

Our team includes a range of transdisciplinary research expertise to ensure the success of this partnership. Our Partnership's commitment to EDI is reflected in our socially and culturally diverse team across a variety of career stages. Key contributors, including 4 CRCs and 3 Institute/Centre Directors, are well-versed in school food research, practice and knowledge mobilization (KM) and many directly supported the development of the NSFPP. Subject matter experts are attached to each of our thematic research areas, many of whom have existing relationships with schools, school boards and/or school food agencies through previous SFP research or programming. These relationships will be leveraged as sites for data collection. This collective expertise will enhance research capacity, enable comprehensive data analysis, and support knowledge mobilization. As part of our commitment to ensuring an inclusive and effective team environment, all Project Directors have or will undergo Unconscious Bias and/or EDI training.

Director: *Rachel Engler-Stringer*, bilingual (English/French) Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, USask and Researcher, Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit, is one of Canada's leading SFP researchers with extensive experience examining SFP co-design and implementation, nutritional and health behavioural outcomes, food sovereignty considerations and school food environment changes. She sits on the Steering Committee of the Coalition for Healthy School Food as an Academic Representative to ensure evidence-informed advocacy. As Project Director, she will provide overall leadership for the Partnership's scholarly direction and long-term planning and ensure all Partnership objectives, timelines, and budgets are met. In addition, she will Co-Chair the Steering Committee, two of the working committees, and the KM Sub-Committee.

Co-Directors (listed alphabetically): Each Co-Director will co-lead a research objective and corresponding committee. They will be responsible for overseeing the work of their committee, organizing and chairing Committee meetings, and ensuring all its research questions are answered. *Juliana Cohen*, Director, Center for Health Inclusion, Research and Practice, & Professor of Nutrition, Merrimack College and the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, is an internationally recognized school nutrition expert with two decades of experience evaluating nutrition policies in schools to address disparities in health and academic outcomes among children; *Lara Gautier*, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, Université de Montréal, is a *Fonds de Recherche du Québec* Junior 1 Scholar. With a political science background, she has 10 years' experience in implementation science, applying participatory, culturally responsive and reflexive evaluation methods to tackle upstream determinants of health. She also co-leads two large research projects addressing the food security of underserved populations in Québec; *Katerina Maximova*, Associate Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, holds an endowed Chair in Early Life Interventions at MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, St. Michael's Hospital. Using multi-disciplinary training in social sciences, epidemiology, and implementation science, and 7 years' work experience in strategic policy development with the Government of Canada, she leads school-based intervention research to demonstrate the benefits of healthy eating and SFPs for disadvantaged and racialized children and youth; *Tina Moffat*, Professor, Department of Anthropology, McMaster University, has expertise in the biosocial determinants of children's food and nutrition in international and Canadian populations with extensive experience in community-engaged research about maternal-child nutrition, newcomer dietary change, and the social and cultural dimensions of SFPs; *Amberley Ruetz*, Postdoctoral Fellow (funded by SSHRC and Mitacs), Dept. of Community Health and Epidemiology, USask, has 10 years of expertise monitoring the breadth and expansion of school meal programming across Canada, food policy, program implementation, and regional food systems. Dr. Ruetz has been leading international reporting on the growth and development of SFP in Canada and has extensive connections globally with SFP researchers; *Claire Tugault-Lafleur*, Assistant Professor, School of Nutrition, University of Ottawa, is a bilingual (English/French) registered dietitian and public health nutrition researcher. Her research focusses on applying epidemiological methods to characterise nutrition-related behaviours among children and youth; evaluating health promotion interventions; and developing and evaluating methods to assess diet, eating behaviours and food literacy. She has a decade of experience in using large population-based surveys to monitor children's dietary patterns within the school context and leads the Better LunchBox study, an intervention to support parents in packing nutritious lunches.

Lead Partner Organizations: *Coalition for Healthy School Food (Coalition)*, is the largest school food program advocacy organization in Canada, with more than 375 member organizations in every province and territory.

