

# • F O U N D R Y •

## Foundry: Enhancing Youth Well-Being and Employment Through Integrated Youth Services and Occupational Therapy Leadership

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February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

WFOT  
Congress 2026

9-12 FEBRUARY

BANGKOK, THAILAND



# Acknowledgement

We acknowledge, with much gratitude, that our work takes place on land steeped in rich Indigenous history and home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit people today. We recognize and respect Indigenous people as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous peoples and their traditional territories

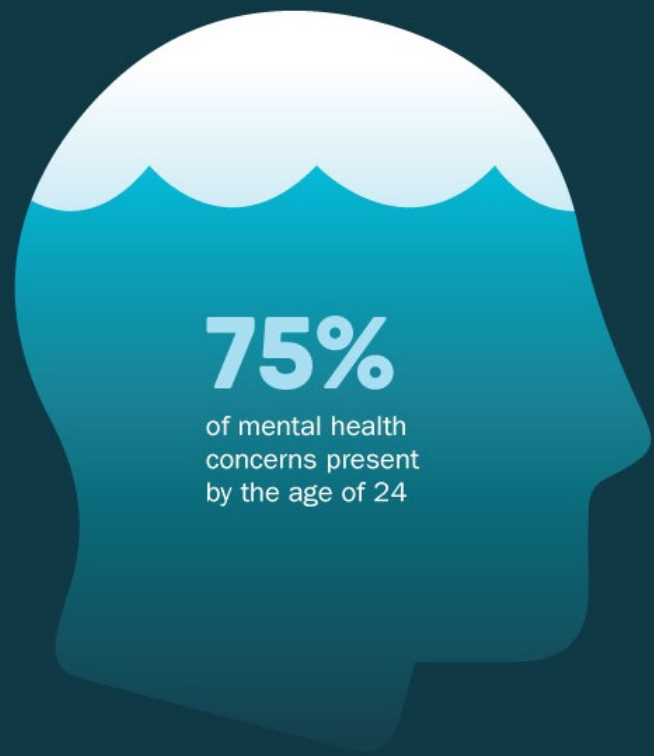
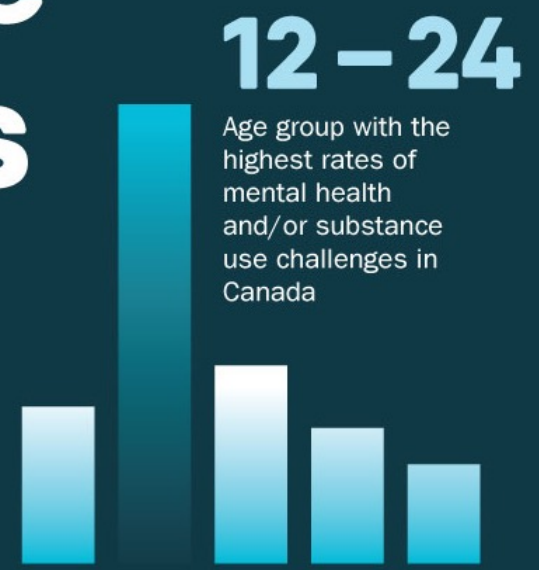


# Outline of the next 12 minutes!

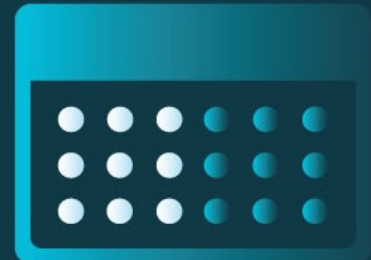
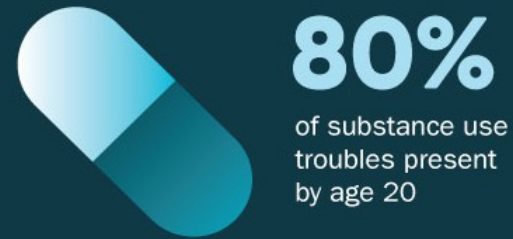
1. History of the “problem” of global youth mental health
2. What is Integrated Youth Services (IYS) in Canada
3. IYS as a learning health system
4. Implications for Occupational Therapy practice, research, and policy



