



Working Together Virtually

As we continue to share engagement opportunities, your health and safety is our top priority. Health care organizations are actively updating their COVID-19 guidelines and adapting to comply with public health standards. We recognize that there may be uncertainty in how you work together and whether it's safe to meet in-person. We hope these recommendations can assist you in having those conversations.

Can we meet in person?

We recommend that you meet virtually, not in person. Public health guidelines maintain that COVID-19 remains a concern and warrants appropriate physical distancing. Until there is a change in policy, we recommend participating virtually.

What if my group wants to meet in person?

There is no expectation for you to participate in person. As you continue to build relationships, we hope that you feel comfortable reaching out virtually to discuss options. However, we recognize that not every engagement opportunity can be transitioned easily to a virtual approach, so it's important that you talk about what makes sense.

What about accessibility?

Closed Captioning, sign language and translation should always be a consideration. Check with your organization, and the virtual system you are using to see if accommodations can be made.

Where do I start?

You can start by answering the following questions to help think about a virtual approach:

Preparation – Does everyone have access to technology and the supports to be successful?

Timing – How long do you meet in person? Would that timing be adaptable to a virtual setting? How does it support health and wellness of your partners?

Content Fit – A standard health care meeting with complex materials, may not apply to a virtual setting. If this topic is more complex, try adding a 1:1 discussion prior to a group meeting to reduce confusion and use group time efficiently.

Measuring Value – What's your intended outcome? Why are you trying to do this? The same rules apply for effective meetings, whether in person or virtually.

Your Engagement Leader is available to support you in partnering virtually. You can reach us at pvn@bcpsqc.ca or 1.877.282.1919. For accurate, up to date COVID-19 information, please refer to the BC Centre for Disease Control.

PVN is a community of patients, families and caregivers working together with health care partners to improve BC's health care system.