

## OBJECTIVES

1. To conduct focus groups and interviews with at-risk youth in order to understand the circumstances surrounding the transition into injection drug use
  - To explore elements of risk and resiliency that are associated with the transition into injection drug use
  - To compare results between male and female youth to determine if the identified factors differ by gender
  - To explore levels of perceived risk as it relates to injection drug use and examine the interplay between perceived risk and harm reduction
2. To conduct interactive workshops with at-risk youth in order to validate the results of the qualitative research
  - To create and disseminate youth-appropriate knowledge translation materials that are designed by the youth for the youth
  - To create a community-friendly report and fact sheet and disseminate the findings to organizations concerned with youth health
  - To disseminate the findings of the qualitative research to the academic community through presentations at conferences and publications in relevant peer-reviewed journals

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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- Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research
- Bridge MSFHR/CIHR Strategic Training Program

## PREVENTING THE TRANSITION OF AT-RISK YOUTH INTO INJECTION DRUG USE

## Information Guide for Community Partners



UBC SCHOOL OF POPULATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

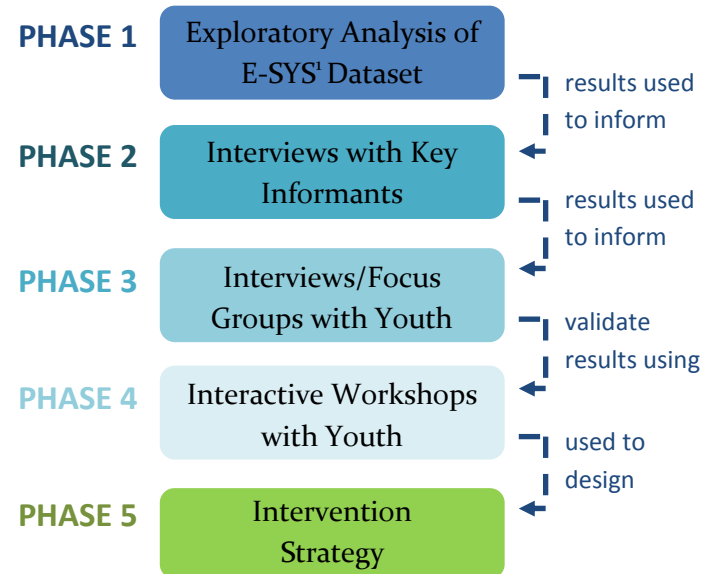
UBC SCHOOL OF NURSING

BC CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL

## INTRODUCTION

This research is a collaborative project between the UBC School of Population and Public Health, the UBC School of Nursing, the BC Centre for Disease Control, and our community partners. The purpose of the project is to identify factors that may cause youth to start using injection drugs, but more importantly factors that prevent youth from injecting; in other words, factors that promote resiliency. We are interested in how youth perceive these factors and how their perceptions influence the use of harm reduction.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW



<sup>1</sup> E-SYS refers to the Enhanced Surveillance of Canadian Street Youth Survey, a sentinel surveillance system at the Public Health Agency of Canada

## ROLE OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community partners serve an integral role in the success of this project. Your organization was selected to collaborate on this project because of your extensive experience working with at-risk youth and your shared goal of improving youth health. As a community partner, your role will include:

1. Allowing individuals from your organization to participate in key informant interviews
2. Allowing our research team to approach youth from your organization to participate in focus groups, interviews, and interactive workshops
3. Providing meeting space for conducting the focus groups, interviews, and interactive workshops
4. Helping to disseminate findings of our project in the form of a community-friendly report and fact sheet
5. Helping to create a comfortable and supportive environment for our youth participants

## OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK

**We welcome your feedback!** We would like our community partners to have input on this project, its research questions and approaches. If you have suggestions for ways to improve the project, please contact us.

## RESEARCH TEAM

### **Dr. Jane Buxton, Principal Investigator**

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Physician Epidemiologist, BC Centre for Disease Control

### **Ms. Catharine Chambers, Project Coordinator**

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### **Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc, Co-Investigator**

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### **Ms. Darlene Taylor, Co-Investigator**

Research Program Manager, BC Centre for Disease Control

## PARTNERS



**BC Centre for Disease Control**  
AN AGENCY OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY



**Directions Youth Services**

