

## Schizophrenia Societies Across Canada Supporting TRAM

What are the **objectives** of the proposed team?

- Ensure development and implementation of evidence-based research on family-based services in order to improve youth outcomes
- Advocate for system level change for improved access to and funding of family-based services

What are the **biggest challenges** your proposed team has to overcome?

- Stigma of “schizophrenia” brand and label within mental health sector and among general public
- Getting youth engaged with a schizophrenia-specific organization

**Who are the key leaders** in your team?

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| • Dr Taryn Tang, Head of Research, and Mary Alberti, CEO, Schizophrenia Society of Ontario | • Jane Duval, Executive Director, British Columbia Schizophrenia Society | • Barbara Johnson, President, Schizophrenia Society of New Brunswick                 | • Stephen Ayer, Executive Director, Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia | • Anita Hopfauf, Executive Director, Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan    |
| • Francine Dubé, Directrice générale, Société québécoise de la schizophrénie               | • Chris Summerville, Executive Director, Manitoba Schizophrenia Society  | • Dave Banko, Executive Director, Schizophrenia Society of Newfoundland and Labrador | • Gail MacLean, President, Schizophrenia Society of Prince Edward Island | • Chris Summerville, Chief Executive Officer, Schizophrenia Society of Canada |
| • Rubyann Rice, Executive Director, Schizophrenia Society of Alberta                       |  |  |  |   |

What expertise, skills, resources, networks or infrastructure **could your team bring** as a network collaborator ?

- Each Schizophrenia Society understands the local landscape of mental health services and can, therefore, develop strategies that are responsive to the diverse needs of families, individuals and local communities faced with schizophrenia and psychosis. Each provincial Society has targeted programs and services designed to assist each client with accessing and understanding the mental health system. We have developed successful online forums, information guides and family, individual, and community based systems navigation support services. The Schizophrenia Societies have an excellent track record of community engagement, and have forged strong and successful partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders.

Which **organisations** are part of the team?

- Schizophrenia Society of Ontario
- BC Schizophrenia Society
- Schizophrenia Society of Alberta
- Manitoba Schizophrenia Society
- Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan
- Schizophrenia Society of Quebec
- Schizophrenia Society of New Brunswick
- Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia
- Schizophrenia Society of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Schizophrenia Society of PEI
- Schizophrenia Society of Canada

How will your team **contribute to a transformation** in adolescent mental health in 5 years?

- Youth outcomes are significantly impacted by families and caregivers who comprise the critical circle of care. Family-based interventions have been found to significantly reduce rates of relapse and re-hospitalization. Too often, however, family-based services are absent or inaccessible. The Schizophrenia Societies understand that schizophrenia and psychosis are complex and are committed to providing services and programs that support the diverse needs of families and caregivers of people living with mental illnesses. We have demonstrated that the best approach to care is by uniting family, friends, caregivers and communities with support services, resources and knowledge about mental illnesses. We have a long history of working with youth and families affected by schizophrenia and psychosis: advocating for political change, supporting and conducting innovative research, developing and delivering educational initiatives, providing psycho-educational support, and facilitating access to and navigation of mental health systems.

Who should other interested groups **contact** to learn more about you? (include phone/ e-mail)

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