



# ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025

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[www.childsafetylink.ca](http://www.childsafetylink.ca)

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# Manager Message

## A Successful Year

2024-2025 was another busy year for Child Safety Link (CSL) with many highlights to celebrate including implementing car seat and baby gate grant programs in Nova Scotia, securing funds for fall prevention initiatives throughout Nova Scotia, implementing a Nova Scotia-wide car seat research project, distributing safety equipment across Atlantic Canada, and the development of an Equity & Belonging lens tool. This year, CSL was also honored to receive the IWK's Equity & Belonging STAR award. I am proud of my team's dedication and am thrilled that we received this recognition. Throughout this report, you will find examples of how Child Safety Link has advanced child and youth injury prevention across Atlantic Canada. As Manager of CSL, I want to thank my team for their continued dedication.

## Thank you to our funders

**THANK YOU!**

CSL receives contributions from several sources, and we would like to thank the following for their generous support: Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador governments, the Insurance Bureau of Canada, Cybex, and CTV (in-kind support). This year, we are pleased to work in partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage to develop and promote our Safety@Home resources, baby gate grants, poisoning prevention supplies, and Safety on the Road car seat grant program across Nova Scotia. CSL is also grateful for funding provided by Cybex Canada to support a child passenger safety research project across Nova Scotia (see page 13).



**IBC**  
Insurance Bureau  
of Canada

**Newfoundland  
&  
Labrador**



**CTV**  
**morning**  
**LIVE**



**Thank you**

# About Child Safety Link

Child Safety Link (CSL) is an injury prevention program at IWK Health dedicated to reducing the incidence and severity of unintentional injury to children and youth in the Maritimes (and Atlantic Canada as appropriate).

CSL is committed to working with community organizations, governments and other partners to ensure children are as safe as necessary at home, at play, at school, and on the road. The team does this through capacity building and partnerships; communication and public relations; advocacy and healthy public policy; and research and evaluation.

## Priority Areas



### At Home

Falls Prevention  
Poisoning Prevention



### At Play

Off-Highway Vehicle  
Safety  
Active Transportation



### At School

TBD



### On the Road

Child Passenger Safety

*The IWK Emergency Department treats approximately 23 injured children a day, with fluctuations between as low as 10 to as high as 40. The total number of injuries in 2024 were 8500, and approximately 3% of injury cases are admitted.*

*It is clear that although we have made many strides in injury prevention, there is still work to be done.*

## Land Acknowledgment

Child Safety Link (CSL) acknowledges that our office is in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are all Treaty people who benefit greatly from the shared resources of this land and honouring our shared Treaty relationship is one of many important steps we take toward reconciliation.

We also recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

CSL aspires to partner with our Indigenous and African Canadian communities to improve our services. Together we are committed to working to make sure that families have access to the best resources, information and support to keep their families healthy and safe. Every child matters.



# Strategic Goals

CSL has reviewed and revised their Strategic Goals for the next three years starting in 2025-2026.

## Goal #01

Improving the resilience and sustainability of our program.

*We will do this by evaluating our existing programs and engaging in new collaborations and partnerships.*

## Goal #02

Advancing equity and inclusivity in the context of child and youth injury prevention.\*

*We will do this by working with those who are disproportionately affected by unintentional injuries.*

*\*Note: focus on equity groups: e.g., Newcomer, Indigenous, and African Canadian/Descent families.*

## Goal #03

Expanding child and youth injury prevention research and knowledge\*\*

*We will do this by building internal capacity and identifying research gaps and priorities.*

## Goal #04

Providing leadership in our priority areas to drive system change

*We will do this by promoting best practices and innovative interventions.*

*\*\*Note: Specific to external audiences. Service providers are community agencies who work with families.*

# At Home

## Fall Prevention



### Fall Prevention Month

**Theme: *Baby Gates: The First Step to a Safer Home***

This year's Fall Prevention Month (Nov 2024) highlighted the role of baby gates in preventing fall-related injuries in young children at home. The theme aligned with CSL's provincial Baby Gate Grant program and the pilot testing of the *Safety at Home: Child Fall Prevention Toolkit*, which focuses on the safe use of baby gates (see below). A new resource was developed called the *Do's & Don'ts of Baby Gates*. This infographic was translated into five languages to ensure broader accessibility (English, French, Mi'kmaq, Arabic, Spanish) and distributed across Atlantic Canada. Throughout the month, CSL also conducted a social media campaign with different messaging each week.