# What the numbers tell us.



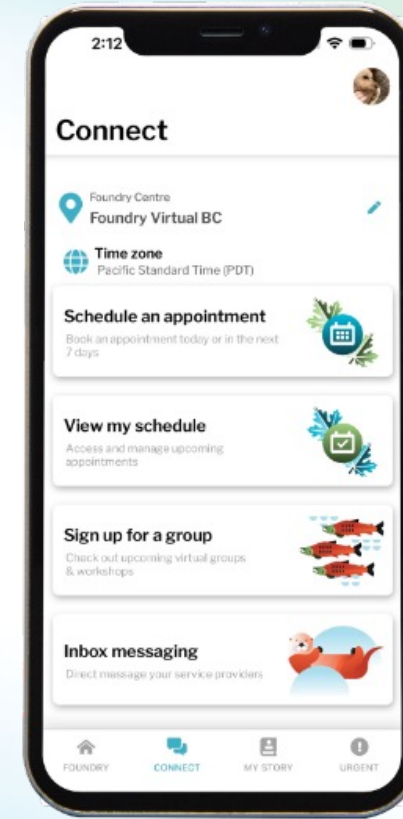
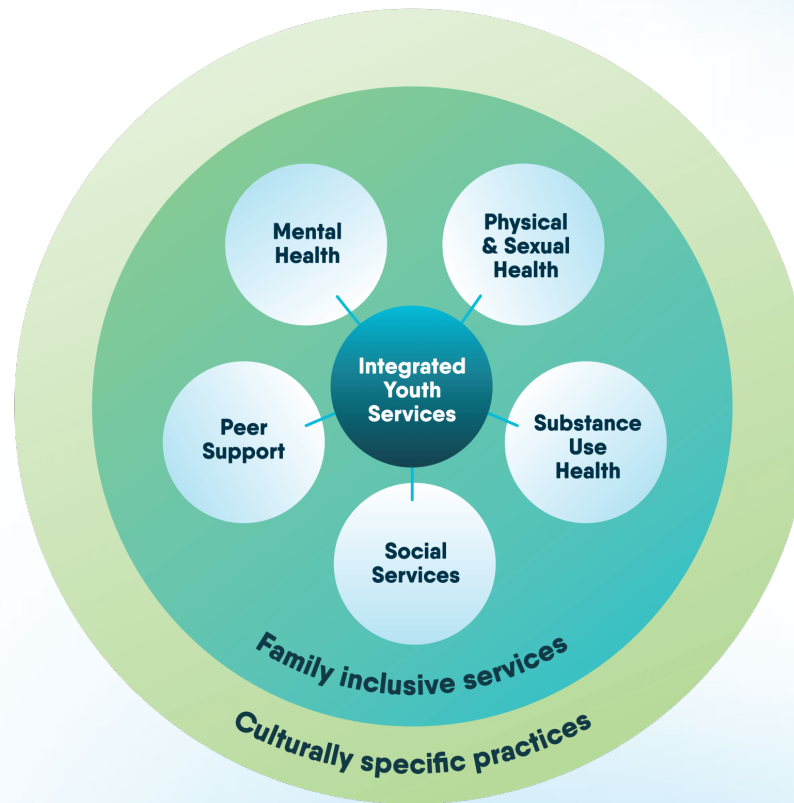
**200,000**  
and more young people in BC struggle with mental health every year



**50%**  
of youth coming to Foundry have thought about suicide in the past 90 days



# 2. WHAT IS IYS- The IYS Model-OFFERS YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 12-24 HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES, SERVICES AND SUPPORTS – THROUGH INTEGRATED YOUTH SERVICE CENTRES, FOUNDRY VIRTUAL AND FOUNDRYBC.CA

