

## **Governing for Health Equity**

**Growing a Culture of Equity Leadership** 



**Governing for Health Equity** 

Growing a
Culture of
Equity
Leadership

**Part Two** 





## Growing a Culture of Equity Leadership: Recap Part One

- Exploring and understanding the concepts of diversity, equity, inclusion, anti-racism and anti-oppression (DEI & AR/AO).
- 2. Engaging in behaviours and practices grounded in Cultural Humility.
- 3. Reflecting on your organization's values, beliefs and community-centred governance practices.
- 4. Taking proactive actions to create and sustain a culture of equity leadership.
- 5. Committing to a Health Equity approach



## **Learning Goals**

- Use the Governing for Heath Equity Framework and understand its alignment with Board governance roles and actions.
- Explore key questions that can be used to assess, design, and monitor Board actions to advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression (DEI & AR/AO).
- Assess your Board's use of socio-demographic and racebased data in equity-focused decision-making.
- Assess your Board's strengths in community-centred governance practices.
- Review the principles of cultural humility and how to intentionally embed them in your Board's Governing for Health Equity practices.



## **Achieving Health Equity for Healthcare Organizations**

Make health equity a strategic priority

Develop structures and practices to support health equity work Take specific actions to address the multiple determinants of health on which CHCs can have a direct impact

Decrease all forms of organizational discrimination & oppression within your CHC

Develop
partnerships
with others to
improve health
and equity at
societal/
population
levels





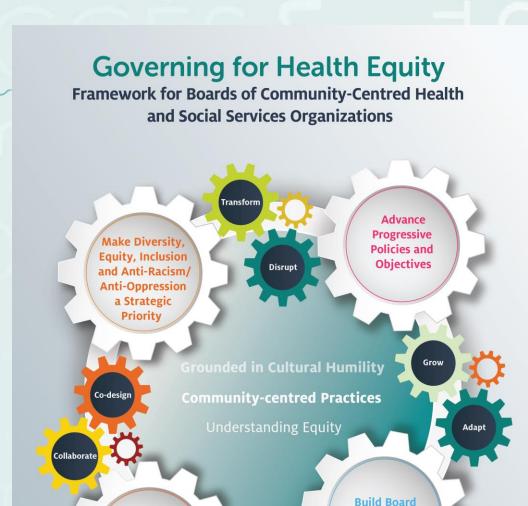








## Governing for Health Equity Framework



Advocate

Skills and

**Practices** 

Lead

**Transformative** 

Change in the

Broader Community



Board Role: Make
Diversity, Equity,
Inclusion and Anti-racism
and Anti-oppression a
Strategic Priority

### **Governing for Health Equity**

Framework for Boards of Community-Centred Health and Social Services Organizations





# Assess Your Organization's Accountability for DEI & AR/AO as a Strategic Priority

1. To what extent is DEI & AR/AO a strategic priority for the organization?

2. To what extent is DEI & AR/AO built into the vision, mission, and values of your organization?

3. To what extent is DEI & AR/AO built the strategic plan and reporting on the plan to the Board?





Assess Your
Organization's
Accountability
for DEI & AR/AO
as a Strategic
Priority

Sample Assessment Questions and Measures for an annual review of strategic goals could include:

- 1. To what extent is there sustainable funding allocated to address the equity priorities and achieve the outcome targets identified in the strategic plan?
  - These could be rated on a scale from 1 to 5 with 4 or 5 indicating a sustainable funding source for DEI & AR/AO work.





Assess Your
Organization's
Accountability
for DEI & AR/AO
as a Strategic
Priority

Next Steps in annual review of strategic DEI & AR/AO goals:

- If there is a lack of sustainable funding for programs and services that promote DEI & AR/AO (for example your score is 3 or less), then what are the gaps in sustainable funding?
- How might the board address the gaps?

