

NCCHPP Resources on Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

Annotated Bibliography

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2016

St-Pierre, L. (2016). *Mental health in the field of health impact assessment*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=1557

This briefing note provides a perspective on current practice of mental health impact assessment of projects, programs or policies. It outlines three approaches, the rationales put forth by proponents of these approaches, their contribution to health impact assessment practice and the various ways it is used today. It then offers a brief reflection on the potential contribution of this practice to government mental health strategies in Canada.

2015

St-Pierre, L. (2015). *When to perform a health impact assessment (HIA)?* Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=1457

This briefing note aims to clarify the specificity of health impact assessment (HIA) as compared to similar public health practices. To help public health actors to make the right choices regarding analytical tools, this briefing note recalls the characteristics that distinguish HIA from similar practices and provides a simple analytical framework to allow one to determine if the process in which someone is engaged is an HIA or not. The note also provides a few examples of current public health situations and points to those for which HIA would be a good choice.

2014

Castonguay, J. & St-Pierre, L. (2014). *Health impact assessment: Fundamentals, steps, resources*. [Web Presentation]. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/546/Video.ccnpps?id_article=1400

This narrated presentation gives an overview of what Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is, especially the kind of HIA that is meant to support decision making in the public sector. It is divided into three short video clips: Fundamentals, Steps of HIA and Resources.

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. (2014). *HIA step by step*. [Online course]. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/274/online-course.ccnpps?id_article=922

A 12-hour online course on health impact assessment (HIA) of public policies. This online course focuses on the five steps of HIA and takes place over 4 weeks. It allows participants to become familiar with the HIA process applied to public policies, recognize its fundamentals, and think about the favourable conditions for successful HIA implementation.

Tremblay, É., Navert, P., Blackburn, M., Dufort, J., Drapeau, J.-B., Noisel, N. ... Gagnon, F. (2014). *Health impact assessment of the TOD neighbourhood project in Sainte-Catherine. Report on potential impacts and recommendations*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/publications.ccnpps?id_article=1247

This document presents the analyses and recommendations produced within the context of a health impact assessment (HIA) of a residential development project, characterized as a transit-oriented development (TOD).

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. (2014). *Facets of health impact assessment: Sharing experiences and insights*. [Video]. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/546/Video.ccnpps?id_article=1194

This 26-minute documentary video on health impact assessment features interviews with international experts in health impact assessment. Besides offering a broad picture of some of the main themes of interest in the field, this video focuses on five areas of current interest in the world of health impact assessment (HIA):

- HIA and citizen participation,
- HIA and equity,
- HIA and intersectoral collaboration,
- Integration of HIA in environmental impact assessments, and
- Certification for professional qualifications for practitioners.

Castonguay, J. & St-Pierre, L. (2014). *Health impact assessment (HIA) - Process-scoping tool*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=1215

HIA also implies the logistical planning of the HIA process – that is the process-scoping step. At this stage, various questions must be addressed to define who will do what, and how. This is even more necessary since HIA is the fruit of intersectoral and multidisciplinary work. This process-scoping tool was developed for the purpose of training sessions, and takes into account the international best-practices standards recognized in the field of HIA.

Mendell, A. & St-Pierre, L. (2014). *Health impact assessment (HIA) - Screening grid*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=1215

This screening grid's purpose is to guide reflection on how a policy or project proposal might impact a wide variety of determinants of health, as well as health equity. It was developed to be used in training sessions during small group exercises, by adapting various existing grids and taking international best-practices standards into account. The grid has been made available since it might be useful for HIA practitioners, as well as for those who would like to learn more about the screening step.

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. (2014). *Health impact assessment (HIA) - Cost calculator*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=1215

This HIA calculator is a tool adapted by the NCCHPP for use in the Canadian context. This calculator is designed to assist those who are considering an HIA to estimate the time, money and human resources required for the tasks to be performed in an HIA process. The calculator provides suggestions about what to consider when planning for HIA. The times and estimated costs are by no means exhaustive, but those planning HIAs are better served by a ballpark figure as a starting point rather than being told that a figure cannot be given because HIAs vary so much.

St-Pierre, L. (2014). *Organizational conditions favourable for health impact assessment (HIA)*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=1211

The growing interest in HIA within Canada is often accompanied by questions of a practical nature: How does one move from theory to practice? What basic organizational conditions are necessary for such a practice to be initiated? Where should one begin? The aim of this briefing note is to identify basic organizational conditions necessary for incorporating HIAs into routine practice and to provide some answers to these questions.