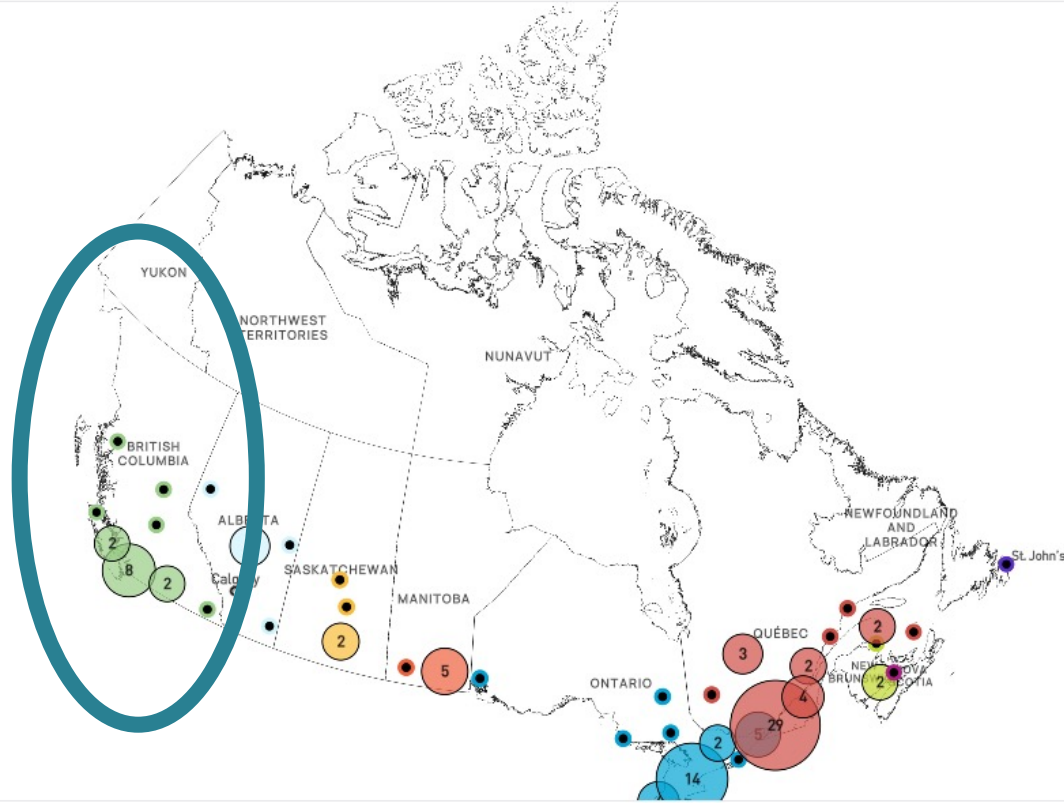




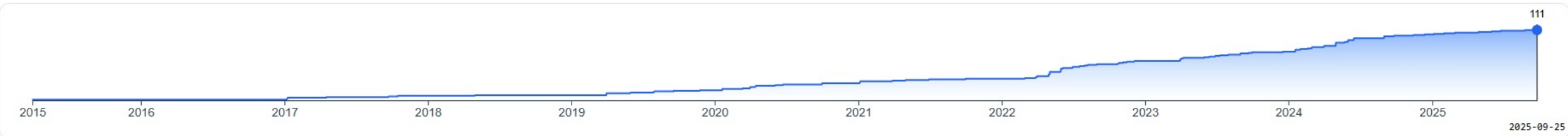
Layer Selection

- open
- planned

Source:  
<https://iysmap-vue.pages.dev/>



IYS Sites as of Thu Sep 25 2025		Open 113
Alberta	7	
British Columbia	17	
Manitoba	6	
New Brunswick	3	
Newfoundland and Labrador	1	
Nova Scotia	1	
Nunavut	0	
Ontario	30	
Quebec	44	
Saskatchewan	4	



# Our Network

**19 Foundry centres now open across BC, with 16 more in development**

Foundry exists [to support youth in living a good life](#) by transforming access to care for young people and their families/ caregivers. This is our mission.

Operating as a network with a [shared data platform](#) across Centres, allows for shared learning and development as a [learning health system](#), and the means to better define and measure collective impact.







# 3. IYS as an Learning Health System

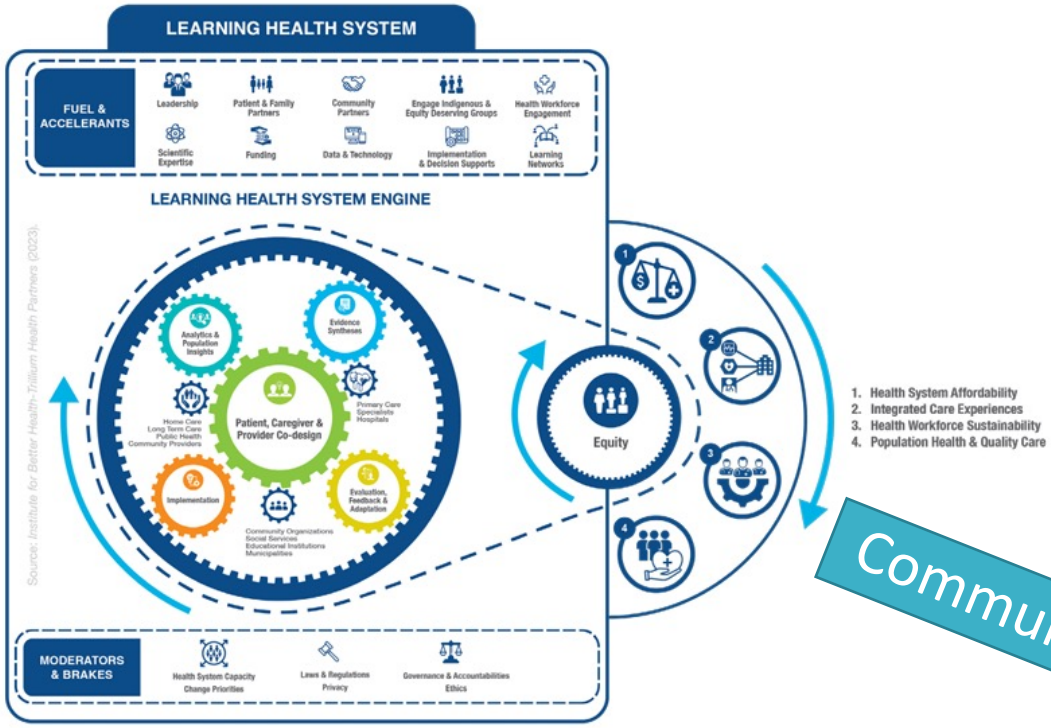
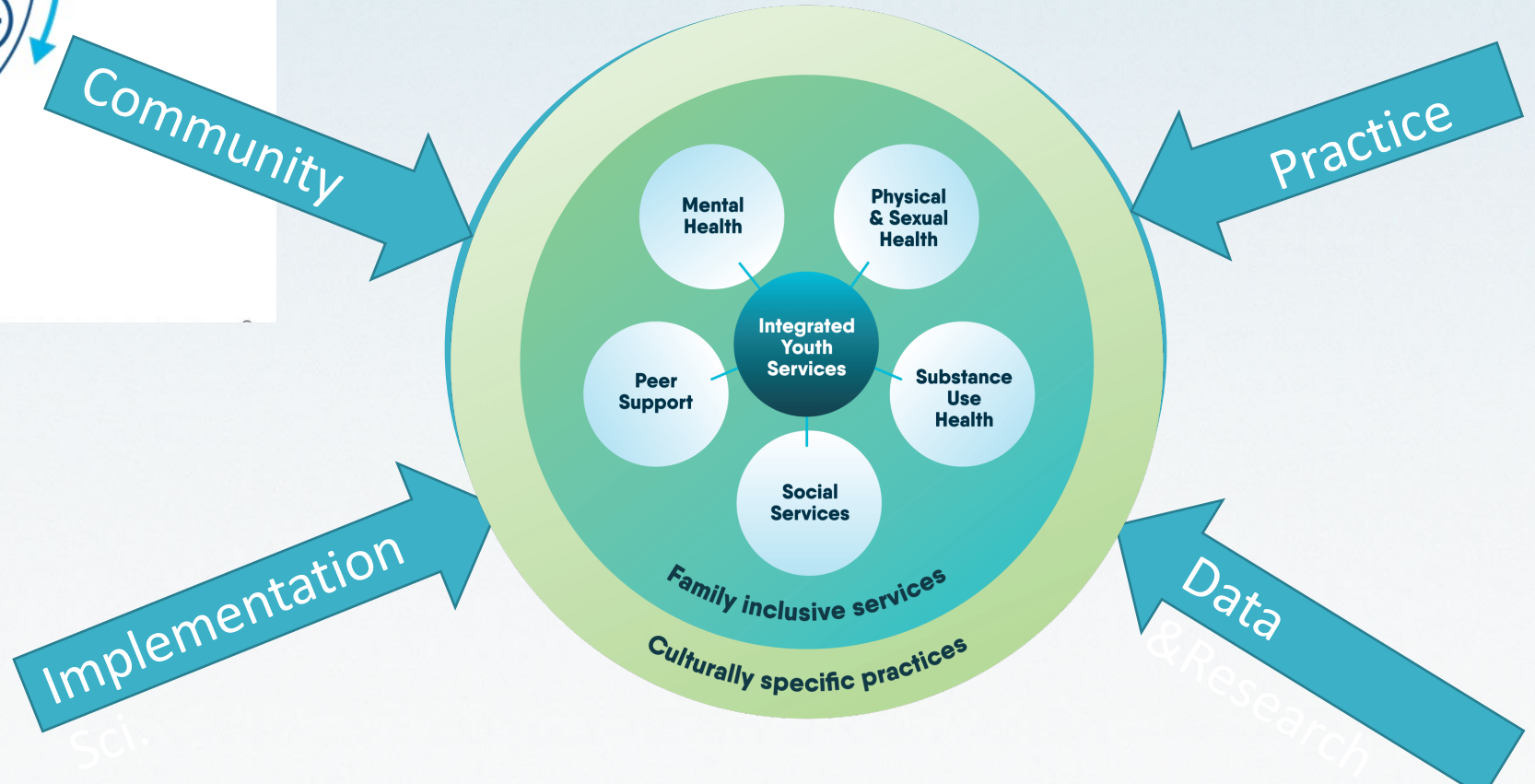