### Baby Gate Grant Program

Through the generous support from the NS Department of Communities, Culture, Heritage and Tourism, CSL established a Baby Gate grant program in Nova Scotia. This two-year grant aims to improve home safety by increasing access to baby gates and related tools. Grants were available up to \$1000. The grants were provided to service providers including First Nation Health Centres/Early Learning centres, Newcomer agencies, and Family Resource Centres. A presurvey was also sent to all successful applicants to gain additional information specific to CSL and fall prevention to support the development of the Toolkit (see page 8).

25 grants  
awarded



171 gates  
purchased



85 Families  
supported

## Child Fall Prevention

A Focus on Baby Gates



# At Home



## Fall Prevention

### Fall Prevention Toolkit

CSL developed a Fall Prevention toolkit to support fall prevention education delivered by service providers such as Family Resources Centres, Newcomer agencies, First Nation Health Centres, etc. Prior to development, a pre-survey was conducted with responses from 42 centres analyzing organizational awareness, challenges, and needs regarding fall prevention. The survey was available in English and French and was sent to Family Resource Centres, Newcomer agencies, the CSL Community of Practice, and First Nation communities.

#### Presurvey highlights (42 respondents)

- 94.9% indicated they were aware of CSL.
- 78.9% stated they were members of the CSL Community of Practice.
- 89.5% indicated that they were aware that CSL resources were offered in different languages.
- Almost three-quarters of the survey respondents stated that a Fall Prevention Toolkit would be helpful.
- 76.5% recommended access to free or subsidized gates.

The tool kit was drafted with support from the Atlantic Children's Fall Prevention Working Group and then piloted across Nova Scotia with 9 service providers. The Toolkit includes a fall prevention backgrounder, printable resources, "Safety at Home" PowerPoint presentation and two video resources on installing baby gates (hardware-mounted and pressure-mounted). Overall, the Safety-At-Home: Child Fall Prevention Toolkit was shared with approximately 113 families. The feedback from the pilot testing will support the revision of the toolkit that will be finalized in fiscal 2025-2026. A huge thank you to everyone who provided feedback.

#### Challenges Families Face in Preventing Serious Falls

Of those who answered the pre-survey question regarding the challenges families face in preventing children's falls:

- Half of them indicated that the cost of safety items, income or budgetary constraints for families would be challenging.
- Half of the survey respondents shared that access to education, credible information, and certified safety products was also challenging for families.



# At Home



## Poisoning Prevention

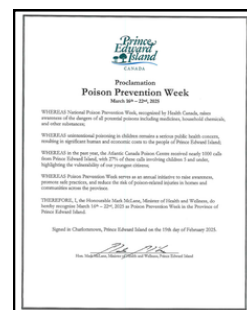
### Poison Prevention Week

**Theme: *Prevent Poisonings Before They Happen***

CSL partnered with the Atlantic Canada Poison Centre to celebrate Poison Prevention Week (PPW) from March 16-22, 2025, with many promotional activities including:



- Distributing safe storage equipment (lock bags and cabinet locks) and a new poison prevention fact sheet across Atlantic Canada.
- Illuminating key buildings in two provinces (6 buildings).
  - NS: Big Fiddle (Sydney); Colchester East Hants Public Library (Truro).
  - NB: 4 locations in Moncton: Moncton Avenir Centre, Downing Place, Downing Street, & City Hall.
- Conducting an Ipsos survey in Nova Scotia (see page 10)
- Implementing a *Fact or Fiction* social media campaign.
- Conducted traditional media.



PPW was also officially proclaimed in Nova Scotia by the Honourable Tim Houston and in PEI by the Honourable Mark McLane.

