# Integrated approach to the prevention and control of sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBIs)

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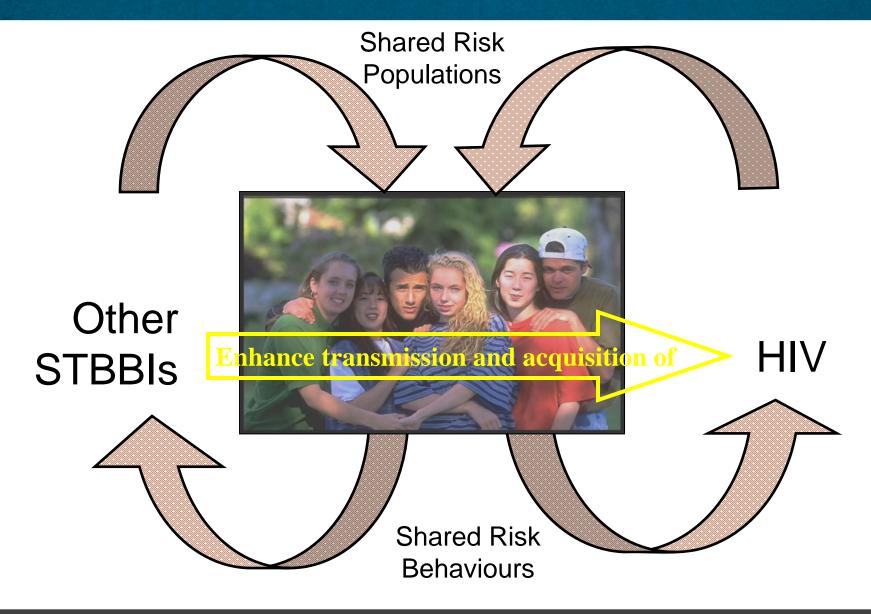
PROTECTING CANADIANS FROM ILLNESS





## **Outline**

- Rationale for an integrated approach to STBBIs
- Adjustment to our programs
- Examples of an integrated approach
  - » Surveillance
  - » Guidelines
  - » Research
  - » Public health measures
  - » Funding and governance
- Challenges and opportunities



## Rationale for an integrated approach to STBBIs

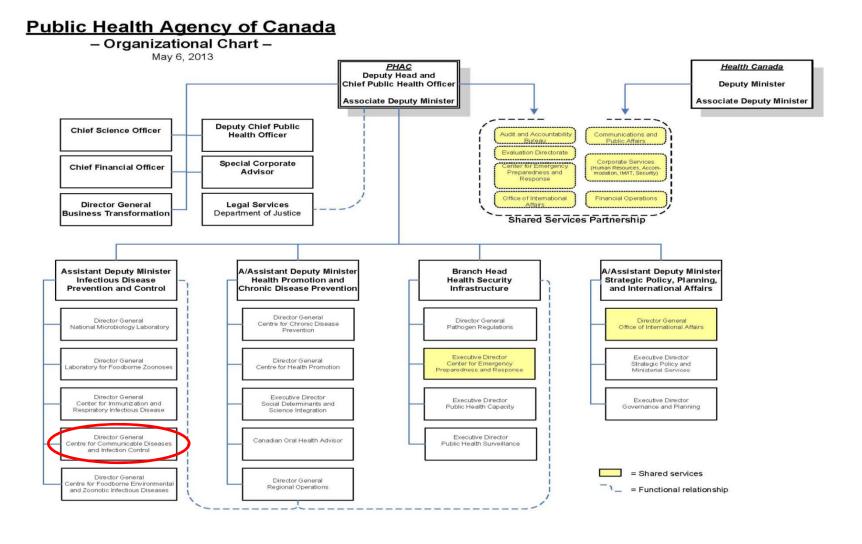
- Common modes of transmission, affected populations, common risk behaviours and common social and structural risk factors
- Social determinants of health have an important impact on the risk of transmission and on the health of people living with HIV or hepatitis B or C
- A holistic approach allows for a more comprehensive health promotion and disease prevention efforts, which in turn could lead to reduced disease incidence and improved health outcomes.
- Integrated approaches being adopted at international, P/T and community levels