Figure 2. Learning Health System Action Framework

# IYS LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEM

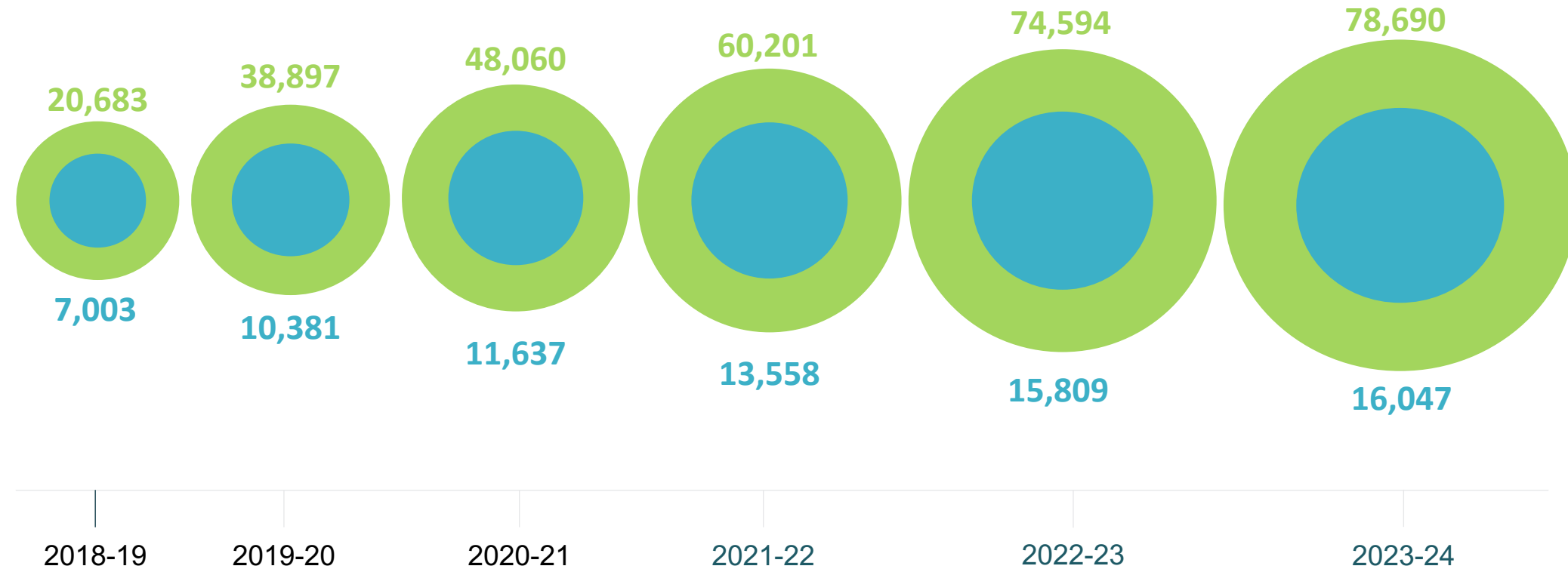


# 321,125 Visits

Since April 2018

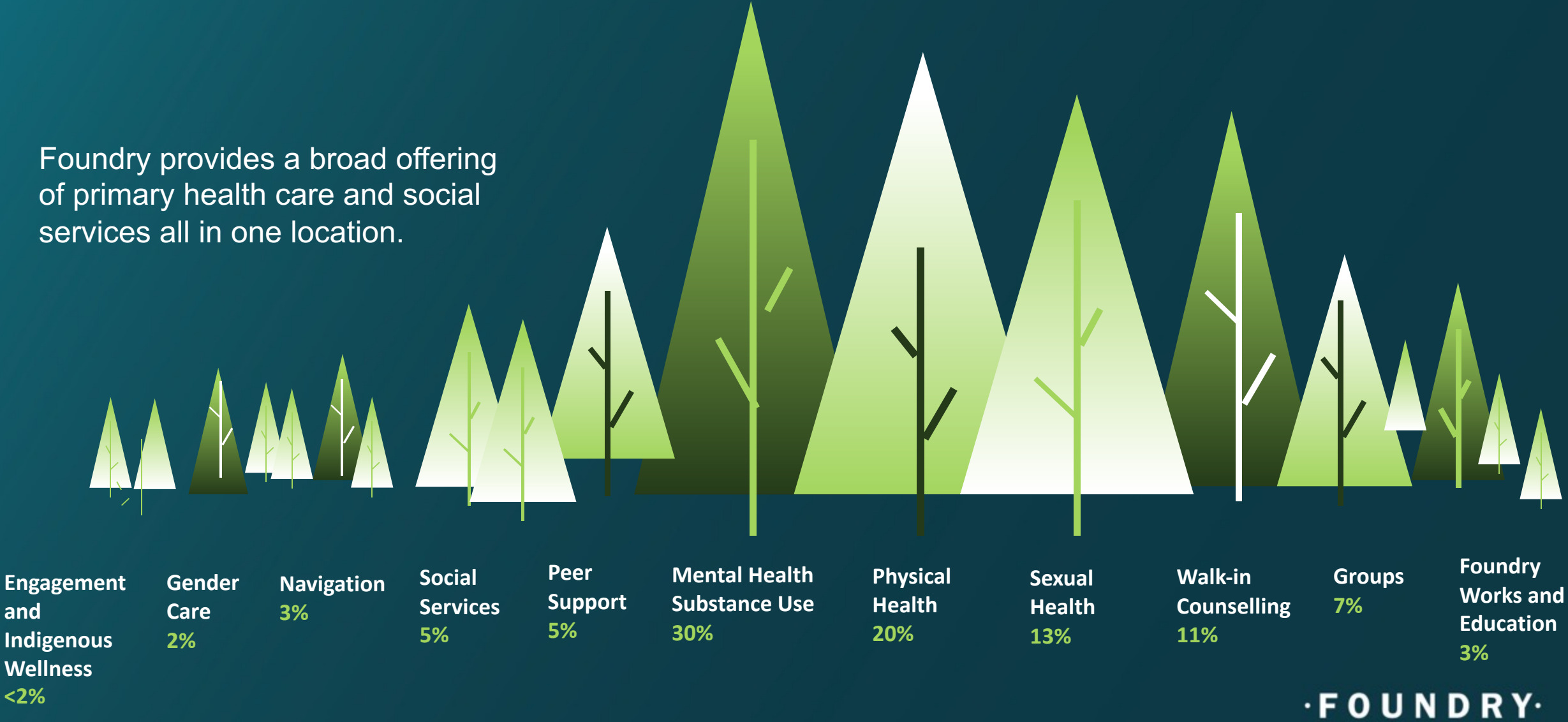
# 47,948 Unique Youth Visited

*A unique youth could have visited in one or more year*



# Counting Youth and Services vs.....

Foundry provides a broad offering of primary health care and social services all in one location.



