

POPULATION HEALTH

# Healthy Public Policy (HPP) Renewal Initiative

---

**Juan Solorzano**

Executive Director - Population Health  
Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer  
Vancouver Coastal Health  
[juan.solorzano@vch.ca](mailto:juan.solorzano@vch.ca)

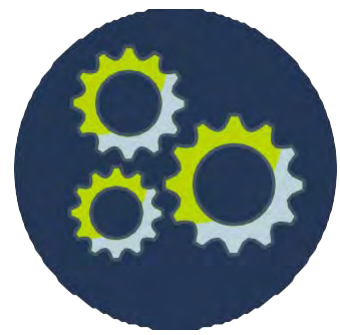


# HEALTHY PUBLIC POLICY (HPP) RENEWAL GOALS

- **Develop** HPP as core area of practice for VCH
- **Enhance** coordination and collaboration across HPP teams
- **Optimize** use of our collective resources to advance HPP
- **Strengthen** how we collectively tell the story of the impact of our HPP work



**Maximize our population health impact by improving social and environmental determinants of health through effective policy actions**



# LEARNING DIAGNOSIS

## EMERGING THEME 1: STRATEGY & APPROACHES TO HPP

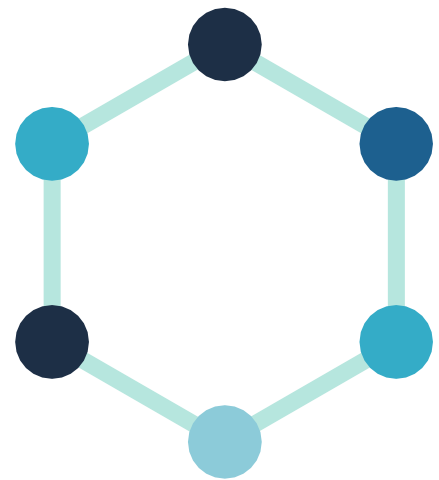


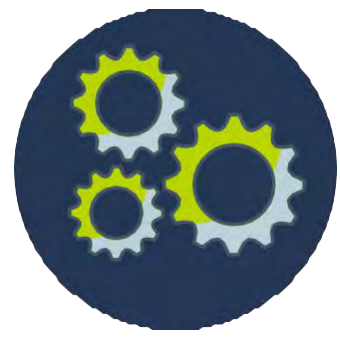
### Highlights

- Rich inventory of tools and tactics currently applied
- Strong partnership with local and regional governments in BC region
- Responsive to our partners interests and needs

### Work in Progress / Opportunity Space

- Some work done is currently responsive, need of work more on agenda setting and planned strategic interventions
- Documentation, review and evaluation of the impact of work is not a consistent practice
- Population Health practice approaches vary widely across HPP members. Opportunity to develop more consistent practices and approaches. Establish HPP as core area of practice in Public Health.





# LEARNING DIAGNOSIS

## EMERGING THEME 2: COMPETENCIES & TEAM CULTURE

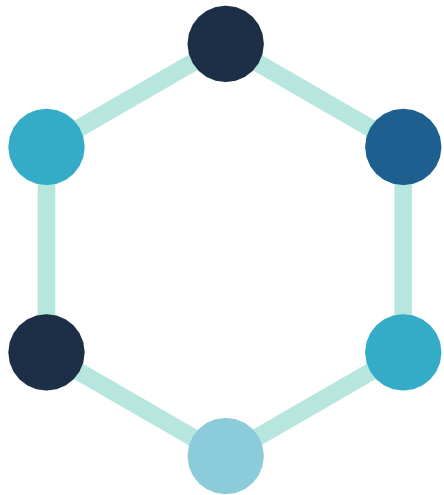


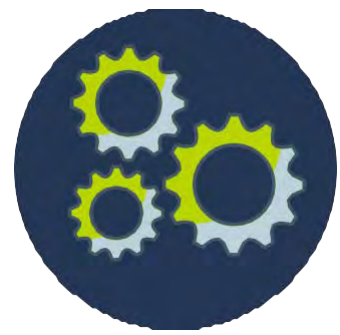
### Highlights

- Widespread understanding of the value of using evidence-based knowledge
- HPP team members eager and energized to further learn about this area and to refine their practice
- Passion for promoting equity, and familiarity with the importance of addressing social determinants of health

