
Course Leads



Benjamin Hetman (Co-Lead)

Winnipeg, MB | Public Health Agency of Canada

Ben is currently an Epidemiologist with the Training and Development Unit where he helps to support the development and delivery of applied and technical public health training. He holds a BSc. in Microbiology from the University of Victoria, a MSc. in Biological Sciences from the University of Lethbridge, and is currently a PhD Candidate in Epidemiology at the University of Guelph. From 2010 to 2019, Ben worked at the PHAC National Microbiology Laboratory, researching the application of genomics to study the epidemiology of foodborne pathogens. In 2021, he completed the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program after a two-year placement with the PHAC Outbreak Management Division in Guelph ON.



Joanne Stares (Co-Lead)

St. John's, NL | Public Health Agency of Canada

Joanne has worked in public health since 2008, starting first as an analyst at the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information and then later working as a Public Health Officer with the Canadian Public Health Service where she completed public health capacity building placements at the Eastern Regional Health Authority in Newfoundland and Labrador, the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, and the British Columbia Ministry of Health. In 2017 she joined the Training and Development Unit where she enjoys creating and delivering technical training and supporting field staff in furthering the development of their talents and toolbox of skills. Over the years she has participated in a number of mobilisations, worked in a variety of different content areas including communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, and environmental health, and gained much experience directly working with large administrative health datasets in the context of population health surveillance.

November 21, 2022

Course Facilitators



Marc-André Bélair (Small group facilitator)

Vancouver, BC | Public Health Agency of Canada

Marc-André Bélair is an Epidemiologist with the Training and Development Unit in the Office of Emergency Preparedness, based in Vancouver, BC. He holds a B.Soc.Sci in Political Science, and an M.Sc. in Epidemiology from the University of Ottawa. Marc-André has been working and studying in public health in one capacity or another for over 15 years, in both policy and epidemiological capacities. In addition, he has had the privilege of being deployed five times in the last three years. He has lead the development and evaluation of syndromic surveillance for mass gathering events as part of the G7 Summit in Quebec City in 2018; for asylum seekers in temporary housing in Montréal; and the Jeux du Québec in 2019. Additionally, he has completed two COVID-19 mobilizations, in the Fraser Health Authority in the lower mainland of BC, and Montreal Public Health. Marc-André sings in the Tenor 2 section of the Vancouver Men's Chorus, loves to travel (in normal times!) and is passionate about video games, cooking, hiking, cheese making.



Alanah Jansen (Small group facilitator)

Victoria, BC | Public Health Agency of Canada

Alanah is the newest Senior Epidemiologist with the Training and Development Unit based in Victoria, where she has recently moved. Prior to joining the TDU, Alanah worked for Doctors Without Borders in five countries over the past three years implementing general surveillance systems, responding to outbreaks and conducting surveys. She has also worked in several epidemiologist roles with the Government of the Northwest Territories since completing her master's in public health. Whenever possible, Alanah enjoys being outside and going on adventures with her furry companion.

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Mirna Panic (Small group facilitator)

Montreal, QC | Public Health Agency of Canada

Mirna completed her Bachelor of Science in Ecological Determinants of Health and Master of Science in Public Health at McGill University. Following her graduation, she has worked at the *Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec* (INSPQ) on a range of files including vectorborne disease surveillance, legionellosis and climate change adaptation. Mirna is an alumnus of the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program, during which she was placed at the INSPQ. Since 2016, Mirna has been working within PHAC's Training and Development Unit, where she is currently a senior epidemiologist. In her free time, you will find her hiking or paddle boarding with her dog, reading poorly written outbreak thrillers, enjoying good food or crafting.



Anja Bilandzic (Small group facilitator)

Toronto, ON | Public Health Agency of Canada

Anja is a Senior Epidemiologist with the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program. Prior to joining this team, she was focused on the COVID-19 response as a Public Health Officer at the Ontario Ministry of Health and as a Field Epidemiologist at Manitoba Health and Seniors Care. She has participated in several outbreak investigations and enjoys applying her technical skills in the context of wider policy and program settings within different levels of government. She has a MPH (Epidemiology) and BSc specializing in Global Health from the University of Toronto. She is currently based in Toronto, and you are likely to see her two attention-seeking cats online this week!

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Production



Michael Najm (Producer)

Ottawa, ON | Public Health Agency of Canada

Michael is a Sr. Project Officer with the Training and Development Unit at the Public Health Agency of Canada. He has been with the Agency since 2018 where he first supported the TDU from within the Center of Emergency Response's operational unit. Later, he had the chance to support the COVID-19 response under the Office of Border and Travel Health, mainly working on Travel Health Notices, and has since joined the TDU.

Subject Matter Experts

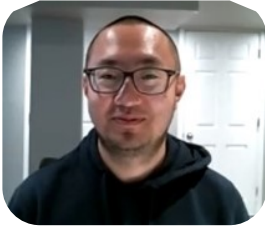


Nashira Popovic (Subject Matter Expert)

Montreal, QC | Public Health Agency of Canada

Nashira Popovic has worked at the Public Health Agency of Canada for 15 years, and is currently the manager of the Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections (STBBI) Estimates and Field Surveillance Section within the Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control. Her team is responsible for estimating incidence and prevalence of HIV and hepatitis C and reporting on Canada's progress towards global targets. Nashira is a graduate of the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program, where she completed her placement at the Montreal Public Health Department.

November 21, 2022



Yuhui Xu (Subject Matter Expert)

Ottawa, ON | Public Health Agency of Canada

Yuhui is a Senior Epidemiologist within the Vaccine Safety Surveillance Division. Previously, he has held several roles in PHAC in COVID-19 surveillance and foodborne outbreaks. He is also a graduate of the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program.



Laurence Campeau (Subject Matter Expert)

Montreal, QC | Public Health Agency of Canada

Laurence is an acting senior epidemiologist in the Estimates and Field Surveillance section of the STBBI surveillance division, where she supervises a team of five Field Surveillance Officers responsible for enhancing the national surveillance of HIV and other STBBIs. She is also a recent graduate of the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program, which she completed in June 2022. Prior to joining the Public Health Agency of Canada, her work focused on the area of HIV epidemiology, both in Canada and abroad.