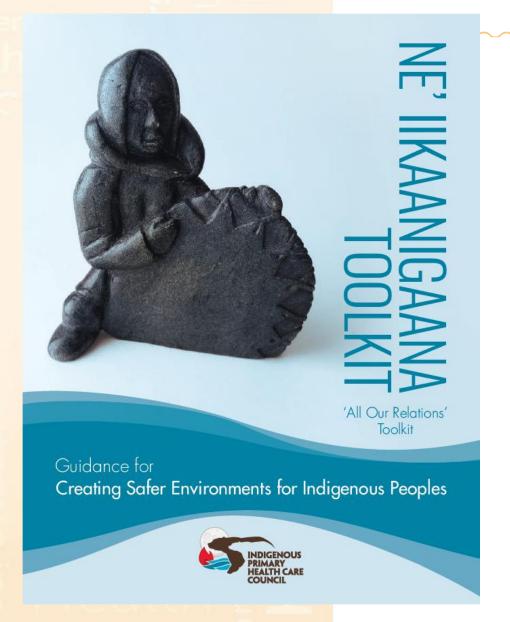




Board Role:
Advance
Progressive
Policies and
Strategies



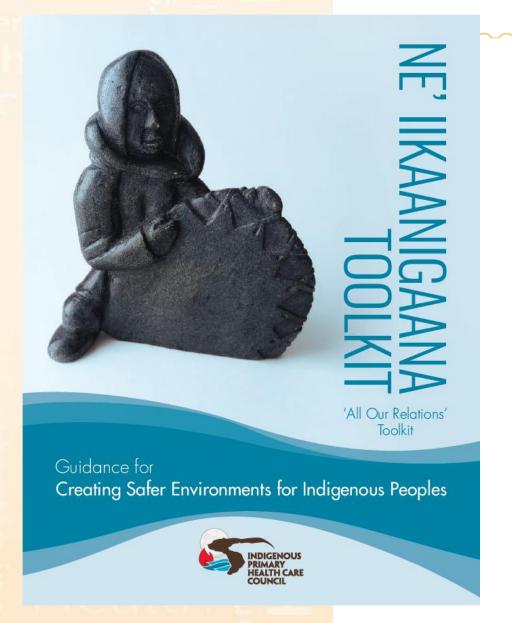
## Strategies Recommended by the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council



- Ensure the organization has made a public commitment to addressing Indigenous-specific racism and creating greater cultural safety for Indigenous patients, staff, health care providers, and learners.
- Develop and adopt a definition of Indigenous cultural safety to guide the organization's efforts in this area and to benchmark and measure progress against.



## Strategies Recommended by the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council



- Embed anti-racism and cultural safety as a responsibility of all staff by including cultural safety indicators in the performance management process.
- Develop a strategy that focuses on the hiring, development, and advancement of Indigenous peoples across all levels and departments of the organizations.
- Develop and adopt an Indigenous-specific anti-racism, equity, and inclusion vision and mission statement.





## Assess Your Current Policies and Strategies

- 1. To what extent has your Board reviewed your current policies and strategies using an Anti-racism and Anti-oppression lens?
- 2. To what extent has your Board reviewed your current policies to determine their potential to advance DEI & AR/AO?
- 3. To what extent has your Board identified new policies and strategies that need to be developed to advance Governance for Health Equity?
- 4. What are the organization's next steps in this area of work? What needs to be done to advance this work?





Board Role:
Build Board
Skills and
Practices





## Assess Your Board's Skills and Practices

#### To what extent:

- 1. Is your Board aware of its capacity (knowledge and experience) for equity leadership?
- 2. Is your Board improving its capacity for DEI & AR/AO leadership? How will your Board know it is improving?
- 3. Is your Board evaluating DEI & AR/AO learning and measuring progress and planning for additional learning and skill development for board members?





**Board Role:** Lead **Transformative** Change in the **Broader** Community

## Governing for Health Equity Framework for Boards of Community-Centred Health and Social Services Organizations Advance Progressive Policies and **Equity, Inclusion** and Anti-Racism/ Anti-Oppression a Strategic Priority

Lead
Transformative
Change in the
Broader
Community

Build Board Skills and Practices

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Alliance for Healthier Communit Advancing Health Equity in Ontario

## Advocacy for Policy Change and Transformation in the Broader Community





Think about the DEI & AR/AO issues that your organization supported through advocacy.

