A STRATEGIC FUND TO EFFECT ***MULTI-LEVEL CHANGE***

The Public Health Agency of Canada-Innovation Strategy was a national program that supported the development of locally driven innovations between 2009 and 2020, while increasing the reach and impact of proven projects. This strategic funding model focused on two complex public health issues: Mental Health Promotion and Achieving Healthier Weights. Its aim was to foster promising interventions that had the potential to effect change at the individual, family, community and system levels.

PHASED FUNDING

Through a **three-phased funding** approach, projects were able to adapt, reflect, and build vested partnership networks to impact policy and practice while increasing reach and scale towards sustainability.

1 initial design, development and testing of interventions (12 – 18 months).

Moving upstream: Investing in the social determinants of health to strengthen protective factors.

Equity focus: Supporting actions that aim to remove structural and systemic barriers to positive health.

VESTED PARTNERS

Build and invest in shared public facing agenda, and leverage resources to create systems level change.

partnerships by community led organizations across multiple sectors

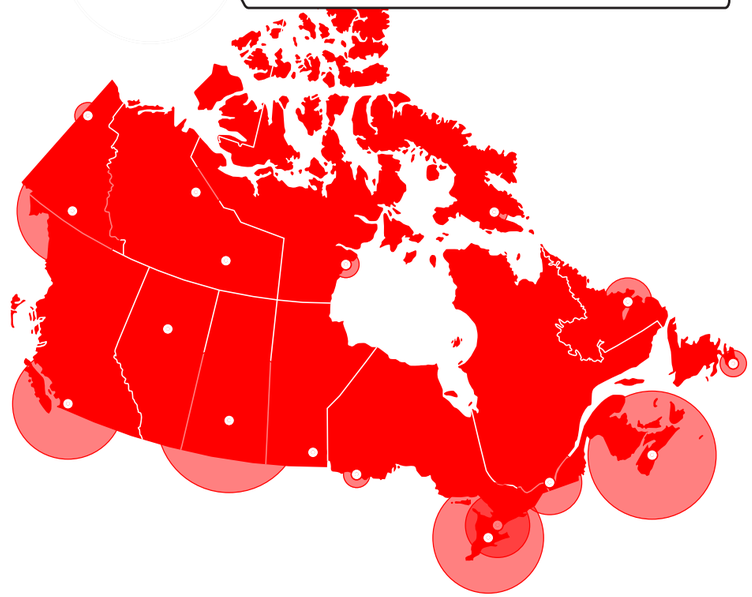
leveraged in additional funding.

SCALE-UP

A gradual and deliberate effort to increase the reach and impact of successfully tested interventions across diverse populations and communities.

Readiness for scale: PHAC-IS developed an evidence based assessment tool to determine project readiness for scale.

individuals from **1,700 communities across Canada** reached



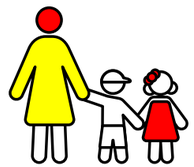
SUSTAINED IMPACT

Creating the conditions for sustainability beyond program funding.

82%

of projects were active **beyond Phase 3**.

OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & THEIR FAMILIES



In Phase 2,

81%

of projects reported increased knowledge and/or skills among participants and

75%

of projects reported a change in protective factors.

By the end of Phase 3, all projects demonstrated a positive impact on protective factors associated with positive mental health and healthier weights.

- **higher cultural connectedness** among youth
- **higher emotional self-regulation** and positive ways of coping among students
- **improved social connections** and among youth and their caregivers

KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT/EXCHANGE

200+

examples cited of knowledge developed by projects used to influence policy, practice and other programming.

Public Health Agency of Canada | Agence de la santé publique du Canada

Canada