



THE TRANS-LINK CANADA PROJECT: PARTNERING TO CREATE AND EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE ON SUPPORTING TRANSGENDER AND GENDER DIVERSE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Steering Committee Meeting Highlights

Thank you to everyone who attended the Steering Committee (SC) Meeting on January 17. These meetings are quarterly opportunities to share updates on the progress of the working groups and gather feedback.

In our January meeting, we shared our new logo (featured at the top of this newsletter!) and a general update on the project progress so far, including an update on our Peer Lead Advisor (PLA) recruitment and an introduction to the trainees working on the project. Below you can see the updates from each working group.

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STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

PEER LEADER ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT

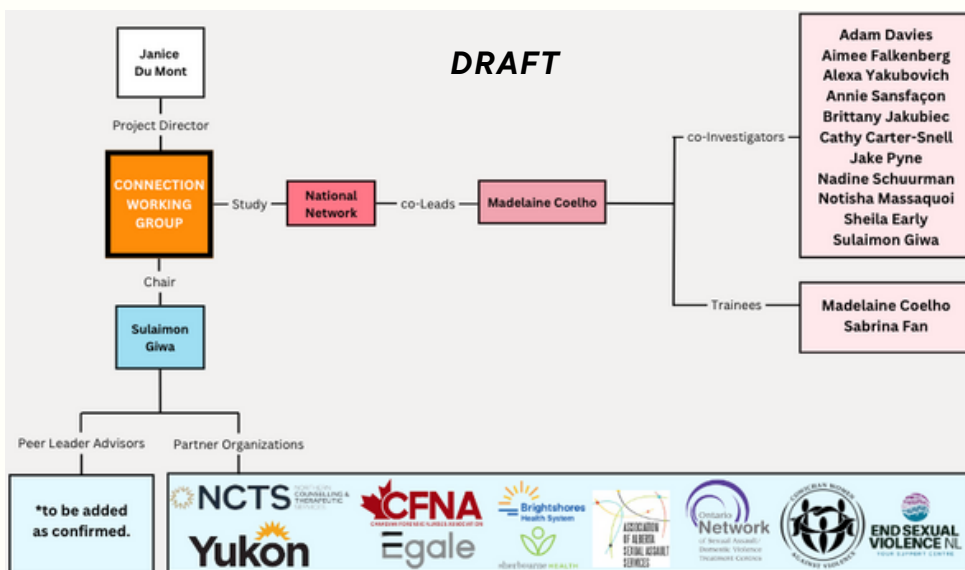
TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT

NOW HIRING: POST DOCTORAL FELLOW

NEW PUBLICATION ALERT

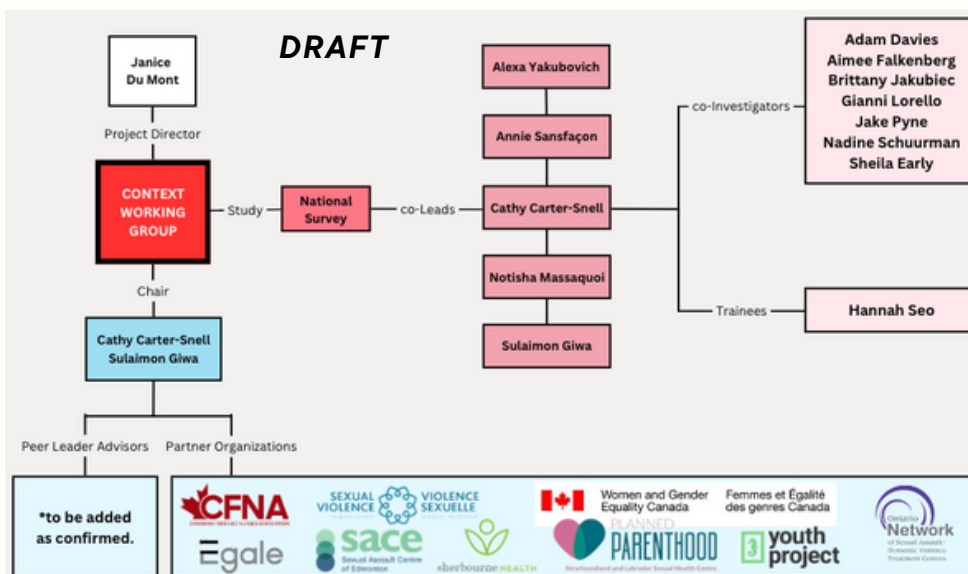
CONNECTION

The **Connection** Working Group is focused on establishing and evaluating the national trans-LINK network. Regional leads are mostly established; however, we are still looking for leads from Quebec and Atlantic Canada. As part of a baseline evaluation of the network, Madelaine Coelho, a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Toronto, will be launching a social network survey. We will also be organizing in-person meetings across the country in May to be followed up by virtual meetings. A draft of the survey for review went out to working group members earlier this month.

