

CYPT Data, Research and Evaluation Team

Location: Virtual – Zoom

Date: Tuesday, May 18th 2021

Time: 1:30PM

Present: Jessica Deming (Co-Chair), Amanda Franceschini, Greta James, Jillian Welk, Kelly Roberts, Dana Liebermann, Elva Zhou, Jill Stoddart, Amber Robertson, Silviu Kondan (SPA)

Guests: Dillon Browne & Ben Brown

Regrets: Mohamed Billie Hassan (Co-Chair), Dave Whiteside, Evan Risko, Yvonne Asara-Bediako, Leyco Wilson, Fiona Ellison, Tristan Wilkin & Tyla Fullerton

Agenda & Notes

Agenda Item	Notes
Welcome	<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Jessica welcomed members of the DRE team and initiated a round of introductions. This was the first official DRE meeting for Amber Robertson who will be replacing Bethany Wager-Mantle.</p> <p>In attendance, as guests, were Dr. Dillon Browne from the Whole Family Lab at the University of Waterloo as well as Ben Brown, a student at the University of Waterloo.</p> <p>Jessica proceeded to introduce the agenda items as noted on the slide deck.</p>
Community Updates	<p>Community Updates:</p> <p>The members were welcomed to share updates from the community.</p> <p><i>Waterloo Catholic School Board (WCSB) and the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB):</i></p> <p>Kelly and Dana provided updates on the planning and implementation of the student and staff censuses at the school boards. These are voluntary and confidential censuses, which have recently opened or will open later in the fall.</p> <p>Both members provided context on the Provincial Anti-Racism Act, which mandates the development of the censuses. This overall process reflects priorities described by the Ministry of Education, the Anti-Racism Directorate, the Ontario Human Rights Commission, and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. As a result, school</p>

boards across the province – at various capacities – have been integrating self-identity questions for students and staff based on the [Ministry of Education's Equity Action Plan](#) (2017) which seeks to ensure data collection across the student population by 2023. The questions, which are asked and the response options, are dictated through these formal channels. The integration of some of the questions and answers further align with best practices outlined by the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI).

The WRDSB workforce census from 2019 is available [here](#).

The team spoke in more detail about the logistic of the censuses. For example, there were discussions about confidentiality versus anonymity, importance of removing identifiers, language translations, accessible paper copies, use of class time for survey input as well as consents and opportunities to opt-out. Furthermore, the group discussed the process of data analysis, including with Qualtrics, and the importance of building trust through explicit information sharing on what the data will be used for.

YMCA WorkWell:

Silviu presented the findings from the YMCA WorkWell community survey on behalf of Dave Whiteside. Titled *The Loneliness Epidemic How the Silent Loss of Social Connection has Impacted Our Communities During COVID-19*, the special issue survey report can be found [here](#). It provides insight on local perceptions of well-being before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. There were 1,453 survey respondents across Guelph-Wellington, Stratford Perth, and Waterloo Region and the survey was conducted between February 22 and March 22 of 2021. The results highlighted the extensive challenges experienced by community members during the pandemic – for example, 70 percent of respondents agreed that they have now felt lonelier than normal.

The Whole Family Lab at University of Waterloo:

Dillon Browne presented the Whole Family Lab's [research](#) based within the University of Waterloo. The Whole Family Lab focuses on areas of: early education, technology, child trauma, family violence and family therapy. Moreover, Dillon mentioned the Lab's interest in working with community collaboratives to support social change. He provided context on how the Lab will be supporting the CYPT's data analysis of the Youth Impact Survey this year.

Dillon proceeded to provide a summary of the results from the Lab's studies on the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on families. To summarize: 1) COVID-19 stressors are simultaneously economic, familial and unique to the pandemic context; 2) these stressors are related to disruption across family and greater sibling differences; 3) the stressors compound the effects of early life adversity in terms of caregiver mental health. The DRE team received a follow-up email with Dillon's slides and the academic research studies.

Based on the WorkWell report and Dillon’s research, the DRE team discussed the importance of considering how to mobilize efforts knowing the challenges experienced by community members – particularly relating to those faced by children, youth and families. The team reflected on how the CYPT’s extensive network and social capital are advantageous for the purposes of sharing evidence-based research and data to the community.

Canadian Census 2021:

The team briefly discussed the census deployment and the results rollout schedule. Preliminary release dates on data briefs can be found [here](#).

