

Advances in Rural & Remote Community Safety Through Technology

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Tech-Enabled Hubs

Building a Pilot Project

with Dr. Chad Nilson

Community Engaged Scholar









Project Goals

- Explore intersect of ICT and CRDI.
- Gather lessons from similar ICT-enabled models.
- Determine a potential framework for rollout in Saskatchewan.
- Provide a pilot plan for implementation.



Project Need

- Limited to no services in some communities.
- Driving distances/costs are tremendous barrier.
- Anonymity in small communities is challenging.
- Accessing services is inefficient/expensive.



Collaborative Risk-Driven Intervention: *The Hub Model*

 Weekly venue for human service providers to collaborate in ongoing elevated risk detection; the sharing of limited information; and the planning and deployment of rapid interventions.



Multiple Sectors Public Health

First Nations

Mental Health

Social Services

Probation

he Assistance

spital

B

Education

Child Welfare

Housing

Poldica

E.R

U

olice

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Disciplined Process



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Four Filters





Canada-Wide Replication

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Consultation Process

- Hub practitioners (*N* = 97)
- Human service providers (*N* = 65)
- Model adapters (N = 16)
- ICT Experts (N = 21)



Adaptability

- Full-time positions
- Filter Process remains same
- Interventions need onsite/remote participants
- Services must be integrated and ongoing
- Tech-Hub should be structured to meet regional needs



Key Ingredients

- Clear cost-effectiveness
- Fidelity to original model
- Community ownership
- Strong protocol within an ICT environment
- Dedicated positions
- Technology access/capacity/coverage
- Onsite support to provide ICT access



Potential Barriers

- Limited risk detection in rural/remote areas
- Loss of face-to-face interaction
- Limited skills/comfort with ICT
- Loss of local familiarity with remote presence
- Limited access to reliable technology
- Historical distrust for outside agencies



Technology Considerations

- Connectivity, access, strength, reliability, capacity, affordability
- Local bandwidth, data coverage, network access
- Single provider of ICT solutions
- Local knowledge on operating ICT
- Mobile video devices are critical to intervention
- Stationary devices suitable for discussion



The Pilot Project

- Tech-enabled Discussion Process
- Tech-enabled Collaborative Interventions
- Tech-enabled Service Provisions



Theory of Change



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Assumptions

- Group of interested/available practitioners
- Support from various levels of government
- Accessible/user-friendly/reliable ICT
- Locally-based ICT coordinators
- Local engagement in risk detection
- Mobile technology provision to clients

Configuration Options

- Single Location Tech-Enabled Hub
- Regional Tech-Enabled Hub
- Provincial Tech-Enabled Hub



Single Location Hub



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Regional Hub



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Provincial Hub



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Cost Simulations

SOLUTION	1 client	10 clients	50 clients
In-person visits	\$13,680	\$136,800	\$684,000
(everyone visits)			
Mobile Telepresence Device	\$30,212	\$54,440	\$162,120
(industry-grade)			
Commercial Grade Tablet	\$5,312	\$29,520	\$137,220
(coordinator every session)			
Commercial Grade Tablet	\$4,232	\$18,740	\$83,220
(coordinator only 3 sessions)			

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ICT Application of Hub

- Weyburn/Estevan/Carlyle Hub
- Durham Connect Situation Table
- Chatham-Kent FIRST

Discussion Stage





Remote Presence Potential







Discussion: ROLES

- Role of non-profit sector in social innovation.
- Role of private sector in social innovation.
- Role of academic sector in social innovation.
- Role of government in social innovation.

Discussion: COLLABORATION

- Across domains (e.g. private, non-profit)
- Across sectors (e.g. police, addictions)
- Across jurisdictions (e.g. provincial, federal)

Discussion: OUTCOMES

- Shared outcomes
- Measureable outcomes

General Questions



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