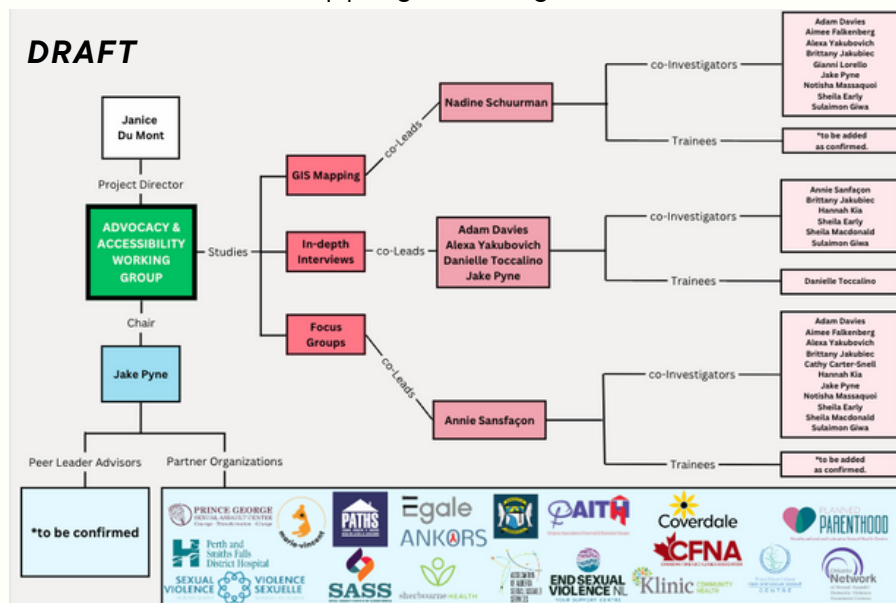


The **Context** Working Group is working towards a national survey focused on sexual assault and intimate partner violence (SA/IPV) against trans and gender diverse (TGD) individuals. Hannah Seo, a

MSc Student in BioStatistics from McMaster, is currently compiling a bank of questions from existing surveys (e.g., the TransPULSE survey). This question bank will be discussed with study co-leads to draft our survey, which will then be shared and piloted with the members of the Context Working Group.



The **Advocacy and Accessibility** Working Group is looking at access to supports through interviews with TGD survivors of SA/IPV and GIS mapping. Findings from the interviews will be used to develop sector-specific recommendations with service providers. The interviews are the current focus for this working group, with work well underway.



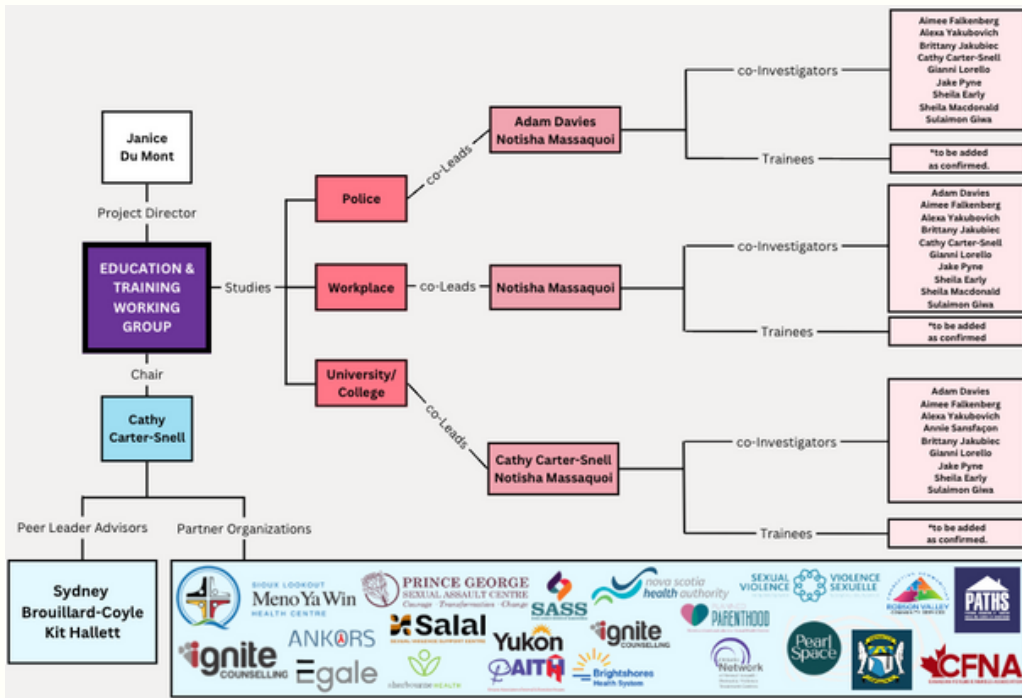
Danielle Toccalino, a post-doctoral Health Systems Impact fellow, presented drafts of a recruitment flyer, screening checklist, socio-demographic form, and interview guide at the

Steering Committee Meeting. There was lots of great discussion and feedback, including considerations around age, language (and the use of translation and/or interpreters), and intersectional identities. The study instruments have been revised and distributed to the interview co-leads for review.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

The **Education & Training** Working Group is developing national curricula on supporting TGD survivors of IPV for police, workplaces, and universities/colleges, building on previously developed trainings.

