Knowledge Translation & Mobilization of Evidence-Based Products
Public Health Agency of Canada (Vancouver, BC)
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BACKGROUND
Federal initiatives are carried out regionally, and the Public Health Capacity and Knowledge Management (PHCKM) division promotes services and skills to translate evidence into practice and facilitate knowledge exchange. Overall, policies and program objectives are facilitated by the PHCKM unit through evaluation, surveillance, field services coordination, and knowledge translation.

OBJECTIVES
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of the PHCKM unit and how the unit functions internally at PHAC and externally with stakeholders/partners
- Identify any gaps, challenges, and/or barriers to the knowledge mobilization process for the priority areas
- Build regional knowledge of the priority areas and understand the roles of key stakeholders to better synthesize knowledge nationally

STRATEGIES
- Review PHAC documentation about the PHCKM division and the organizational structure of the agency and its stakeholders/partners
- Identify and maintain engagement with stakeholders in the knowledge mobilization process to understand the latest research and any gaps
- Conduct environmental scans and regularly collaborate and engage with members of the PHCKM division to discuss the best strategies and ways to synthesize ideas to overcome any barriers

DELIVERABLES
All deliverables were aimed at facilitating projects to address national priorities:
- Regional scans (BC & AB) to understand local healthcare, disease, and treatment landscapes
- Review of KT materials to ensure regional relevance and accuracy
- Knowledge mobilization and dissemination plan for products
- Regular meetings internally and externally to build and maintain stakeholder relationships

To promote and protect the health of Canadians through leadership, partnership, innovation and action in public health.
—Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Western Regional Office (Vancouver, BC)
National Capital Region (Ottawa, ON)

National priorities of:
- Immunization
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Tuberculosis prevention & control
- HIV/AIDS
- Environmental health
- Indigenous health
- Suicide prevention

REFLECTION
My practicum provided me experience and insights into the federal public sector and how the regional office runs in relation to the National Capital Region. Collaboration within and between teams is very important to ensure the success of a project. This collaboration also extends externally, as input from the knowledge users is just as important as the plan and the message being delivered. In order to disseminate material, the PHCKM unit worked closely with other units to identify appropriate stakeholders and effectively communicate all messages. These learnings will certainly help guide my future practice.

CAPSTONE
I had the opportunity to learn a great deal about knowledge management and how the federal government addresses issues in public health. For my capstone project, I intend to explore knowledge translation strategies in immunization.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Thank you to my preceptor Jamal Harb and the PHCKM team for their mentorship and ongoing support throughout this practicum. And thank you to my senior supervisor Paola Ardiles for continuously guiding and supporting my learning.