2013

Gauvin, F.-P. (2013). *Developing a citizen-participation strategy for health impact assessment*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=944

In this guide, we introduce a framework to assist HIA practitioners who are trying to determine whether it is relevant for them to develop a citizen-participation strategy and, if so, what form this should take.

Morestin, F. (2013). *Planning knowledge sharing in the context of a health impact assessment*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/publications.ccnpps?id_article=950

This briefing note guides the reader in developing a knowledge-sharing plan. The document is aimed specifically at persons called upon to conduct HIAs; however, it may also be of interest to persons working on other projects involving several sectors or aiming at informing decision making related to public policies.

St-Pierre, L. (2013). *Canadian experiences in institutionalizing health impact assessment (HIA). 2013 Interprovincial-Territorial Meeting: Summary*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=975

On April 18, 2013, the NCCHPP held a second interprovincial-territorial meeting to discuss the subject of HIA. This document presents a summary of a report which presents an overview of the experiences that were shared at this meeting.

St-Pierre, L. (2013). *Canadian experiences in institutionalizing health impact assessment (HIA). 2013 Interprovincial-Territorial Meeting: Report*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=975

On April 18, 2013, the NCCHPP held a second interprovincial-territorial meeting to discuss the subject of HIA. This document presents an overview of the experiences that were shared at this meeting.

St-Pierre, L. (2013). The 12th International Conference on Health Impact Assessment (HIA): New issues arising from the evolution of the practice. Montreal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=968

This document highlights the key messages of the 12th International Conference on HIA that took place in Québec City in August 2012. These yearly conferences play a role in consolidating HIA practice and in establishing an international community of practice.

2012

Benoit, F., Druet, C., Hamel, G., & St-Pierre, L. (2012). *Implementation of section 54 of Québec's Public Health Act*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=124

This paper provides a brief review of section 54. It describes the context of its adoption as law, the procedures introduced by the Québec government to help in its implementation, and some of the results achieved to date.

Gauvin, F.-P. & Ross, M.-C. (2012). *Citizen participation in health impact assessment: Overview of issues*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/publications.ccnpps?id_article=755

This document examines the main arguments in favour of citizen participation as well as some of the obstacles and risks associated with citizen participation in HIA.

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. (2012). *Interprovincial meeting on health impact assessment (HIA): Update*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=801

This document presents the responses of five provinces and the Public Health Agency of Canada as they reported on what has changed for them regarding the implementation and practice of HIA during the past two years. This was in response to an NCCHPP questionnaire following up upon a 2009 interprovincial meeting on HIA practice in Canada.

2011

Gauvin, F.-P. & Ross, M.-C. (2011). *Citizen participation in health impact assessment: An overview of the principal arguments supporting it*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=694

This fact sheet explores the four main arguments favouring citizen participation in HIA.

Gauvin, F.-P. & Ross, M.-C. (2011). *Citizen participation in health impact assessment: An overview of the risks and obstacles*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=698

This fact sheet explores five categories of factors that can explain the significant gap between the participatory rhetoric attached to HIA, and actual practices.

Lauzière, J. & Hamel, G. (2011). *Health impact assessment (HIA): Selected resources*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=271

This inventory is intended as an introduction to the field of HIA practice as applied to policy development. It aims to facilitate access to existing resources, provide information about the most effective techniques for researching HIA, and share knowledge about the main ideas that characterize this field.

St-Pierre, L. & Mendell, A. (2011). *The implementation of health impact assessment (HIA) in Canada: HIA pilot project in Montérégie, Québec*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=666

This report presents an account of the HIA project's start-up, by the public health authority in the Montérégie region, in order to engage the municipal government to undertake health impact assessments of prospective municipal projects or policies. The report describes, in brief, the different stages of the pilot project, the mechanisms put in place to help ensure collaboration, the objectives of the project, the evaluation plan, and the main findings that emerged from the process.

2010

Mendell, A. (2010). *Four types of impact assessment used in Canada*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=581

This document examines four different impact assessment (IA) approaches that are used in Canada, including health impact assessment (HIA), environmental impact assessment (EIA), strategic environmental assessment (SEA), and risk assessment (RA). This table provides a general sense of what four types of impact assessment used in Canada try to achieve, and how.

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. (2010). *Health impact assessment (HIA). A tool to promote healthy public policies*. [PowerPoint slides]. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=445

This PowerPoint presentation was designed to be used to disseminate HIA-related information. Complete with speaking notes and a set of slides you can personalize, this can be used by public health practitioners or by anyone with an interest in HIA.