What are the issues? What is your Board learning from these advocacy efforts?





## **Assess Your Work Leading Transformative** Change in the **Broader Community**

- 1. To what extent does the organization have partnerships and coalitions with others, locally and regionally, including those who work directly with target groups experiencing health disparities?
- 2. To what extent does the organization have partnerships with those who share common priorities and vision around improving health equity at societal/ population levels?





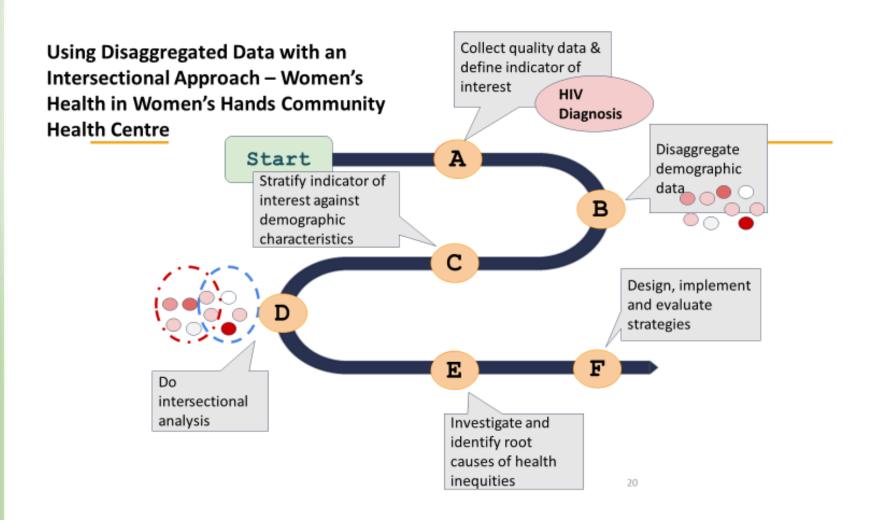
## **Assess Your Work Leading Transformative** Change in the **Broader Community**

3. To what extent does the organization have multi-sectoral partnerships to improve health equity at societal/ population levels?

4. What new opportunities are arising to lead transformation for DEI & AR/AO?



## Adopting Data for Health Equity Approach





## **Board** Reflection on **Using Data and Evidence in Decision**making

- 1. What data/evidence does your Board currently receive (and how) to inform our decision making??
- 2. What data informed decisions does the Board make that advance health equity?
- 3. Does the Board feel that it needs data more often or needs more data to make these decisions in the future?
- 4. How familiar is your Board with data about health disparities experienced by people in the communities your organization is serving?
- 5. How readily available is disaggregated data on the populations your organization is serving?





## Community-Centred Governance Practices

### **Governing for Health Equity**

### Framework for Boards of Community-Centred Health and Social Services Organizations

To advance health equity in their organizations and broader community, boards of community-centred health and social services organizations need to adopt the following practices:

### Understand diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism/anti-oppression (DEI & AR/AO):

- Recognize the impacts that systems of power have on health and determinants of health outcomes, including
  inequities in access and experience of health and quality of life.
- Commit to developing and strengthening Board's understanding of diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism/anti-oppression.
- Learn how to embed and operationalize diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism/anti-oppression in the board's work

#### Reflect on your organization's community-centred practices:

- Involve communities in decision-making grounded in good practices and procedures.
- Build membership from the communities the organziation serves.
- Conduct ongoing community needs assessments to learn about trends and continuously apply this knowledge.
- Prioritize equitable community engagement as a leadership practice.