Knowledge Mobilization Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee: This committee will be chaired by Director Engler-Stringer who will be responsible for planning and carrying the KM for the Partnership. Committee Members are **Jennifer Black** (UBC) will bring extensive expertise in community-engaged school food research and building an interactive on-line hub for sharing resources related to food insecurity; As Coalition Coordinator, **Debbie Field** will ensure relevance of KM activities for Coalition members; **David Szanto**, Independent Academic with Icebox Studio, who will bring broad expertise in food studies/food systems, and expertise in academic podcasting and communications; **Jesse Veenstra**, Executive Director of Farm to Cafeteria Canada (F2CC) who will support KM with school communities.

Our team of 33 Investigators and 27 partners will bring their expertise to support the activities of the four working committees to address the corresponding Research Objectives.

Implementation and Governance Committee (IGC): Directors Gautier and Engler-Stringer will co-chair the IGC, which will oversee national and regional scale research on SFP implementation and governance including research questions under Research Objective 1. Collectively the IGC members will provide expertise in implementation science, policy, governance, economic, and school food data collection and analysis using methods such as document analysis, surveys, interviews and case studies. **Gabriella McLoughlin** (Temple University) will bring expertise in implementation science in chronic disease prevention using community-engaged approaches; **Lana Vanderlee** (Université Laval) will focus on school food environments, commercial determinants of health; **Peter Andrée** (Carleton University) specializes in the public policy and political economy of food systems, and participation in food systems governance; **Charles Levkoe** (Lakehead University) is an expert on social justice, ecological regeneration and regional economies and governance in relation to food; **Adrianne Lickers-Xavier** (McMaster University) will bring expertise in Indigenous ways of knowing and being, Indigenous food sovereignty and security, Indigenous food systems and well-being; **Daniel Sellen** (University of Toronto) will focus on sustainable child nutrition, child feeding practices, SFP assessments health equity; **Rebecca Golley** (Flinders University) will leverage her expertise in child nutrition for learning, dietary assessment, public health program evaluation and school food program implementation. **Lead Partners:** **Debbie Field**, National Coordinator Coalition, and **Sue-Anne Banks**, Coordinator, Indigenous School Food Circle, will both contribute their expertise on SFP governance and implementation across provinces, territories and Indigenous-led SFPs. **Identified Trainees:** **Mary Coulas** (Carleton University) will bring expertise on national food policy, and food policy and governance; **Kaylee Michnik** (USask) will focus on community-engaged school food research and comprehensive school health

Schools, Systems and School Communities Committee (SSSCC): Directors Moffat and Tugault-Lafleur will co-chair the SSSCC, which will oversee the largely school and school board scale research focused on school systems and how various groups within school communities experience SFPs under Research Objective 2. SSSCC members are experts in case study design and school food systems change, using qualitative tools and surveys methods and analysis. **Sarah Robert** (University of Buffalo, SUNY) will bring expertise in global school food politics and policies analyses, socio-cultural foundations of education in relation to SFPs, intersectional gender analyses; **Yukari Seko** (Toronto Metropolitan University) will focus on culturally appropriate food provision at school and migrants' family food practices; **Geneviève Mercille** (Université de Montréal) will leverage her expertise in population health intervention research, health equity, lived experiences of food inequities; **Kelly Skinner** (University of Waterloo) is an expert on climate change and food security within northern Canada with expertise in program evaluation and working with schools in northern and remote Indigenous communities; **Michelle Vine** (Brock University) is a credentialed evaluator, expert in evaluation of the school nutrition policy environment in secondary schools. **Jessie-Lee McIsaac** (Mount Saint Vincent University) is a Canada Research Chair and brings experience in school and child care food environments. **Lead Partners:** **Sebastien Desaulniers** (Breakfast Clubs of Canada - BCC), will bring field expertise in SFP implementation and community needs assessments, and school community engagement.