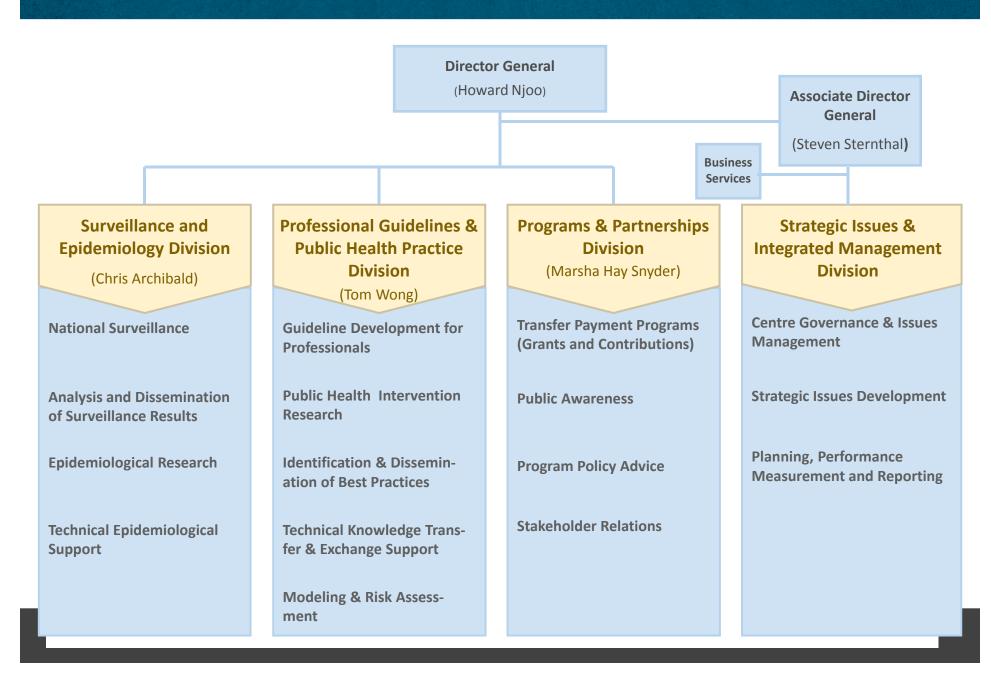
#### **International Context**

- Movement, internationally, toward an integrated approach to prevention and control of STBBIs
- Part of a global effort to reduce fragmentation of services, disjointed care, inefficiencies, and health care expenditures
- High income countries that have developed integrated national strategies to address STBBIs
  - » Australia 3<sup>rd</sup> National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander BBV and STI Strategy 2010-2013
  - » US CDC introduced Program Collaboration and Service Integration (PCSI) in 2007
  - » UK first integrated strategy in 2001; reported positive impacts:
    - Reduced STI rates;
    - Increasing screening for STBBIs, including antenatal screening
    - Reduction of stigma associated with STBBIs

## **Public Health Agency of Canada - STBBI Activities**

- Conducts national surveillance of STBBIs (e.g., chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C)
- Provides support for outbreak management (P/Ts have the lead)
- Provides guidance to health care professionals
- Builds community capacity through transfer payments to community-based organizations
- Provides laboratory reference services and conducts laboratory research
- Facilitates intergovernmental collaboration to address STBBIs and the determinants of health
- Serves as a central point for sharing Canada's expertise globally (e.g., WHO, PAHO, USCDC, ECDC)





## **Examples of Integrated Approaches**

## Integrated Approach to Surveillance

- Routine surveillance
  - TB diagnosis is included in the AIDS reporting forms
  - » HIV testing/diagnosis is included in TB forms
- Enhanced surveillance
  - » Integrated biological and behavioural surveillance of affected populations, which incorporate a number of STBBIs, depending on the population.
  - » Track/E-SYS surveys
    - Include dried blood spot testing for HIV and other STBBI
    - Collection of self-reported information on testing and previous diagnosis of STBBI

## Integrated Approaches to Professional Guidelines

Raise awareness of the importance of comprehensive HIV, HCV and other STBBI screening and prevention

#### HIV Screening and Testing Guide

- Shift in recommendations to integrate testing into routine care (verbal consent and simplifying pre-test counselling)
- Greater integration of HIV testing as part of testing for other STBBI, and as part of other related clinical services
- Plans for incorporating concepts from the testing guide into the HIV chapter of the Canadian STI Guidelines

#### Hepatitis B Quick Reference

Routine testing for HCV and HIV among those with positive results

#### Public Health Measures

#### Patient order sets

 Will provide prompts for screening for multiple infections, based on identified risks

#### Development of mobile apps

Comprehensive approach to screening and diagnosis of STBBIs

#### Program implementation science

Working with OHTN on STBBI program implementation science

### Integrated Approach to Research

- Partnership with BCCDC and BCCfE
- Study of change in risk behaviours for HIV transmission and changes in population-level measure of HIV-infectivity among MSM in the Greater Vancouver area.
  - » Additional research will be collected to characterize the prevalence and incidence of other STBBIs
  - » Will use a comprehensive approach and provides an opportunity to address multiple infectious diseases and related conditions that share common risk factors, behaviours and social determinants

## Integrated Approach to Funding & Governance Models

#### Integrated Grants and Contributions funding model

- The Public Health Agency of Canada provides \$26.2 million annually to support community-based response to address HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C
  - » \$22.7 million annually under the Federal Initiative to Address HIV/AIDS in Canada
  - » \$3.5 million annually under the Hepatitis C Prevention, Support and Research Program
- The proposed new HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Community Action Fund will be an integrated and streamlined funding program made up of the former funding streams from the Federal Initiative and the Hepatitis C Prevention, Support and Research Program
  - » Full implementation by 2017
  - The funding amount is intended to remain stable at \$26.2 million annually
  - » Broadened scope of funded projects to address HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, related communicable diseases (including sexually transmitted infections and tuberculosis co-infection) and health factors (e.g., mental health, family violence, sexual violence, gender inequality, chronic disease, aging)

## Integrated Approach to Funding & Governance Models

Integrated governance and stakeholder engagement model

- External bodies providing advice on key aspects of HIV/AIDS include:
  - » Ministerial Advisory Council on the Federal Initiative to Address HIV/AIDS in Canada (MACFI)
  - » National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS (NACHA)
- Consideration is being given to broadening the mandate to include other STBBIs and related health factors

## Challenges and opportunities

- Not all prevention and control activities will/should be integrated there will be times when disease specific activities are warranted
- Robust impact evaluation needed
  - » More evidence needed on cost-effectiveness.
- For our organization
  - » Streamlined, single window for our stakeholders, many of whom already use an integrated approach
  - » Provides an opportunity for cross-pollination, allowing us to build on our skills.

## Questions?