#### Commit to a health equity approach:

Work to dismantle barriers, eliminate health inequities and improve access to health care, especially for those who have historically faced and continue to face discrimination and disadvantage.'



www.allianceON.org/Governing-for-Health-Equity

Health Equity Charter, 2020, adopted by the Alliance for Healthier Communities and Alliance members: https://www.allianceon.org/Health-Equity-Charter



## **Board** Reflection on Community-**Centred** Governance **Practices**

- 1. To what extent does your organization involve communities in decision-making?
- 2. Is your approach to involving community in decision making grounded in good practices and procedures that are inclusive and respectful?
- 3. To what extent does your organization build board membership and organizational membership from the communities the organization serves?





## **Board** Reflection on Community-**Centred** Governance **Practices**

- 4. To what extent does the organization use datainformed community assessments and learn about barriers and inequities and apply this knowledge in your decision making?
- 5. To what extent does your Board prioritize equitable community engagement?





## Circling Back to Cultural Humility

How does your board intentionally embed the principles of Cultural Humility into its Governing for Health Equity practices?

## These principles are:

- Lifelong learning and critical self-reflection,
- Recognizing and addressing power imbalances,
- And institutional accountability.





## Circling Back to Cultural Humility

- 1. To what extent does your Board practice and encourage critical self-reflection around the Board table?
- 2. Describe a time when your Board worked together to recognize and address power imbalances.
- 3. What are some examples of when your Board takes actions to be accountable to the communities it serves?



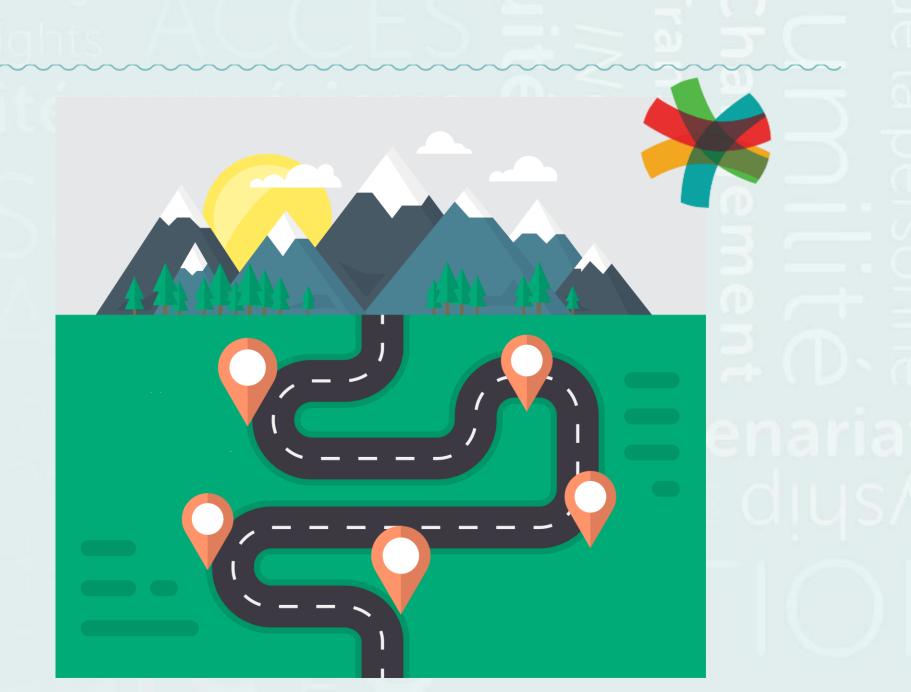


## Governing for Health **Equity** Framework: Summary of Key **Concepts**

- Introduced the Governing for Heath Equity Framework and its alignment with Board governance roles and actions.
- Explored key questions that can be used to assess, design, and monitor Board actions to advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression (DEI & AR/AO).
- Discussed your Board's use of socio-demographic and racebased data in equity-focused decision-making.
- Discussed your Board's strengths in community-centred governance practices.
- Reviewed the principles of cultural humility and how to intentionally embed them in your Board's Governing for Health Equity practices.

**Governing for Health Equity** 

**Next Steps** 





Governing for Health Equity



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