Wellbeing and Education Committee (WEC): Directors Maximova and Cohen will co-chair the WEC which will oversee the work focused primarily at the student level under Research Objective 3. WEC members will leverage research already being done our the Partnership members in schools and communities with children along with case studies and policy analysis. WEC team members include **Elizabeth Kristjansson** (University of Ottawa) who completed the first Cochrane systematic review of school meals which she is currently updating, and will also bring expertise in educational and physical

health outcome measurement; **Jessica Omand** (Toronto Metropolitan University) will contribute expertise in child nutrition, child development, school outcomes, longitudinal data and the eating environment; **Sara Kirk** (Dalhousie University) will leverage her research in school food policy and implementation; **Stéphanie Ward Chiasson** (Université de Moncton) will draw on expertise in school food process and outcome evaluation, food literacy; **Treena Delormier** (McGill University), is the Scientific Director – Kahnawake Schools Diabetes Prevention Program, Kahnawake Mohawk Territory, Kanien'kehaka (Mohawk), and will bring expertise in health promotion, community-based research and community contexts when accessing the NSFP; **Maude Perreault** (Université de Montréal) will focus on child nutrition, food literacy and feeding dynamics, collaboration in school settings; **Mavra Ahmed** (University of Toronto) studies SFP impact, SFP evaluations, dietary assessments, food and nutrition policy; **Amanda Raffoul** (University of Toronto) will contribute her expertise in eating disorders, weight stigma, and mental health; **Alicia Martin** (Dalhousie University) will bring expertise in food systems and food literacy in school food programming. **Identified Trainees:** **Natalia Alaniz-Salinas** (USask) has expertise in child health promotion, SFP costing and dietary analysis; **Cloe Gao** (UBC) will focus on youth mental health, substance use, and eating disorders prevention

Sustainabilities Committee (SC): Directors Ruetz and Engler-Stringer will chair the SC and oversee its work on sustainable food systems, returns on investment, employment and payment models including answering research questions under Research Objectives 1 and 3 alongside SC team members. **Jennifer Gaddis** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) is an expert in school food politics and systems change, evaluation of labor standards among the school food workforce and values-aligned procurement; **Tammara Soma** (Simon Fraser University) will focus is on school food and sustainability, equity, local food considerations, and food systems resiliency; **Omid Mirzaei** (University of Regina) will support estimating economic impacts of SFPs for First Nations children on reserve; **Évan Fraser** (University of Guelph) will bring expertise in food systems, food policy, climate change and agri-food technology; **Tracy Everitt** (St. Francis Xavier University) will bring experience in school food evaluation and sustainable food systems in schools; **Tiff-Annie Kenny** (Université de Montréal) will focus on food security, nutrition, and chronic disease prevention in Indigenous and northern communities with a particular focus on enhancing culturally appropriate diets; **Salmata Ouedraogo** (Université de Québec à Chicoutimi) will bring experience on estimating economic and social impacts of SFPs and expertise in social economy; **Georgia Middleton** (Flinders University) will provide expertise in SFP evaluations and social return on investment; **Brittany Johnson** (Flinders University) focuses on business case and social return on investment of school provided meals in Australia; **Jacob Kearey-Moreland** (Lakehead University) brings expertise in agroecological farming, community food literacy, school food systems, and teacher education; **Lead Partners:** **Jesse Veenstra** (F2CC), **Sebastien Desaulniers** (BCC), **Murielle Vrins** (Assistant Director, Education Programs, Équiterre) who will support research on sustainable food, employment and returns on investment. **Identified trainees:** **Rachel Mazac** (Stockholm University), specializes in sustainable diet conceptualization and optimization, scenario development and modeling, food futures, novel/emerging/alternative foods, and dietary sufficiency.

Partners: Lead - Coalition for Healthy School Food; Academic - University of Saskatchewan, Université de Montréal, Toronto Metropolitan University, Merrimack College, Flinders University, McMaster University, University of Ottawa, Montreal Regional Public Health Department; Indigenous - Indigenous School Food Circle, Meadow Lake Tribal Council; NGO and Other - Farm to Cafeteria Canada, UNICEF Canada, Food for All New Brunswick, Food Secure Canada, Breakfast Club of Canada, Canadian Teachers' Federation, Nourish Nova Scotia, Équiterre, Collectif Québécois de la Coalition pour une saine alimentation scolaire, Alberta Food Matters, Schad Foundation, Canadian School Boards Association, Pan-Cdn Joint Consortium for School Health, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions