

ICES Public Advisory Council (PAC) Annual Summary

2022/2023 Activities and Updates

RECRUITMENT



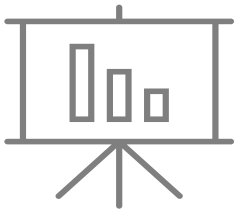
The ICES PAC includes individuals from across Ontario and aims to reflect the diversity of those whose data reside in the ICES Data Repository. Recruitment for new members to join the third iteration of the ICES PAC began in May 2022. Ontario residents were invited to apply for the PAC, and there were over 50 applicants. 9 individuals joined the existing 11 members to form a 20 person advisory council for 2022/2023.

The PAC has met five times over the past year. The PAC had their first hybrid meeting on October 26, 2022. The PAC provided input on several initiatives, including the ICES strategic plan refresh, the PAC Applied Health Research Question (AHRQ), the ICES revised website, and overall reflection and feedback on the PAC activities since inception. Five PAC members also participated in the 2022 ICES Research Forum.

MEETINGS



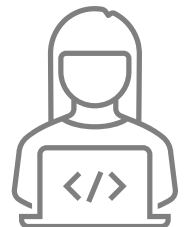
RESEARCH QUESTION



In February 2022, PAC members collectively developed a research question to be answered by the ICES AHRQ program. The chosen research question was "What was the most frequent cause of outpatient mental health visits?". The results were presented to the PAC, and members shared thoughts on their interpretation of the data. The PAC voted on which results were most important to include in a knowledge product for the public. A smaller PAC working group was assembled to meet more frequently and help create the public-facing product.

ICES PAC members completed an annual evaluation survey to help improve how the group is run. The survey results indicated that members appreciated the inclusive and welcoming environment but would like more ways to share thoughts and ideas outside of an open discussion. Members also mentioned that meeting materials should be clear, provided well in advance, and have limited use of acronyms. Most members felt that the PAC impacted the organization, although many felt that the group needed more time to accomplish their objectives.

EVALUATION



For more information on the ICES Public Advisory Council, contact us at public@ices.on.ca



ICES Public Advisory Council (PAC) Overview

The ICES Public Advisory Council was formed in 2019 and is made up of members of the public from across Ontario. The council represents the public's voice and guides ICES on what matters most to Ontarians for health data research. Their thoughts, perspectives, and values inform ICES research activities and influence how ICES researchers use data to improve Ontario's health care. We are currently in our third iteration of the Council and Year 4 of its work.

The Public Advisory Council (PAC) is the primary mechanism for ICES to engage with the public at an institutional level. The PAC provides guidance on corporate-level topics that can benefit from the perspective of the Ontario public. The PAC also provides feedback to ICES researchers and other areas of the organization that come to the group seeking guidance on matters pertaining to the public.

In 2022, the last cohort of originally PAC members established in 2019 completed their term, and 9 new members began their 3-year term. The PAC continues to guide ICES on what matters most to Ontarians for health data research. The PAC's thoughts, perspectives and values influence ICES' research and how ICES researchers use data to improve and evaluate health care.

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