· F O U N D R Y ·

Time frame for the data shown: April 2018 – March 2024



02.16.24

### Foundry Cariboo Chilcotin's Commitment to Including Indigenous Ways of Knowing & Being into Youth Wellness



08.21.24

Mental health  
Original research  
Service providers' perspectives on youth peer support: the importance of integration and oversight – an interpretive description study in British Columbia, Canada

Courtney Devane<sup>1</sup>, Emily Jenkins<sup>1</sup>, Corey McAuliffe<sup>1</sup>, Kelli Wuertth<sup>2</sup>, Skye Pamela Barbic<sup>3</sup>  
Correspondence to Dr Courtney Devane: courtney.devane@qubc.ca

Original research article  
**Unlocking mobile health adoption: A qualitative exploration of user experiences, barriers, and facilitators within integrated youth services in British Columbia, Canada**

Xiaoxu Ding<sup>1</sup>, Kirsten Marchand<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Liisa Holsti<sup>1</sup>, Julia Schmidt<sup>1</sup>, Natalie Parde<sup>4,5</sup>, Brodie Sakakibara<sup>1,4</sup> and Skye Barbic<sup>1,2,3</sup>



10.18.23

### Amira's Journey: How Foundry is Changing Lives

# Youth Emotional Pathways to Mental Health Services: I Came to Foundry to "Remember What it Feels Like to Cry"

Original Paper | Published: 19 February 2025  
Volume 61, pages 1155–1167, (2025) [Cite this article](#)

DIGITAL HEALTH  
Volume 11: 212  
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DOI: 10.1177/2055207624129702  
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Sage

**Do you have depression? A summative content analysis of mental health-related content on TikTok**

Roxanne Turuba<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Marco Zenone<sup>1,3</sup>, Raman Srivastava<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan Stea<sup>5</sup>, Yuri Quintana<sup>6,7</sup>, Nikki Ow<sup>1,8</sup>, Kirsten Marchand<sup>1,2,8</sup>, Amanda Kwan<sup>9</sup>, Anna-Joy Ong<sup>9</sup>, Xiaoxu Ding<sup>9</sup>, Cassia Warren<sup>9</sup>, Alessandro R Marcon<sup>9</sup>, Jo Henderson<sup>9</sup>, Steve Mathias<sup>1,4,8</sup> and Skye Barbic<sup>1,2,8</sup>

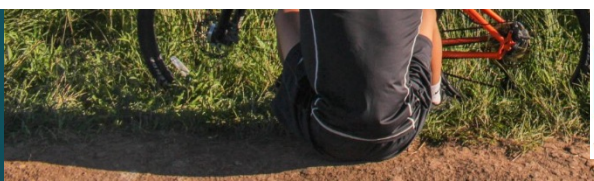
Regular Article  
**Exploring Mental Health Distress, Demographics, and Service Utilization Patterns Among South Asian and Non-South Asian Youth Accessing Integrated Youth Services in British Columbia, Canada**

Exploration de la détresse mentale, des données démographiques et des tendances d'utilisation des services chez les jeunes d'origine sud-asiatique et non sud-asiatique qui ont recours aux services intégrés pour les jeunes en Colombie-Britannique, au Canada

Avneet Kaur Dhillon, MSc<sup>1</sup>, Christine Mulligan, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Viet Dao, MSc<sup>2</sup>, Hasina Samji, PhD<sup>3</sup>, Suzanne Huot, PhD<sup>1</sup> and Skye Barbic, PhD<sup>1,2,4</sup>

The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry /  
La Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie  
2025, Vol. 70(9) 690-700  
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DOI: 10.1177/07067437251355648  
TheCJPCa | LaRCPCa  
Sage

## "My day is already planned out before I even get to choose it": Using youth-oriented research to understand and measure what matters to youth ages 12-15 and the implications for mental health design and evaluation



04.08.24

### Victoria's Story

## THE LANCET Regional Health Americas

This journal Journals Publish Clinical Glob

ARTICLES · Online first, 101223, September 16, 2025 · Open Access

### Trends of incident adult Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder diagnoses before, during and after the pandemic provincial state of emergency in British Columbia (2013–2023): a population-based study

Kevin Hu<sup>a,b</sup>, Roshni Desai<sup>a</sup>, Shania Au<sup>a</sup>, Bin Zhao<sup>a</sup>, Skye Barbic<sup>c,f</sup>, Kirsten Marchand<sup>b,f</sup>, et al.  
[Show more](#)