CYPT Updates

DRE Team GoogleDrive

Silviu and Jessica shared the GoogleDrive DRE folder. The purpose of the folder is to have a simplified and accessible location for shareable files and resources. The internal folders will include: 1) Administrative Documents (Meeting Minutes, ToRs, CYPT Structure, DRE Team register), 2) Operational Work (Work Plan, Action Items, Projects Folders) and 3) Resources to Share.

Action Plan:

- Members are asked to fill in their names & emails in the document that will be shared by Silviu.
- Members are welcome to share resources through this Drive.

Shared Measurement Metadata Work

Jessica provided an update on the Shared Measurement Work that was initiated prior to the pandemic. She provided a briefing on the purpose of the work – i.e. to identify and report on local-level indicators across the various CYPT shared goals. Moreover, Jessica noted that as a project, the work is best divided into three working phases:



In respects to the first phase, DRE members are encouraged to directly contribute their expertise to the existing files uploaded in the GoogleDrive.

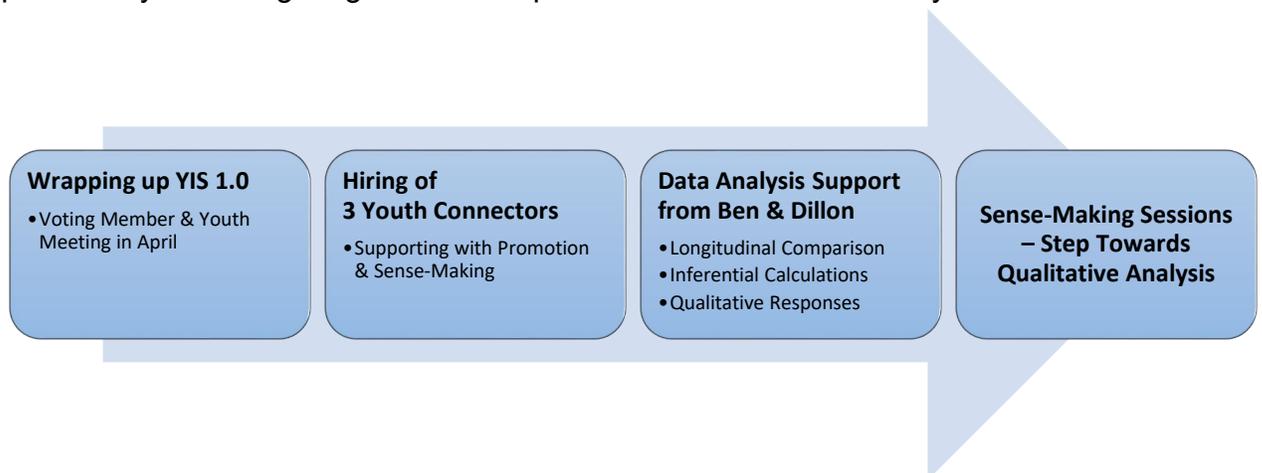
Action Plan:

- Members will be asked to indicate their interest in supporting this work through a sub-group dedicated to the completion of Phase 1.
- Alternatively, members can provide direct edits to the main working document (an approximate 15-20 minute commitment).
- Lastly, members with access to academic institutions are encouraged to think of any students who may be interested in supporting areas of this work – a successful model in the past.

Youth Impact Survey (YIS)

Silviu provided an update on the recent outputs for the first iteration of the YIS. He specifically mentioned how the April Voting Members’ meeting, as well as a separate youth-focused meeting, were organized to present the results of the survey - disaggregated by gender, racial and geographic categories. Moreover, Silviu mentioned how the breakout sessions at the Voting Members’ meeting (with participation of DRE members) allowed young people and members to discuss their thoughts on the survey results. It also prompted discussion on how to better promote the 2021 survey and how organizations and those working with children and youth can employ the results in their organization’s decision-making.

Silviu mentioned that there are 3 Youth Connectors hired to support with the dissemination of the 2021 survey and to plan components of the sense-making sessions (an area where DRE members can support through best practices on hosting focus groups). Silviu also mentioned the collaboration made between the CYPT, Ben, and Dillon from the University of Waterloo. The additional support will allow the CYPT to expand its scope in data analysis, particularly reflecting longitudinal comparisons and inferential analyses between variables.



Action Plan:

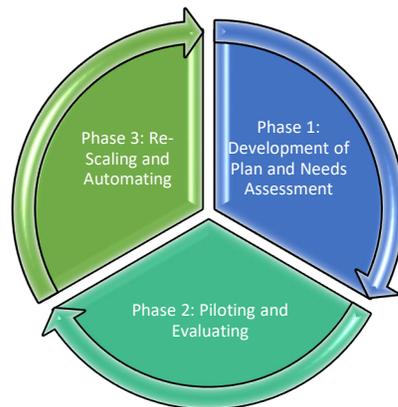
- Silviu will inform DRE members on future opportunities to support the YIS.
- The YIS 2021 is scheduled to close on June 7th 2021. The CYPT Backbone team anticipates receiving approximately 1,000 respondents.