### Work in Progress / Opportunity Space

- Team members reported a lack of specific knowledge on “how to influence” policy
- Divergent social change paradigms (behaviour/ literacy interventions vs environment/policy change interventions)
- Need to find right balance of technical\analytical skills with planning and coordination





# LEARNING FROM OTHERS

## EMERGING THEME 3: STRUCTURES & SUPPORT

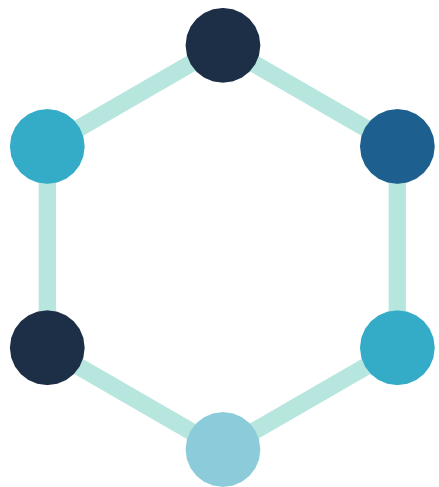
### Highlights

- Strong interest from leadership to prioritize HPP in the operations of the OCMHO
- Diffused team structure with policy staff located in different units across Public Health
- Diverse methods of, and channels for, providing VCH input into policy-decision making process



### Work in Progress / Opportunity Space

- Foundations for HPP work and mandate, risks and boundaries of this work haven't been clearly articulated
- Limited capacity for evaluation of the HPP interventions and for catalyzing externally-produced research that directly informs HPP work
- Desire to see multiple areas of VCH as organization supporting HPP work
- "Impact" reports and other promising systems in place to communicate HPP work and impact



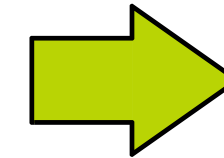


# BOOSTING THE OCMHO'S CAPACITY TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC POLICY



## STRATEGY 1:

Develop a systematic approach to planning, implementation and evaluation of HPP interventions.



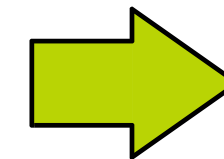
## ACTIVITIES

- *Learn from others & KE:*  
Review existing tools & practices
- **Develop approach & related tools**
- **Test via prototypes, evaluate & refine**

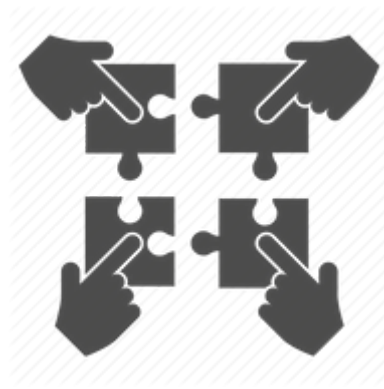


## STRATEGY 2:

Identify & develop core competencies for influencing public policy outcomes

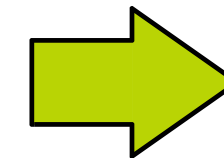


- *Learn from others + literature review*
- Documentation & analysis of prototypes
- Competencies development plan & tools



## STRATEGY 3:

Facilitate the establishment of internal & external organizational supportive structures

