

1

**Interviewing** stakeholders in each community to learn about gaps and opportunities for pain management.

152 interviews were completed, including 71 with people with lived experience with chronic pain, 71 with Healthcare providers, 4 with Health services decision makers, & 6 with Community based organizations.



2

**Working groups** will be formed in each community to plan one pain management improvement.

3

**Support implementation** and evaluation of the work identified in Phase 2 in each community.

4

**Develop tools** to support ongoing quality improvement work.

## Knowledge Translation - Poster Presentations

The IPSK team is participating in several poster presentations this spring. A poster was presented virtually at the Society for Applied Anthropology Conference March 22-26. Jessica Jack was accepted to present at the Richard Frucht Memorial Lecture Series, hosted by the University of Alberta March 23-25. Finally, for the Canadian Pain Society conference May 10-13 in Montreal, posters on our Phase 1 change strategies and a second poster on Partners in Pain have been accepted.

## Saskatoon Phase 2 Working Group - Graphic Medicine Project

Saskatoon's phase 2 working group is pleased to announce that they received additional funding from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) and Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) for their application titled, "Solutions-focused storytelling to promote people-centered care: challenging stigma of chronic pain and substance use with educational comics". This project ties together several change strategies prioritized by interview participants in Phase 1: reducing stigma, raising awareness among patients and healthcare providers about treatment options, healthcare provider education on trauma-informed care, information about pain for people with diverse literacy levels. This research, co-led by IPSK team members, Dr. Susan Tupper and Erin Beckwell, will begin in April, 2022. It will involve narrative (story-based) interviews with people living with pain and healthcare providers, development of story boards, design of comic-style graphic medicine stories with Arcana Creative (<https://arcanacreative.ca/>), feedback interviews to refine the story designs, and a focus group with potential end-users of the stories to plan implementation.

## Linktr.ee Updates!

Our [linktr.ee](https://linktr.ee/improvingpainsk) holds a collection of links related to the project and other valuable information. [linktr.ee/improvingpainsk](https://linktr.ee/improvingpainsk)



## our goal

Our team is dedicated to coming together to give pain a voice, because right now there is a lack of integrated services and support for those living with chronic pain. We believe if we can hear the stories of those living with pain, and then co-design services and programs, that we will close the gap between what is needed and what exists, reducing existing barriers currently faced by those living with pain, and ultimately improving well-being.

We are bringing together people who live with pain, community-based organizations, healthcare providers, and healthcare decision-makers in three communities that include:

- Regina: adolescents and young adults
- Saskatoon's core neighborhoods
- Yorkton adults



## meet the team

**Dr. Karen Lawson,**

*(each newsletter will profile a different team member)*

Karen Lawson is faculty in the Applied Social Psychology stream and the lead of the Sex, Gender, and Reproductive Psychology Lab (<https://research-groups.usask.ca/reproductivepsychology/index.php>). Karen has extensive training and experience in program evaluation research. She has conducted large-scale evaluations in the health and education sectors and was the first academic to earn the professional designation of Credentialed Evaluator. Karen is currently chair the Canadian Consortium for Evaluation Education (CUEE), a national body that aims to increase access to high quality graduate level education in evaluation.

let's connect + share our research



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