

CHLNet's Value Add: Better Leadership, Better Health – Together

Who We Are

Created in the fall of 2009/2010 with 12 founding partners, the Canadian Health Leadership Network (CHLNet) is a not-for-profit, purpose-built coalition of 40+ organizations ([Network Partners](#)) who gather to build health leadership capacity and capabilities across Canada. Members include jurisdictions, policymakers, academics, health associations, regional health authorities, and health disciplines. Its [strategic plan](#) serves as a foundation of work around four value streams: *Support Leaders Through Dialogue & Engagement*; *Build and Apply Health Leadership Research, Evidence and Knowledge*; *Accelerate 21st Century Care Leadership Practices*; and *Champion Strategic Leadership Excellence*. Tools are free to Network Partners and refreshed regularly.

What We Do

CHLNet creates value by bringing together health system leaders, partners, researchers and organizations to strengthen leadership capacity and accelerate better health system performance. Our work is organized around four interconnected *Courses of Action* that translate our purpose and value streams into practical impact.

1. Enhance Our Leadership Commons

We connect leaders, partners and organizations around shared leadership challenges and opportunities.

CHLNet creates spaces for confidential dialogue, knowledge exchange and collaboration through:

- [Network Partner Roundtables](#), [Executive Roundtables](#) and [Leadership Dialogues](#) on emerging health system challenges and leadership practices.
- A growing and diverse network of health system organizations, academics, policymakers and leadership partners.
- [Strategic partnerships](#) that extend CHLNet's reach and create opportunities for collaboration, shared learning and broader system impact.
- [Quarterly eblasts](#), blogs and communications that connect leaders to relevant leadership insights, tools and emerging priorities.

Value to partners: A trusted pan-Canadian forum to connect, learn, collaborate and identify opportunities for collective action.

2. Link Evidence to Practice

We connect research, evidence and leadership practice so that knowledge can be applied to real-world health system challenges.

CHLNet works with academic and health system partners to:

- [Generate and share evidence on effective leadership practices and capabilities.](#)

- Convene the [Canadian Learning Collaborative for Health Leadership](#), (known as the ‘Learning Hub’) bringing together academics and health system leaders from across Canada.
- Advance research and knowledge through initiatives such as the [LEADS Refresh](#), [Indigenous Health Leadership](#) work and leadership career pathways research.
- Translate [research findings](#) into practical insights, tools, learning opportunities and leadership practices.

Value to partners: Access to Canadian leadership evidence, research partnerships and practical knowledge that can strengthen leadership development and inform health system transformation.

3. Develop and Enable Network Tools and Services

We turn shared knowledge and evidence into practical tools and resources that help organizations develop current and future health leaders.

CHLNet:

- Maintains and refreshes [leadership development tools, inventories, assessments and toolkits](#).
- Shares effective leadership practices and resources through the Network and its communications channels.
- Works with partners to develop new tools and approaches aligned with emerging leadership priorities.
- Uses the [LEADS Framework](#) as a common leadership language to support leadership development and knowledge sharing nationally and internationally.
- Creates opportunities for partners to share their own practices, resources and innovations across the Network.

Value to partners: Practical, evidence-informed resources that can be accessed, adapted and applied to strengthen leadership capacity.

4. Demonstrate Leadership Matters

We build and share evidence that demonstrates the contribution of leadership to health system performance and transformation.

CHLNet:

- Generates and shares data on the health leadership landscape, including leadership supply, demand and capability gaps derived from the network’s periodic [Benchmarking Study](#).
- Uses benchmarking, research, case studies and applied learning to strengthen understanding of what effective leadership looks like and why it matters.
- Shares Canadian leadership evidence nationally and internationally through partnerships such as the [World Health Leadership Network](#).

- Connects evidence on leadership practices to broader priorities including quality, safety, workforce wellness, equity, reconciliation, innovation and sustainable health systems.

Value to partners: Stronger evidence to demonstrate the impact of leadership, inform investment and strengthen leadership strategies across the health system.

Our Four Evidence Generation Priorities

Across all four *Courses of Action*, CHLNet currently focuses its evidence generation and knowledge-sharing efforts on four priorities:

1. **Leadership Practices for the 21st Century to Transform Health Systems**
2. **Anti-Racism and Social Justice to Achieve Effective, Diverse and Inclusive Leadership**
3. **Leadership Styles and Practices that Promote Supportive Workplaces and Workforce Wellness**
4. **Climate-Conscious Leadership Practices for a Sustainable Health System**

Together, these priorities help CHLNet connect **evidence, leadership practice and system transformation** — creating value not only through what the Network delivers, but through what partners are able to learn, apply and achieve together.

Our Value

CHLNet's value comes from the strength of the Network itself: bringing together organizations and health leaders who would otherwise work separately, creating trusted spaces for dialogue, connecting evidence with practice, and making leadership knowledge and tools more accessible.

Through partner contributions, research grants, strategic relationships and the expertise and volunteer participation of Network Partners, Working Groups and Board members, CHLNet amplifies collective capacity to advance **better leadership, better health — together.**