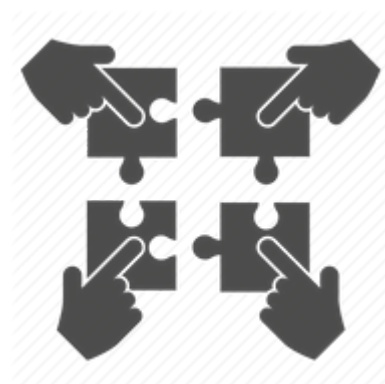


- Overall HPP project evaluation
- Documentation & analysis of prototypes
- Exploration of identified opportunities
- Supportive structures: action plan

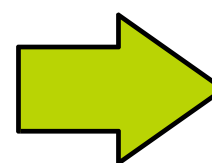
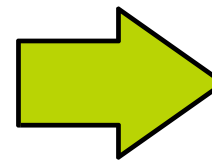
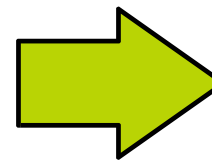


# BOOSTING THE OCMHO'S CAPACITY TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC POLICY

## SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES

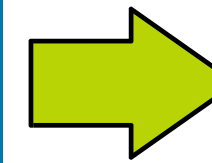


- **APPLICATION** of more systematic approach
- **OPTIMIZATION** of resources across teams, departments, organizations.
- **DEMONSTRATED VALUE** of HPP interventions.
- **COMPETENCIES** for advancing HPPs.



