

# Canada's Chief Public Health Officer—Championing Health Equity

## Everyone in Canada deserves optimal health

I will continue to drive efforts to promote health equity so that everyone, including the most marginalized among us, have an opportunity to lead healthy lives, both physically and mentally.

I will continue to collaborate with partners, to advance the science and research needed to provide the best evidence to inform our decision-making and action.

And I will continue to engage with people across Canada, especially those with lived experience, listening and learning to ensure our actions foster health equity across the health ecosystem.

## 2022–2025 Priorities

My primary focus is **health equity** because it directly affects the health outcomes of the whole of Canadian society. It also provides a central lens for action on my four priorities:

- **Substance-related Harms**
- **Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness and Response**
- **Health System Transformation**
- **Health Impacts of Climate Change**

- Social and economic conditions
- Physical environment
- Individual behaviours

- Scientific research
- Lived experience and community knowledge
- Health data and surveillance



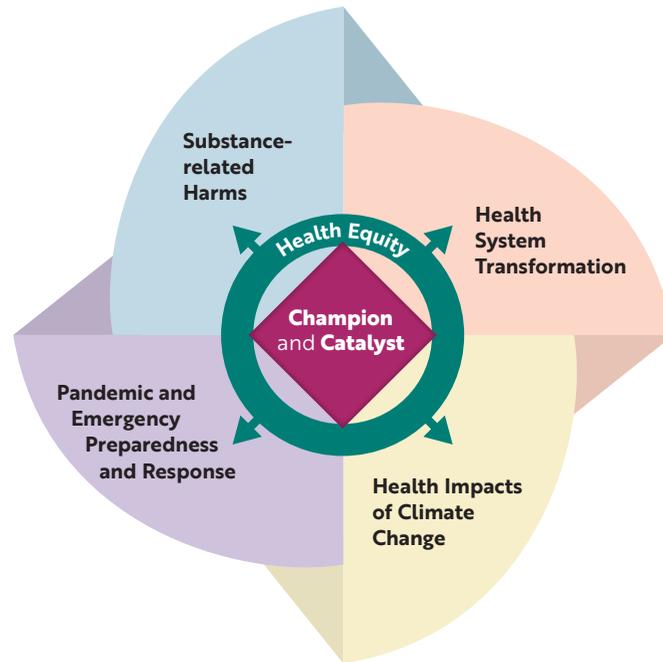
Generating **evidence-based** advice

Engaging with and through **partners**

- People with lived experiences
- Indigenous leaders and co-creators
- Community leaders
- Federal, Provincial, Territorial partners
- Health care providers
- Not-for-profit and private sectors
- International partners
- Academia



# 2022–2025 Priorities of the CPHO



## Health Equity

Health equity is the primary focus of the CPHO and a critical influence on other CPHO priorities. Across the complex and dynamic health environment, the CPHO will continue to champion health equity by:

- Advocating for inclusion of the voices of under-represented, and historically marginalized communities to improve decision making and evolve public health governance
- Supporting the self-determination of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and the de-colonization of health systems as part of Truth and Reconciliation
- Engaging with and connecting sectors, partners and communities to advance action on the factors that influence health

## Substance-Related Harms

- Championing the need to pilot, evaluate and scale innovative, evidence-informed approaches to prevent substance-related harms
- Working with partners for more timely, comprehensive and disaggregated data on substance use and harms to enable better decision making
- Mobilizing health professionals to address stigma as a barrier to care for substance users
- Advocating to meet the diverse health needs of people who use drugs, including mental health, sexual health and overall well-being

## Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Working to strengthen equity-centred pandemic planning at all levels—international, national, and community
- Promoting upstream planning and preparedness actions to build healthier, more resilient communities that are better prepared for future emergencies
- Providing advice to improve national foresight, risk assessment, risk management and risk communications—skills, tools and capacity
- Leading Canada’s pandemic and emergency response
- Providing timely, credible, information as Canada’s trusted voice and public health authority
- Working with partners to address misinformation and disinformation

## Health System Transformation

- Facilitating stronger, more collaborative health approaches in Canada by working with health partners across jurisdictions
- Advocating for an interoperable Pan-Canadian health data ecosystem
- Catalyzing research and next-generation analytics to identify the best evidence-based public health interventions
- Collaborating with partners to re-invigorate Canada’s public health workforce and modernize tools, core functions and competencies
- Championing the importance of prevention and health promotion to improve health outcomes and health system sustainability

## Health Impacts of Climate Change

- Championing health as a part of multi-sectoral climate action
- Integrating climate considerations in public health practice
- Advancing a holistic One Health Approach, integrating human, animal and environmental health expertise and policy
- Supporting youth and Indigenous voices in leading action on climate adaptation, mental health, and well-being

