical success factors.
Taking Action on Health Equity in Environmental Public Health: Five Strategies for Organizational Change
Short summary that outlines five ways to begin integrating an equity lens into environmental health practice.

Environmental scan of policy levers for equity-integrated environmental public health practice in BC
Detailed overview of environmental public health legislation and downstream policy instruments that implicitly or explicitly refer to health equity.

Taking Action on Health Equity: Policy Levers in Environmental Public Health Practice
Overview of policy levers (governing instruments and policy drivers) that affect the implementation of an equity lens, which includes five key ways that policy can support leaders and decision makers to take further action.

Facilitators and Barriers to Equity-Integrated Environmental Public Health Practice
Report that highlights ways that equity has been integrated with environmental public health practice in different places – including a series of vignettes to illustrate how equity can be integrated with practice and an overview of individual and systemic facilitators and barriers to equity-integrated practice.

For any EPH professional interested in putting health equity concepts into practice

Handbook of Health Equity in Environmental Public Health Practice
Comprehensive Handbook of information and evidence about incorporating equity into EPH practice.

bc211 for EPHPs
2-1-1 is an organization that provides confidential information and referral to community, government, and social services via telephone, text message, and a website – with increasing coverage across Canada. Targeted training for how to use 2-1-1 is available for EPHPs in BC through an EH–bc211 partnership.

Toward health equity: Practical actions for Public Health Inspectors
Framework and accompanying User Guide that outlines 10 considerations to help EPHPs identify how equity work relates to their role and how they can begin to take action.

For EPH professionals interested in healthy built environments

Working with local governments to support health equity through the built environment: A scoping review
Evidence review that examines how health equity is influenced by the built environment, and how built environment interventions can support or undermine health equity.
FACT SHEET: **Supporting Health Equity Through the Built Environment**
Evidence-informed principals to support health equity through interventions in the built environment, designed to be a companion to the [Healthy Built Environment Linkages Toolkit](#).

**Further reading**

**Equity in environmental health practice: Findings of a pilot study**
Research report based on the pilot focus group conducted in Fraser Health Authority and Nova Scotia — in collaboration with NCCEH and NCCDH.

**Key resources for environmental public health practitioners to address health equity: A curated list**
Curated list of resources from the [NCCEH/NCCDH](#) that identifies resources specific to environmental public health practitioners with respect to their roles in addressing the social determinants of health (SDH) and health equity in consultation, enforcement, and education.

**Advancing Health Equity Through Environmental Public Health Practice**
National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (NCCEH) topic page about health equity and environmental public health — includes recorded webinars and presentation slides.
APPENDIX D: Additional health equity resources

Data about vulnerable populations and health disparities in BC

**BC Community Health Data**
Local-level health data that highlights community strengths and areas for improvement:
- Community Health Profiles – standard community health data set for the province
- Community Health Database – interactive platform to explore health topics of interest
- Community Health Atlas – map health indicators of interest across BC

**PROOF Food Insecurity Policy Research**
Research study at the University of Toronto that uses data from the Canadian Community Health Survey to release infographics and data reports for a comprehensive view of food insecurity across Canada.

**My Health My Community**
Survey to assess the health and wellness of residents living in the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions. It includes community and neighbourhood profiles for a range of factors related to health and wellness and an interactive web tool (My Health My Community Atlas), which provides community-level health information for Metro Vancouver, the Fraser Valley, and Coastal Rural regions of British Columbia.

**Cultural safety and cultural literacy**

**Culturally Connected**
BC-based health literacy skills tool designed to help health professionals develop cultural humility and establish cultural safety for their clients.

**San’yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training**
Online Indigenous Cultural Safety (ICS) training program delivered by the Provincial Health Services Authority of British Columbia and available to anyone (available free of charge to all BC health authority or Ministry of Health employees, and to any Indigenous people living in British Columbia who work in the health or mental health fields).

**Health equity in public health**

**10 Promising practices**
List of “10 Promising Practices” relevant to reducing inequities the local public health level, produced by the Sudbury and District Health Unit in Ontario.
We all have a role to play…
Fact sheet from the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority about how a health equity focus can improve health for all + 10 questions to help health professionals reflect on health equity in their work.