## MED-TERM OUTCOME

**INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS** of VCH OCMHO in advancing healthy public policies.

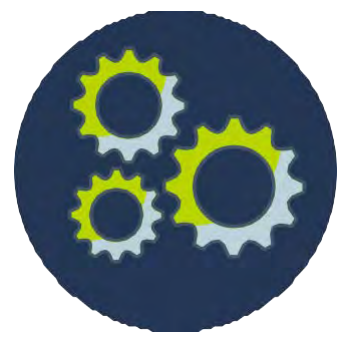


## LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

**HEALTH-PROMOTING SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS.**



**IMPROVED** population health indicators

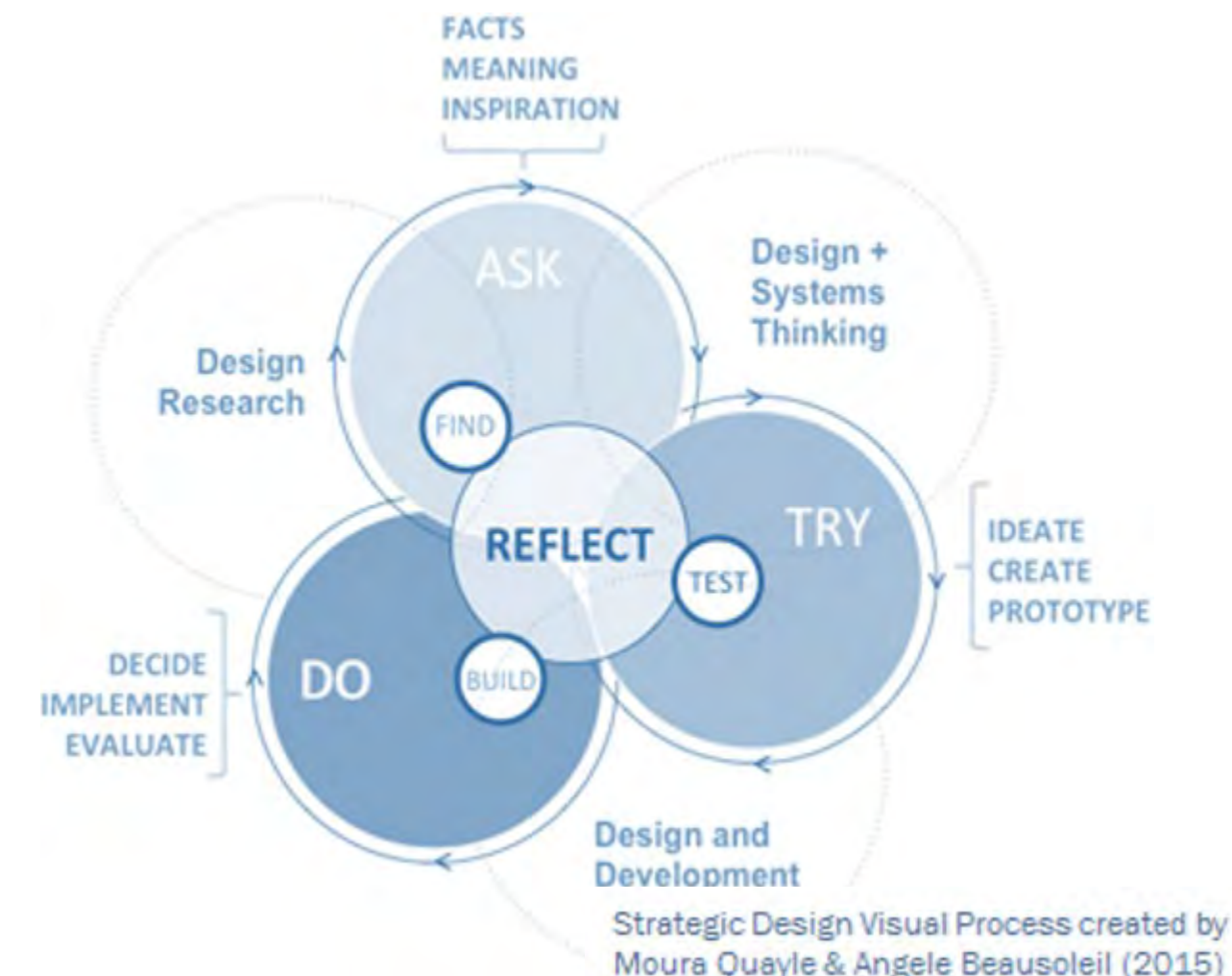


# THE POLICY STUDIO PROCESS

“**Policy Studio**” is a design-led process whose various iterations have been effectively tested on: collaborative initiatives, renewal of service delivery programs, and business problems.

## With UBC, we are customizing it:

- For application by BC health authorities;
- For the purpose of generating evidence-informed policy outcomes and positive population health impact.





# THE POLICY STUDIO PROCESS

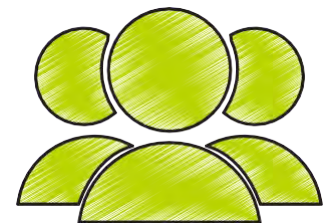
---



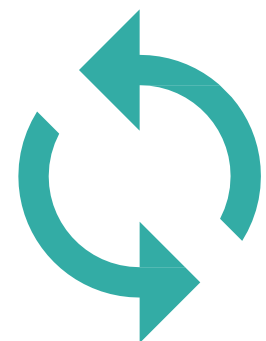
## Involves:



- **Background research, preliminary analysis and knowledge synthesis/translation** to facilitate: further analysis, stakeholder deliberations and strategic thinking.



- **Multidisciplinary convening of partners** who engage in creative and critical thinking techniques to: co-create, test, and launch strategies aiming at advancing healthy public policies.



- **Systematic documentation, evaluation, learning**--and adaptation of interventions or ongoing improvement.

# Learning by Doing

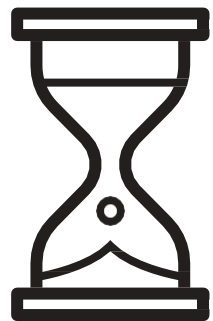
## Policy Studio Prototypes

### Currently Underway



- Road Safety - 3 prototypes in Richmond, Whistler and Vancouver
- Regional Transportation Strategy (Transport 2050)
- Regional Growth Strategy (METRO 2050) Youth
- Vapping - Rapid Response Policy Studio

### Coming Soon



- CityWide Plan
- Childcare Planning
- Food Security