Well-Being Shared Measurement Database Task Group

Greta – a member of both the DRE team and the Well-Being Shared Measurement Database Task Group (WBSMD TG) – provided context on the transformation of the former Sandbox group to what is now the WBSMD TG. *The Sandbox group continues to meet but in a different capacity.* Greta noted how the TG seeks to measure and report shared program-level data as a means to reflect best practices and interventions as well as to support data collection across several organizations. The overall objectives include:

- Capacity-building through Data Collection
- Analysis of Waterloo Region Program Data (Disaggregated across dimensions)
- Identifying Effective Response/Interventions

The TG has identified three larger phases needed to operationalize the project. The WG is currently in Phase 1, which will likely continue for the remainder of the year.



As part of Phase 1 (Development of Core Plan and Needs Assessment), the TG is currently organizing meetings with similar initiatives to examine best practices and lessons learned, organizing focus groups with programs/organizations who have noted their interest in participating and finalizing key measures. The overall objectives for Phase 1 completion include:

1. Research Initiatives and Lessons Learned
2. Needs Assessment of Piloting Organizations
3. Finalized Measures & Questions
4. Data Privacy
5. Online Platform Requirements
6. “How to” Document
7. Core Project Plan & Funding Applications

The DRE members had a discussion on the ways in which the team can support and complement the work of the TG.

Action Plan:

- Silviu, Greta and the Co-Chairs of DRE will act as liaisons between the two groups – including the TG as an agenda item at future DRE meetings
- Silviu and Greta will follow up with DRE members who wish to join the TG

Results-based Evaluation Template (Outcomes & Impacts)

Silviu brought up a possible focus area for the DRE team to develop a results-based evaluation template for the membership. This was initiated through conversations between Mohamed and Silviu who noted that there were identifiable pressure for non-profits to increasingly evaluate and report on outcomes and impacts (rather than solely focusing on activities and outputs). This process is in part due to the recognition amongst donors that social impact initiatives should consider how a multitude of external initiatives all contribute to similar goals and objectives.

Silviu then suggested that it might be useful to support this process for membership organizations by developing an evaluation template that notes measures and indicators, particularly across the 9 Shared Goals (considered impacts in this case). The team reflected how the CYPT’s [Theory of Change](#) points to the broader results-chain but recognize that there are no current measures to periodically track or report impacts. A possible project for the DRE team would be to support the identification of core measures, indicators and potential targets. The team was receptive to this idea and indicate interest/value.

HIGH-LEVEL OBJECTIVES	MEASURES	INDICATORS	TARGET	BASELINE	DATA SOURCE & COLLECTION METHODOLOGY	POPULATION(S) COVERED	FREQUENCY
IMPACT(S)							

<i>OUTCOME(S)</i>							
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** Example of a resource table.*

Action Plan:

- The team will consider this as a future area of work – alongside the broader development of evaluation processes across the CYPT.
- Silviu and Mohamed will connect with the team once there is additional time to brainstorm this process.

Business Case for Belonging

Silviu provided an update on the drafting of a CYPT Business Case on Belonging with the support from a PhD student at the University of Waterloo (connect through Evan from the DRE team). The document will outline why Belonging (as a measure) is relevant to a person’s well-being as well as why it was chosen by the CYPT membership.

Action Plan:

- Silviu will keep the team informed through this process.

Youth Engagement in Decision-Making

The team discussed another potential area of future work: mapping how CYPT membership organizations incorporate youth engagement in their decision-making. This is in recognition that the annual survey results pointed to the interest amongst members to find ways to highlight/share methods of directly engaging young people across management. The process would require a desk review, potential semi-structure questionnaires and surveys for members.

Action Plan:

- Co-Chairs will keep the team informed on opportunities to begin this work.

Other Updates

Frequency & Duration of Meetings

Jessica asked the team to share their thoughts on the frequency and duration of meetings – acknowledging that individuals are at capacity and that meeting will likely remain virtual throughout the near future. Members of the team agreed that they preferred shorter meetings with additional meetings scheduled.

Action Plan:

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Co-Chairs and Silviu will consider rescheduling the remaining meetings of the year to reflect people's interests. |
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