



Calling all HSN Leaders!



Whether you're an experienced HSN Leader or are new to this role, we invite you to join a leadership role in promoting healthy schools!

Who are HSN Leaders?

HSN Leaders are members of the school community who are dedicated towards the creation of healthier schools, and who have been leaders in this work across BC. They encourage learning opportunities for students and colleagues through participation and leadership, guide schools through sharing stories and experiences, and are a resource for their school community. The role of an HSN Leader is flexible and dynamic and will vary depending on the capacity of the Leader and the needs of their school community.

When there are multiple Leaders in a region or community, we encourage those Leaders to work as a team. HSN Leaders, who may each have different roles in the school community, have a variety of valuable skills that can support schools. Some leaders may excel in supporting inquiry and teaching practice, while others have excellent knowledge of various healthy school resources and supports and how to access them. We encourage Leaders to work together with their strengths to support school communities.

Leaders work together to build regional capacity for healthy schools work by raising awareness of the HSN and supporting schools in their school district and HSN region to:

- Build awareness of the HSN
- Offer support and mentorship opportunities within their own school as well as connect and partner with schools in their school district and HSN region
- Support schools in applying for [HSN Grants](#), as well in planning and implementing projects
- Provide expertise and share experiences with students, educators, and other healthy schools partners
- Establish connections within and between school communities



- support connections with the [Healthy Schools BC Resource Guide for Teaching and Learning, Comprehensive School Health, Inquiry](#), and the [Healthy Living Performance Standards](#)
- Support schools in sharing their year-end story on the [Healthy Schools BC Stories Map](#)

HSN Leaders are experienced in healthy schools and have a good understanding of the inquiry process, the Comprehensive School Health approach, and the healthy schools tools, resources and supports that are available including the Healthy Living Performance Standards and HSN Grants.

While we generally seek out leaders who are already well versed in in this work, we also encourage new people to get involved, and DASH supports training and mentorship (e.g. through Leader meetings, one-on-one support, and other learning opportunities) for all HSN leaders in order for them to feel comfortable in this role.

Traits of HSN Leaders:

HSN Leaders have a professional approach to practice, and are motivated by furthering their own learning, as well as advancing the learning of other educators and *all* learners. They work with others – including students – to: retrieve, organize, and apply professional knowledge, obtain evidence on the impact of their work, develop innovative approaches to engage others, and participate in ongoing personal and professional inquiry (Timperley, 2013). An HSN leader operates effectively in complex environments, and uses reflective thinking to adapt their practice based on personal experiences and through networked learning opportunities. Most importantly, an HSN Leader is driven by their passion for making a difference for all learners.

What do HSN Leaders support?

HSN leaders promote the HSN to new schools and participants, and connect support, and mentor those that have received an HSN grant. HSN Leaders can support schools in a variety of ways, depending on the role of the HSN Leader and the school need and context. Some examples of how HSN Leaders support schools include:

- Offer support and mentorship opportunities within their own school as well as connect and partner with schools within their school district and HSN region
- Provide expertise to students, educators, and other healthy schools partners
- Establish connections within and between school communities
- Promote the Healthy Schools Network, and support connections with the [Healthy Schools BC Resource Guide for Teaching and Learning, Comprehensive School Health, Inquiry](#), and the [Healthy Living Performance Standards](#)
- Support schools in applying for [Healthy Living Grants](#)

How does DASH support HSN Leaders?

- Leader meetings (e.g. in-person kick-off meeting in October, teleconferences, DASH Leadership Symposium)
- TOC time to coach/mentor HSN members within school or region
- Support to attend Leader meetings (e.g. travel and accommodation)
- DASH can support Leaders to organize meetings in their region/community



- Connect Leaders to school community partners, such as health professionals
- Learning and network opportunities

What are the benefits of being an HSN Leader?

- Enhance own professional learning and practice
- Help students take greater ownership over their health and learning
- Opportunities to learn from and collaborate with other passionate, like-minded professionals who play a leadership role in healthy schools
- Help build province-wide momentum for innovation in healthy schools

Please let us know if you are interested in being an HSN Leader or have any additional questions about this role!

Contact us at hsn@dashbc.ca