Equity Lens in Public Health
Public health equity research project at the University of Victoria, conducted in partnership with BC health authorities and the Ministry of Health – includes a Health Equity Tools inventory.

Health Equity Assessment
Fraser Health and Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care tools to assess programs and services for health equity. Ontario’s HEIA is used to help identify potential health impacts (both positive and negative) of a policy, program or initiative on vulnerable or marginalized groups within the general population and encourages users to identify mitigation strategies to reduce the negative impacts and amplify the positive ones. The tool helps embed equity thinking into the policy and program development process, encouraging users to infuse equity considerations in the work they do.

Health Equity Into Action
Wellesley Institute resource to support local health networks to operationalize health equity, with links to tools and resources that can guide actions, strategies, planning, evaluation, innovation, and collaboration toward health equity.

Bridges Out of Poverty course
Workshop for professionals and communities to explore strategies to understand and alleviate poverty and its effects on individuals and communities.

Reflex-ISS
Discussion tool to guide teams through observation, understanding, and analysis of interventions with respect to health inequities, which aims to ensure that interventions do not exacerbate inequities and ideally contribute to reducing inequities (can be used to improve existing programs or during planning for new programs). Available in English, French, and Spanish.

Overview of how Lambton Public Health’s framework can be used to assess public health organizational capacity to address health equity.

Increasing Organizational Capacity for Health Equity Work
Health Nexus literature review of evidence related to promotion of health equity by Canadian organizations.
UK Public Health – Health equity collections
Web page with over 30 resources to help local authorities and decision makers reduce health inequalities, including guidance for action, evidence papers, research, UK data, and a user guide.

A Practitioner’s Guide for Advancing Health Equity
US CDC evidence-based guide to help public health practitioners address inequities in chronic disease (including sections on foundational skills, healthy food and beverage, tobacco reduction, and active living).

Journal articles

Research article exploring the potential for focus groups to be used as a tool to introduce new concepts into public health practice. (PDF)

Research article about how equity intersects with environmental health practice and how practitioners respond, with discussion of how to further support the integration of equity into practice.

Commentary article highlighting how environmental public health practitioners can support health equity — based on workshops held at Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) meetings.

Health equity organizations

Upstream
Organization that uses evidence about the social determinants of health to build recommendations for a healthier society.

National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (NCCDH)
One of six PHAC-funded centres, focusing on knowledge and resources to take action on the social determinants of health.
APPENDIX E: Sample promotional email text for health equity workshops

**Ready-Made Session #1: Introduction**

**Subject:** Equity in Environmental Public Health Introductory Workshop

Dear staff,

We will be holding a staff education session about health equity on **DATE**.

This session will introduce the concepts of health equity and the social determinants of health and illustrate how they relate to EPHP practice. We will also discuss how health equity can be incorporated into the way you do your work here at **ORGANIZATION**.

This session has been pre-approved by CIPHI for 1 Professional Development Hour.

The session will be held at **LOCATION** at **TIME** on **DATE**. RSVP to **EMAIL** by **DATE** to hold your space.

**Ready-Made Session #2: Knowledge to Action**

**Subject:** Equity in Environmental Public Health Knowledge to Action Workshop

Dear staff,

We will be holding a staff education session about health equity on **DATE**.

This session, which builds on the content of the introductory session held in **DATE**, will introduce practical tools EPHPs can use to incorporate health equity into your day to day work.

This session has been pre-approved by CIPHI for 1 Professional Development Hour.

The session will be held at **LOCATION** at **TIME** on **DATE**. RSVP to **EMAIL** by **DATE** to hold your space.

**Ready-Made Session #3: Organizational Capacity**

**Subject:** Increasing Health Equity Capacity Workshop

Dear staff and colleagues,

We will be holding an education and idea-generating session about health equity on **DATE**.

This workshop, which builds on the content of the introductory session held in **DATE**, will explore how we can do more to support health equity here at **ORGANIZATION**.

This session has been pre-approved by CIPHI for 1 Professional Development Hour.

The session will be held at **LOCATION** at **TIME** on **DATE**. RSVP to **EMAIL** by **DATE** to hold your space.