### Safety Equipment

CSL provided safety equipment (lock bags and cabinet locks) to service providers to order (free of charge) to support programming in centres helping young families. During PPW, 710 lock bags were distributed (PEI: 15, NL 59, NS 636) and 1128 cabinet locks (NS only). CSL also received 1000 tote bags and 5000 magnets from Parachute to send to service providers across Atlantic Canada.

### THANK YOU!

CSL recognizes the support of the Province of Nova Scotia. We are pleased to work in partnership with the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage to develop and promote our Safety@Home resources, baby gate grants, poisoning prevention supplies, and other related initiatives across Nova Scotia.





# At Home

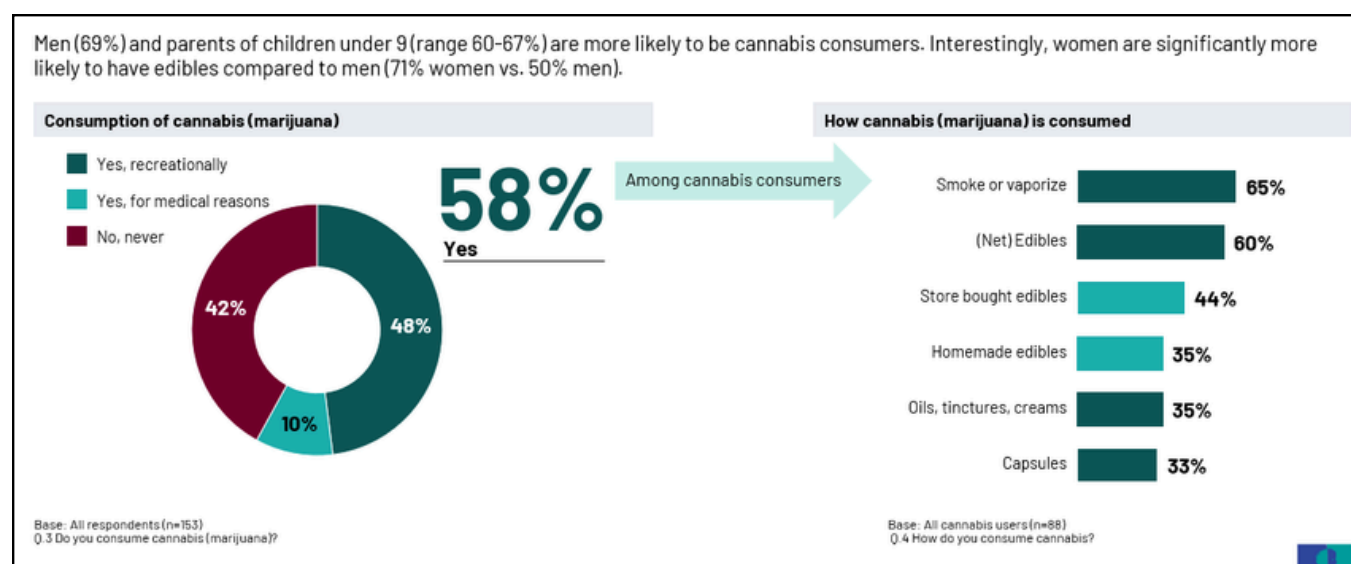
## Poisoning Prevention

### Storage Survey

CSL wanted to understand how parents in Nova Scotia store various household products, with a particular focus on cannabis edibles. An Ipsos survey (n=153) was conducted to gather insights from caregivers of children under 14 years old to assess their awareness and behaviours related to the safe storage of potentially harmful substances.

The primary goal was to determine current storage practices, awareness of poisoning prevention resources, and knowledge of Child Safety Link and the Atlantic Canada Poison Centre. Some highlights:

- Cannabis products are notably more prevalent in households with younger children aged 0-9 (56-59%) compared to those with older children aged 10-17 (30-38%).
- Nearly three-quarters of respondent's store cannabis products in a locked or child-resistant container
  - There is a significant gender difference: 44% of men leave cannabis products accessible to children compared to 22% of women.
- Nearly 60% of parents are cannabis users, with most consuming by smoking, vaporizing, or eating edibles.