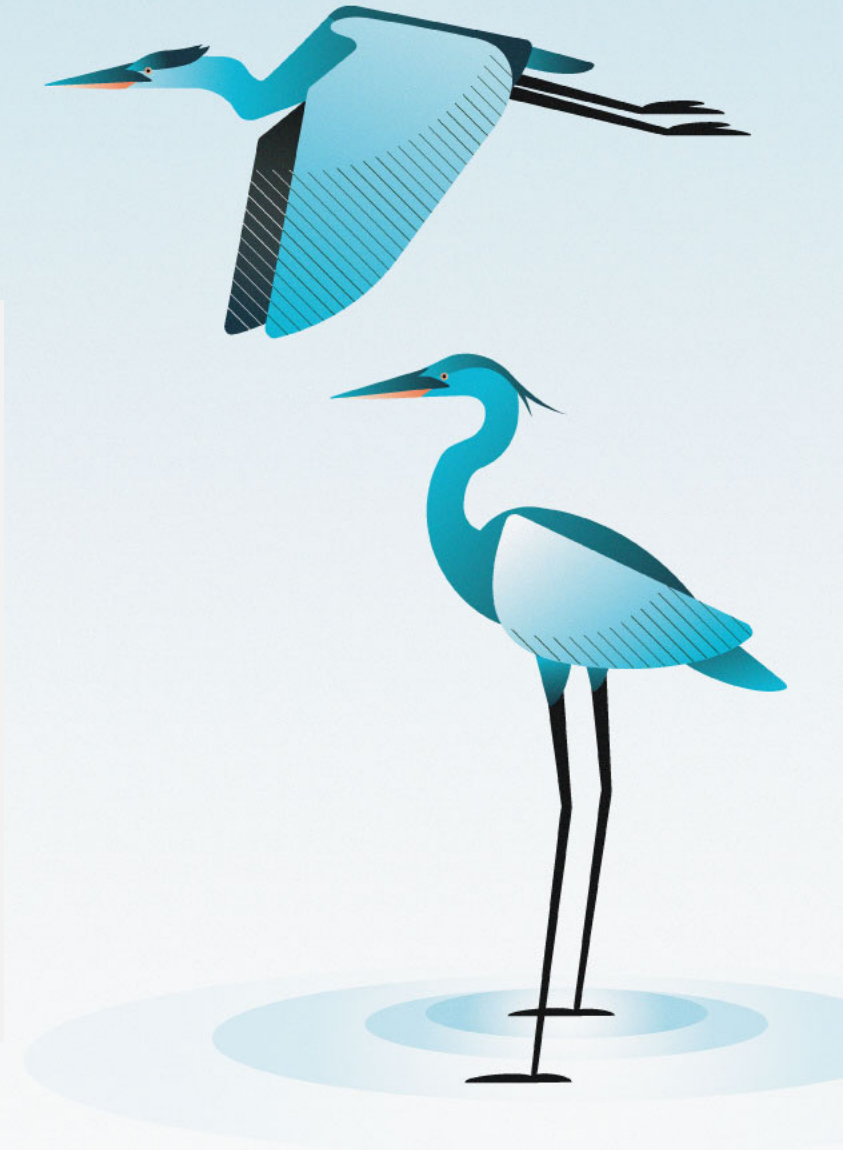
FOUNDRY

# 4. Potential for Occupational Therapy Practice, Research, and Policy

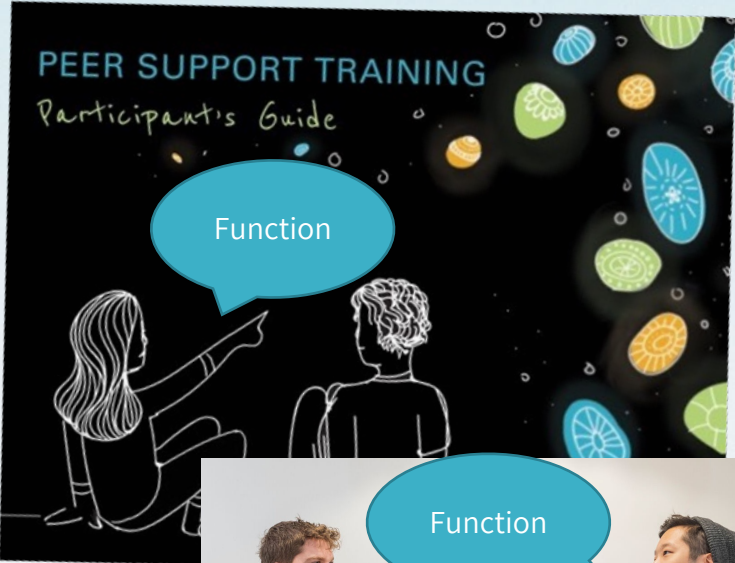


# Implications for Practice

Extensive roles for rehabilitation service providers across the care continuum



# What is the one outcome youth talk about all of the time across the service streams?



# Implications for research



Big idea

Build integrated Youth Service in British Columbia, 6 centres



Proof of Concept

Proof of Concept, 11 centres



Expansion

Foundry, 35 centres, Canada scale



Impact

Impact on access, outcomes, and experiences

# Pan-Canadian IYS Data Federation

Platform  
prototype  
architecture

Use case

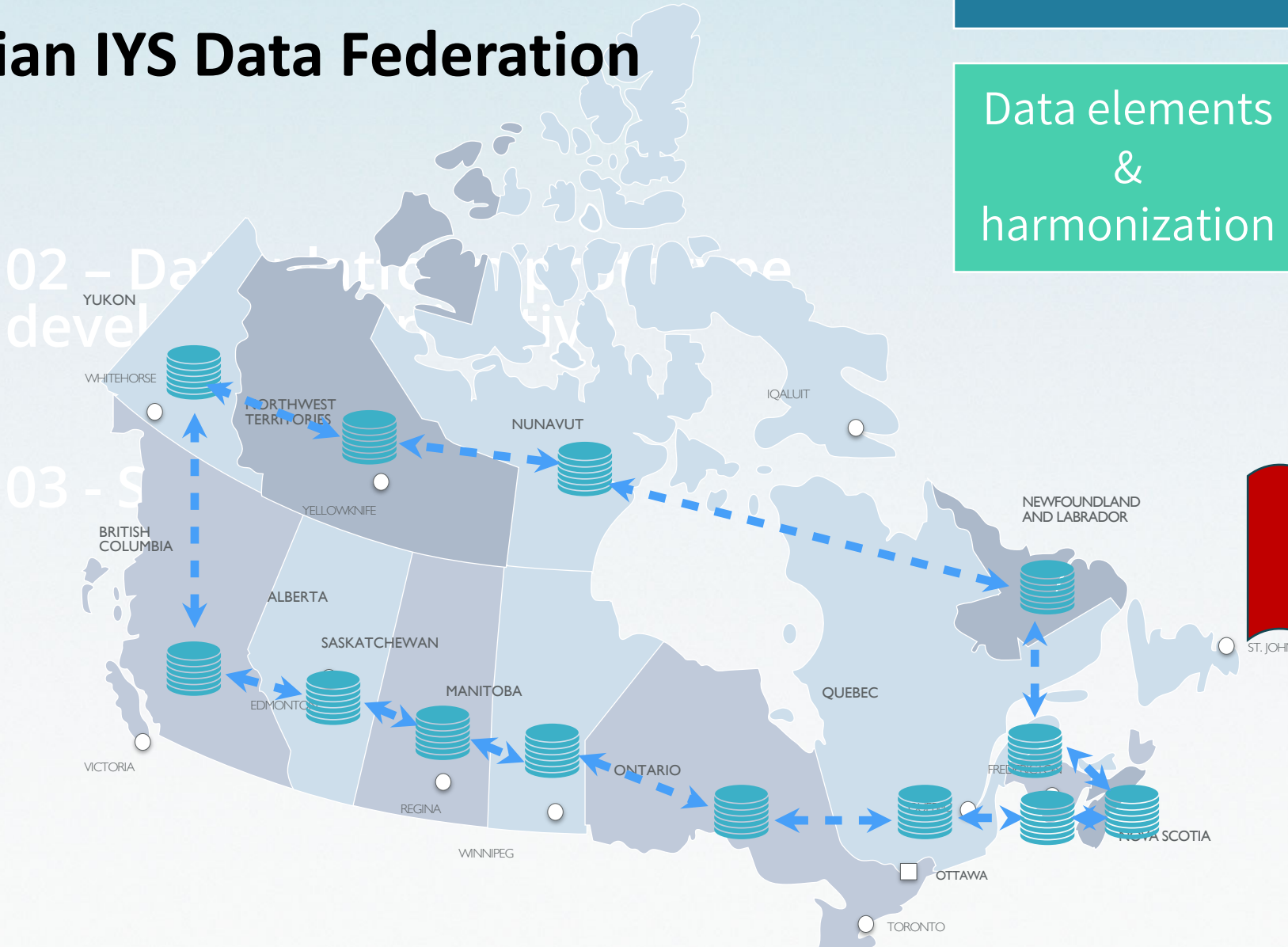
Data elements  
&  
harmonization

Governance

**Each partner site:**  
Collects data  
Validates quality  
Controls access

Data structured using  
a common data model

**Criteria:**  
Secure  
Scalable  
Extensible  
Open-Source



02 - Data integration prototype development  
03 - Shared governance

**Prototype & shared governance**

# Implications for policy

**“we have to stop doing the things we have always done”**

- ✓ **Cross-Sector Collaboration:**
- ✓ **Sustainable Funding Models:**
- ✓ **Standardization vs. Local Adaptation:**
- ✓ **Data Sharing & Evaluation Frameworks**



# Conclusion:

**We are transforming youth mental health care**

- ✓ **Early Intervention = Lifelong Impact**
- ✓ One-Stop Access Combines mental health, primary care, substance use, housing, and peer support under one roof, eliminating fragmented service delivery.
- ✓ Youth-Centered, Not System-Centered
- ✓ Scalable & Evidence-Informed





ขอบคุณ KOB KHUN KA 😊....Thank you....

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[mwenger@foundrybc.ca](mailto:mwenger@foundrybc.ca)