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. (2010). *Information grid - Canadian HIA initiatives*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/publications.ccnpps?id_article=308

Information grids on three Canadian HIA initiatives at the local level: the PATH project that conducted an HIA for a recreational centre project in Nova Scotia, a City of Toronto initiative considering a proposal for processing mixed waste to reduce landfill, as well as a proposal for a tricomposting plant project in Montérégie, Québec.

St-Pierre, L. (2010). *HIA and inequities*. HIA Series. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=317

This paper focuses on how HIA invites health practitioners to take not only the impacts on the health of the population into consideration, but also how these impacts could have differential effects on some groups of the population.

2009

D'Amour, R., St-Pierre, L., & Ross, M.-C. (2009). *Discussion workshop on health impact assessment at the level of provincial governments*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=246

The results from a meeting of representatives of provincial ministries of health, discussing HIA practices and potential in Canada.

Eaton, S. (2009). *Brief history of People Assessing Their Health (PATH)*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=290

Introductory overview of the PATH project, showing the different steps and projects that shaped the history of this movement.

Eaton, S., St-Pierre, L., & Ross, M.-C. (2009). *Influencing healthy public policy with community health impact assessment*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=300

This paper summarizes the project, "Influencing Healthy Public Policy with Community Health Impact Assessment" led by PATH (People Assessing Their Health) network in Nova Scotia. This report is a summary of the diverse activities documented by PATH throughout the year that sheds light on the influence of community health impact assessment (CHIA) in promoting healthy public policy.

Habitat Health Impact Consulting. (2009). *Development of a Canadian HIA course. Review of existing HIA courses, methods and results*. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=285

A review of existing HIA courses, methods and results.

North American HIA Practice Standards Working Group. (2009). *Practice standards for health impact assessment (HIA)*. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=268

This document proposes a set of practice standards that can serve as reference points to be used by Canadian and American practitioners to establish their own practices, and secondly, to stimulate discussion on the values and methods that guide these practices.

St-Pierre, L. (2009). *Introduction to HIA*. HIA Series. Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=302

This briefing note, the first in a series examining the practice of HIA from various perspectives, provides a general introduction to HIA.

St-Pierre, L. (2009). *What is health impact assessment (HIA)?* Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at:
http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=250

This short document introduces the reader to the main characteristics of HIA such as its definition, its rationale and principles, as well as its origins. The document concludes with a brief presentation on the mandate and the vision of the NCCHPP regarding HIA, considered by the Centre to be an effective strategy for acting on healthy public policies.

2008

Gagnon, F., Turgeon, J., & Dallaire, C. (2008). *Health impact assessment in Québec: When the law becomes a lever for action.* Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at: http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=177

This study traces the history of health impact assessment in Québec since 2001, paying critical attention to the implementation of section 54 of Québec's *Public Health Act* and the mechanisms within the provincial government to foster its adoption.

Lauzière, J. (2008). *Health impact assessment (HIA): Guides & tools.* Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at:
http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=391

This paper presents an inventory of HIA guides and tools available online.

St-Pierre, L. (2008). *Canadian roundtable on health impact assessment (HIA).* Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at:
http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=175

This paper presents the roundtable discussion on HIA practice in Canada, highlighting key points and original ideas from the day.

St-Pierre, L. (2008). *Roundtable on health impact assessment - February 22, 2008. Health impact assessment (HIA): A promising action path for promoting healthy public policies.* Montréal, Québec: National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy. Available online at:
http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/Publications.ccnpps?id_article=107

This background paper presents the challenges and possibilities of HIA and its development possibilities for Canada. It is the result of meetings and a knowledge review conducted between 2005 and 2007. This paper served as a point of departure at a February 22, 2008 roundtable of Québec, Canadian and international experts organized by the NCCHPP.

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All of these resources are available on the NCCHPP's website:
<http://www.ncchpp.ca/133/publications.ccnpps>

Toutes ces ressources sont également disponibles en français :
<http://www.ccnpps.ca/100/Publications.ccnpps>



The National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP) seeks to increase the expertise of public health actors across Canada in healthy public policy through the development, sharing and use of knowledge.

The NCCHPP is one of six centres financed by the Public Health Agency of Canada. The six centres form a network across Canada, each hosted by a different institution and each focusing on a specific topic linked to public health. In addition to the Centres' individual contributions, the network of Collaborating Centres provides focal points for the exchange and common production of knowledge relating to these topics. The National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy is hosted by the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ), a leading centre in public health in Canada.

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