



Hello!

Re: Development of Community of Practice (CoP) for Peer Support Research and Evaluation in Canada being led by The Centre for Innovation in Peer Support (embedded in Support & Housing-Halton) and Simon Coulombe (Wilfrid Laurier University) and Robyn Priest (Robyn Priest Live Your Truth).

As many of you are aware, there has been phenomenal work done across Canada (and, of course, elsewhere) in peer support research and evaluation. We have seen valuable documents created, from literature reviews to tool developments and targeted research studies, yielding amazing validation for the growing field of peer support. However, it can be difficult to find this work. We are also aware that there is a lot more work that needs to be done in the area of quality research and evaluation and a need for people to connect to build this knowledge base.

During the Peer Support Canada Conference in Calgary in May 2018, many of us who are engaged in peer support research and evaluation came together for an evening Community of Practice session. The clear next step from that meeting was the need for an ongoing Community of Practice (CoP) for Peer Support Research and Evaluation in Canada in order to easily find what currently exists and help to develop new work. The Centre for Innovation In Peer Support (embedded in Support & Housing-Halton), Stephanie Rattelade (Stella's Place), The Centre for Excellence in Peer Support (embedded in CMHA Waterloo Wellington), Robyn Priest (Robyn Priest Live Your Truth) and Simon Coulombe (Wilfrid Laurier University) came together after the conference to organize how we could help to make this happen. The Centre for Innovation in Peer Support and Simon Coulombe (Wilfrid Laurier University) and Robyn Priest (Robyn Priest Live Your Truth) have offered to lead the ongoing development of this CoP. Our goal is to better connect and facilitate the work of peer support researchers in Canada and elsewhere.

The first step will be to gather info from YOU - the key stakeholders in peer support! We would like to better understand what you may need from a CoP, what work you have done in the field of research and evaluation, and how you may want to contribute or participate.

We invite you to complete this short survey to help give us a better idea of where we can go next. https://wlu.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02gwUVmakiNLnv

Please also forward this survey on to any peer support researchers/evaluators you may know in Canada and internationally.

**Note: The term "research" is used in the survey to encompass all forms of formal and informal research related to peer support, including quality research and program evaluation.*