

SLED-VAST INFORMATION SHEET

Student-Led Environments to Deliver Virtual Autism Supports for Wait-Times (SLED-VAST)

The creation, evaluation, and scale-up of the [“Student-Led Environment for Delivery of Virtual Autism Supports for Wait-Times” \(SLED-VAST\)](#), a virtual clinic where students from different health professions collaborate to lead client care under the supervision and support of preceptors and facilitators from multiple health professions.

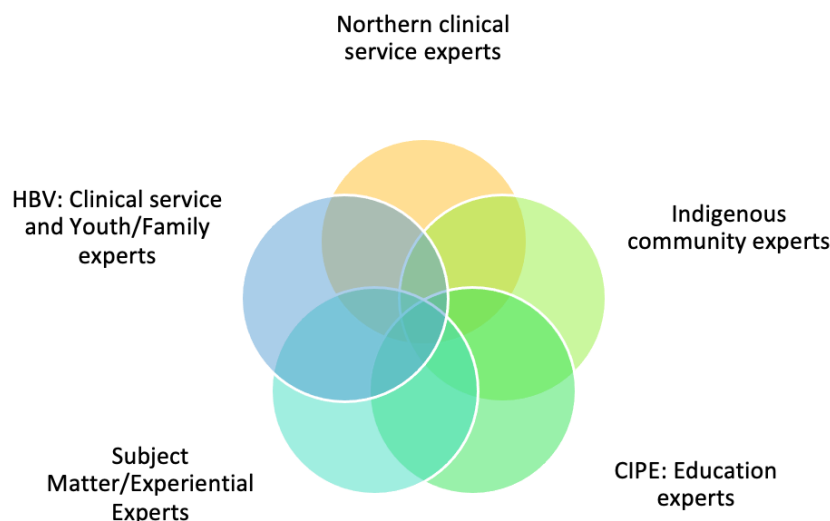
SLED-VAST is a [student-led learning environment \(SLE\)](#) supported by the Ontario Autism Program (OAP) Workforce Capacity Fund (Jan 2022-Apr 2023).

Student-led environments (SLEs) are defined as unique workplace-based learning opportunities where health professional learners, under the supervision and support of preceptors and facilitators, collaborate to:

- create a discipline-specific or interprofessional learning environment;
- build their collaborative leadership competencies; and
- address a significant and identified gap in the workplace that would otherwise not be met and/or adds to existing service delivery

The SLED-VAST Consortium represents different, equally important roles and areas of focus:

- Youth and family expertise
- Indigenous community expertise
- Clinical service provision expertise
- Interprofessional education expertise
- Subject matter expertise (e.g. Autism service delivery clinical and research expertise)



Partners include (but are not limited to):

- Centre for Interprofessional Education (CIPE), University of Toronto at University Health Network (UHN)
- Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital (HBV)
- McMaster University
- Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM)
- The Institute for Education Research (TIER), University Health Network (UHN)
- Western University

Structure

[SLED-VAST](#) project activities will be undertaken with 3 areas of focus:

1) SLED-VAST Consortium

The Consortium is responsible for:

- ensuring that the SLED-VAST initiative is a genuinely and meaningfully partnered co-creation of a new SLE
- building partnerships and establishing connections to ensure representation (including adding Consortium members as needed)
- driving, informing, guiding, and reflecting on practical developments, including future opportunities for scale-up and sustainability

2) SLED-VAST SLE

The virtual clinic will be responsible for delivering foundational supports for early autism services during wait-times (e.g. family workshops; preparatory work).

To establish the SLE, we will:

- Recruit facilitators and learners
- Review principles of SLEs
- Develop & continually reference team charter
- Offer faculty development and professional development
- Offer introductory session for learners based on PhD student team member's proven critical pedagogy & transformative education work in the context of autism services
- Launch clinic at HBV, evaluating continually and engaging in quality improvement
- Launch clinic virtually with partner sites

3) Scholarship and Evaluation

Ongoing scholarship and evaluation of SLED-VAST will occur in partnership with the Consortium. Knowledge mobilization of dialogic approaches and coaching supports will be embedded into SLEs.

Partner engagement options

We invite our partners to tell us how they want to engage with us—we will listen and respond. Some possible examples include:

Service Providers for Virtual Service Pilots	Subject Matter / Experiential Experts	Community and Clinical Service Experts
<p>Engage as much as you would like and as early as you would like.</p> <p>Work with us to set up the virtual core clinical service clinics, with a focus on reaching youth at possible core service disruption points, e.g. transition from elementary to secondary school.</p> <p>Let us know how we can optimally recognize and remunerate your contributions.</p>	<p>Review our proposal and offer expert advice relevant to your subject matter focus (e.g. autism service delivery research; lived experience; other)</p>	<p>Advise us as much as you would like, as early as you would like.</p> <p>Let us know how we can optimally recognize and remunerate your contributions.</p>
<p>Join our consortium and be recognized, co-recipients and partners in this project.</p>		

Contact

If you are interested in learning more about [SLED-VAST](#) or joining the project, please contact the SLED-VAST Consortium at: SLED-VAST@utoronto.ca

SLED-VAST Consortium:

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- **Michelle Addison**, Director, Health Professions & Collaborative Practice, Thunder Bay
Regional Health Sciences Centre
- **Amanda Binns**, SLP, Speech-Language Matters and Clinical Manager, SLED-VAST
- **Victoria Boyd**, PhD Candidate, IPME, UofT and Research Fellow, The Wilson Centre
- **Wenonah Campbell**, Associate Professor; John and Margaret Lillie Chair in Childhood
Disability Research; Scientist, CanChild, Speech-Language Pathology Program School
of Rehabilitation Science
- **Briano DiRezze**, Associate Professor, Rehabilitation Science and Scientist, CanCHILD,
McMaster University
- **Farah Friesen**, Research Associate, Centre for IPE and SLED-VAST Coordinator
- **Sharon Gabison**, Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream, Department of Physical
Therapy, University of Toronto

- **Sylvia Langlois**, Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy, University of Toronto and Associate Director, Curriculum & Faculty Relations, Centre for IPE
- **Dean Lising**, Lecturer, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Toronto and Team-Based Practice & Education Lead, Centre for IPE
- **Stella Ng** (Co-Chair), Director & Scientist, Centre for IPE, Associate Professor, Department of Speech-Language Pathology, University of Toronto, Scientist, Wilson Centre, and AMS Phoenix Fellow in Compassion and AI/Digital Technology
- **Kathryn Parker** (Co-Chair), Associate Director, Student-Led Environments, Centre for IPE, Senior Director, Academic Affairs and Simulation Lead, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Fellow, AMS Phoenix Project Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics, University of Toronto
- **Mike Ravenek**, Manager, Health Sciences, Northern Ontario School of Medicine
- **Nicole Woods**, Scientist & Associate Director of Operations/UHN, The Wilson Centre, Director, The Institute for Education Research (TIER) at UHN, and Associate Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto