

A Reflection:

EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF EARLY YEARS INTERVENTION ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH: Using a Birth Cohort as an Upstream Approach to Understanding Factors that Influence Human Development Facilitated by Dr. Bill Montelpare

Fifth in a series of collective discussions to share current progress and explore aspirations with early childhood data systems in Atlantic Canada. Below is a graphic illustration of the conversation prepared by Mo Dresch.



Dr. Bill Montelpare, Professor at the University of Prince Edward Island and Margaret and Wallace McCain Chair in Human Development and Health, facilitated a collective conversation that reviewed the background, rationale, methodology, and expectations for a prospective longitudinal birth cohort, in a general sense, and how such an initiative can be brought to scale across Atlantic Canada. He provided examples of how the birth cohort can address issues of child health and development and how it can be used to develop policies and programs that will enhance early childhood development.

Thinking about a future Atlantic-wide research consortium/network/hub

Ability to link data between education and health, research and policy

Possibility of collecting data longitudinally from birth

Process mapping and people mapping across Atlantic provinces

Foster connections and relationships to increase capabilities

Establish a collective vision that is relevant to all provinces

Need involvement from high level decision makers in government

Need an inventory of what data is being collected and standardize what is being collected across provinces

Need involvement from community groups

Need common language across provinces