

Healthy Schools Leadership Symposium

Working together for collective impact

It's almost that time again. The 8th annual Healthy Schools Leadership Symposium will be taking place on May 5th and 6th this year! This event brings together educators, health professionals, students, parents and community organizations from across BC to share and learn about healthy school initiatives from around the province.

We recognize that we cannot create healthy schools on our own, and that healthy school communities are a result of efforts from all those involved in those communities. It is by working together towards this common goal that we are able to change the way our children learn, play and thrive. The theme for this year's event will therefore focus on "collective impact." Collective impact is not just a fancy term for collaboration; collective impact initiatives are distinctly different from traditional collaboration. According to an article in the Stanford Social Innovation Review, collective impact initiatives are described as initiatives that involve a centralized infrastructure, a dedicated staff, and a structured process that leads to a common agenda, shared measurement, continuous communication, and mutually reinforcing activities among all participants.

DASH and Healthy Schools BC are very excited to learn more about this approach and how we can work more effectively with our partners to create healthy schools. We are fortunate to have Paul Born, President and co-founder of [Tamarack](#), a community engagement institute, share his knowledge on this topic as our keynote speaker. He will also be leading an interactive workshop on this topic on May 6th, 2014.

As the theme of the Symposium is Collective Impact, we have various presentations and breakout sessions that will take place during the event that will showcase efforts from many different groups.

To register, or to learn more about this year's Symposium, [click here](#).