
Senior Scientific Lead, Knowledge Mobilization (Part-Time)

Background

Created in 2007, the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (“the Partnership”) is an independent organization funded by the federal government to accelerate action on the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control. The Partnership collaborates with a variety of experts, organizations and stakeholders across the country to harness the best of what is working well to control cancer and to effectively implement this strategy coast to coast. We share with our partners the common goals of reducing the risk of cancer, lessening the likelihood of Canadians dying from cancer and enhancing quality of life for those affected by cancer.

Our work spans the cancer control continuum, from prevention, early detection and screening to research and supportive care. We endeavour to embed a person-centred perspective in all of our work, and have specific efforts in underserved populations such as those living in rural, northern, and remote communities. We strive to be culturally responsive to the needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities. Through collaboration, we are delivering results and effecting system-level change to reduce the burden of cancer on Canadians.

This position is part of the Strategy Division which includes Knowledge Mobilization, Communications and Strategy, Evaluation and Analytics. The Knowledge Mobilization (KMb) portfolio is responsible for moving the available knowledge produced by the Partnership, in collaboration with our partners, into active use. The Division seeks to support and make connections between evidence and policy and practice in order to improve outcomes, and is focused on knowledge sharing between knowledge producers and knowledge users.

Overview of Role

The Senior Scientific Lead, Knowledge Mobilization, will report to the Vice-President, Strategy and provide advice and expertise on evidence-based policy and implementation practices, with a view to provide necessary supports with partners across the country to adopt proven practices that have resulted in successful change and have sustainable impact. Working closely with the Director, Knowledge Mobilization, the Senior Scientific Lead will help guide the Knowledge Mobilization team’s approaches for increasing capacity to mobilize evidence into action, which also includes driving enhanced use of the Partnership’s digital ecosystem.

The position will also work closely with the Partnership’s senior leaders to ensure knowledge mobilization initiatives are developed and implemented that directly support achieving the planned outcomes of the organization’s 2017–22 Strategic Plan commitments. The Senior Scientific Lead will build strong partner relationships with other major cancer and public health stakeholders to identify shared priorities and collaborate on knowledge mobilization strategies that can bring about positive policy and practice change in realizing the objectives of the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control.

Specific Accountabilities

- Contribute broad, new thinking and, through connections with other senior cancer control leaders across Canada and internationally, informing the Partnership's strategic direction to influence policy and to scale up successful implementation practices that are developed and tested in one part of the country and spread across the system to bring about real change at an organizational, community or system level
- Provide strategic advice and expert counsel to the Partnership's advisory committees and leadership team to support the planning, implementation and evaluation of the effectiveness of knowledge mobilization initiatives to impact target system outcomes
- Support the Partnership's senior leadership team to deliver on Board-approved plans in the area of developing a more sustainable cancer system and working to embed more sustainable knowledge mobilization practices in the work of the broader Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control
- Work across the organization with other Senior Scientific and Expert Leads to identify synergies across program of work initiatives
- Keep up to date on best practices in policy change, dissemination, implementation and evaluation strategies and keep the VP Strategy, Director of Knowledge Mobilization and other Partnership staff apprised of new developments that may affect knowledge mobilization practices
- Be an external ambassador for the organization, specifically on issues related to knowledge mobilization in cancer control, and providing expert opinions and advice on behalf of the Partnership
- Direct and participate in the development of strategies to enhance awareness of the Partnership's strategic direction in the scientific, academic and medical communities nationally and internationally
- Participate as a member or co-chair of the Knowledge Mobilization Steering Committee
- Participate as a member of the Partnership's Cancer Control Council to achieve the Partnership's 2017–22 Strategic Plan commitments
- Provide leadership in coordinating, managing and participating in conferences and events to support and promote the strategic direction of the Partnership

Experience, Skills and Education

- Deep knowledge mobilization expertise, with demonstrated experience in the areas of dissemination and implementation science and practice that has included in-person and digital interventions
- Advanced degree in health science (MD, MSc or PhD, with at least 10 years' experience in the above areas)
- An action oriented leader who has successfully used theoretical knowledge to drive measureable system change
- An established network of contacts within the cancer control community nationally and preferably, internationally
- Outstanding oral and written communications skills, including the ability to translate technical information for public audiences
- Proven ability as an influential presenter
- Strong organizational skills, with the ability to take initiative, handle multiple tasks concurrently and work independently
- Creative, strategic problem-solving skills
- Demonstrated ability to provide strategic-level input and direction as well as lead and contribute to specific deliverables
- Strategic systems thinking and the ability to project the effect of initiatives as they relate to the overall impact on the cancer control landscape
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to interact with researchers, health-care professionals, health system leaders and policy-makers collaboratively and effectively, to engage them in new and ongoing initiatives
- Demonstrated ability to influence and lead stakeholders to drive results without having direct responsibility for projects
- Understanding of best practices in dissemination, implementation and evaluation strategies
- Familiarity with commonly used evidence-based dissemination and implementation theories, models and frameworks
- A record of success in working with a team to achieve common goals
- A strong commitment to the mission of the Partnership
- Editorial experience a plus
- Fluency in French an asset