Mecheala Alfonso, a MSW student from Carleton, and Gabrielle Gonsalves, a law student currently at York, aided in the development of a PPT version of a curriculum for health and social service providers. This draft is being reviewed by numerous working group members,

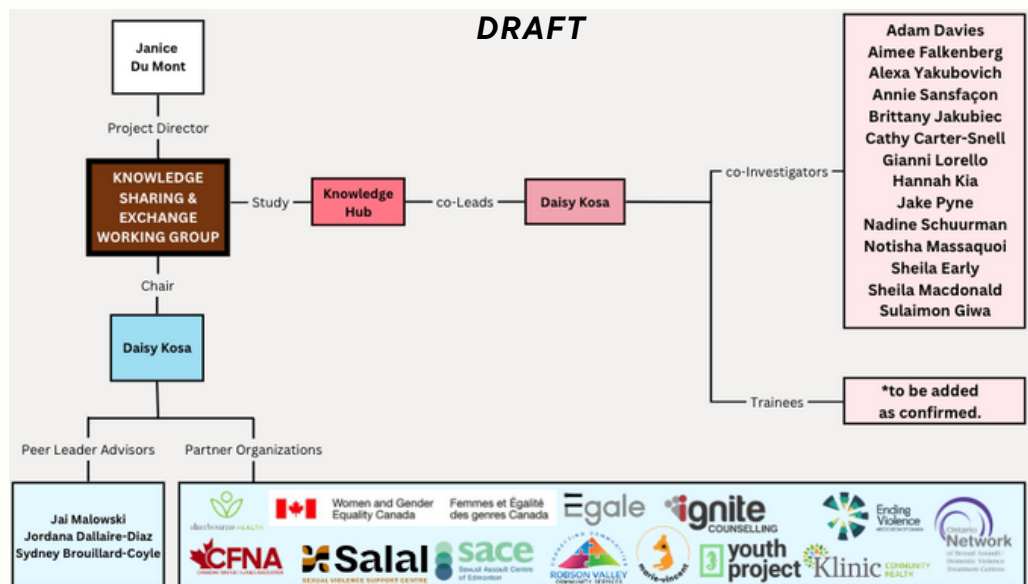


including two of our PLAs, Sydney and Kit.

The **Knowledge Sharing and Exchange** Working Group has been working hard to develop the knowledge hub. The new pages will be shared with the working group once they are fully drafted and before

KNOWLEDGE SHARING & EXCHANGE

the new hub gets launched. We are planning a staged launch with the English site going live first, to allow for trouble shooting and adjustments before translating the content and launching a French site.



The working groups have been put together based on your survey responses, the jam board exercise, and conversations over the development of the project. If you would like to join a working group, please email Danielle (danielle.tocalino@wchospital.ca)

Peer Lead Advisor Spotlight: Kit Hallett (she/her) West Coast

Gwendolyn “Kit” Katelin Hallett (she/her) is a pansexual transwoman from Alberta who has recently relocated to the Kootenay region on the un-ceded lands of the Ktunaxa, Sinixt, and Syilx peoples. She graduated with a BA in Philosophy from the University of Calgary, with a particular focus on ethics. Since meeting her partner and moving to interior BC, they have become active members of the local LGBTQIA2S+ community in the region.



Trainee Spotlight: Sabrina Fan (she/her)



Sabrina Fan is a research student at Women's College Research Institute, Women's College Hospital and a Bachelor of Health Science's student at McMaster University. Among other project activities, she is currently supporting the planning of the upcoming regional meetings (Connection Working Group).

Now Hiring: Post-Doctoral Fellow

We are recruiting for a post-doctoral fellow position to co-lead ongoing work within the transLINK Canada National Network project. The job posting is available [here](#). Please share with your networks or anyone you think might be interested in joining the team!

[CLICK HERE to access the full TEAM page!](#)

New Publication Alert

A new publication looking to better understand the learning needs of service providers when supporting TGD survivors of intimate partner violence was published in BMJ Open this month. Read the full article (open access) [here](#).

Open access

Original research

BMJ Open Enhancing care for transgender and gender diverse survivors of intimate partner violence: an Ontario-wide survey examining health and social service providers' learning needs

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