## NOVA SCOTIA SAFE STORAGE STUDY

Report

February 2025

# At Play



## Helmet Use/Active Transportation

### Educational Resources

CSL developed several new helmet safety educational resources:

#### Printed resources

- Why should you wear a helmet? (Available in French, Arabic, Mandarin, Ukrainian, Mi'kmaq)

#### Video

- Helmet video (E): Includes cycling, hockey, scootering, and skateboarding helmets. Video currently being translated into additional languages for fiscal 25-26.
- Much of the video was filmed in collaboration with a local school.

#### Photobank

- 15 new helmet fitting photos with a diverse group of children.



# At School



### AST Partnership

CSL worked in collaboration with the Active & Safe Transportation (AST) Partnership in Halifax, NS and was involved in a School Streets project that was being piloted. The project was designed to address traffic congestion in schools and promote active transportation by temporarily restricting vehicular traffic.





# On the Road

## Child Passenger Safety (CPS)

### CPS Week (CPSW)

Theme: **Right Seat, Right Time, Every Ride**

CSL celebrated Child Passenger Safety Week (CPSW) from September 15 - 21, 2024 with many promotional activities including:

- Obtaining Provincial proclamations from:
  - Nova Scotia: Proclamation received from Premier Tim Houston
  - PEI: Proclamation received from Minister of Health & Wellness, Mark McLane
  - Newfoundland & Labrador: Proclamation received from Minister of Digital Government & Services, Elvis Loveless
- Distributing a poster displaying *The Right Seat* resource that is available in 14 languages to 140 organizations in Atlantic Canada (Nova Scotia: 56; New Brunswick: 38; PEI: 9; Newfoundland and Labrador: 37)
- Implementing a social media campaign that included five reels posted throughout the week. Reels were viewed more than 5000 times between Sept 15 and Sept 30.
- Conducting a Child Passenger Safety Week webinar



CSL measured a 40% increase in website traffic for that week.

Partners: Transport Canada and local RCMP NS also promoted Child Safety Link's theme.



September 15-21, 2024 is  
Child Passenger Safety Week

**The Right Seat, ✓  
The Right Time, ✓  
Every Ride. ✓**

# On the Road



## Child Passenger Safety (CPS)

### Research

**Child Passenger Safety Research Project in collaboration with Dalhousie University.**

Roadside checks were held from May-November 2024 to check car seats/errors with RCMP/police and other partners across Nova Scotia.

#### Purpose:

- Observe and document how children and youth under age 14 years are buckled in Nova Scotia.
- Educate on correct car seat, booster seat and seat belt use.
- Help make corrections to use and installation.
- Ensure all children observed meet legal minimums on departure.

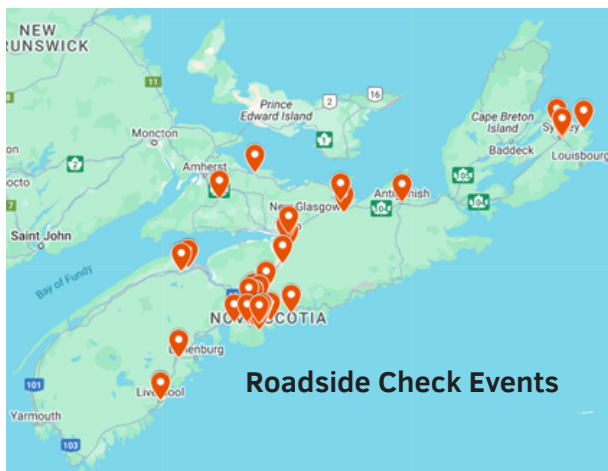
**41 separate  
check events**



**33  
communities**



**10/18  
counties in NS**



**Roadside Check Events**

**Vehicles**  
763 cars checked

**682 vehicles  
participated  
in study**  
Average per event  
18 cars

**Children**  
1,121 children total

**1,005 children  
participated  
in study**  
Average per event  
27 children

**93 seats  
provided**



**~2 seats  
distributed per  
event**



**9% replacement  
rate**



# On the Road



## Child Passenger Safety (CPS)

### Research

Child Passenger Safety Research Project with Dalhousie University continued

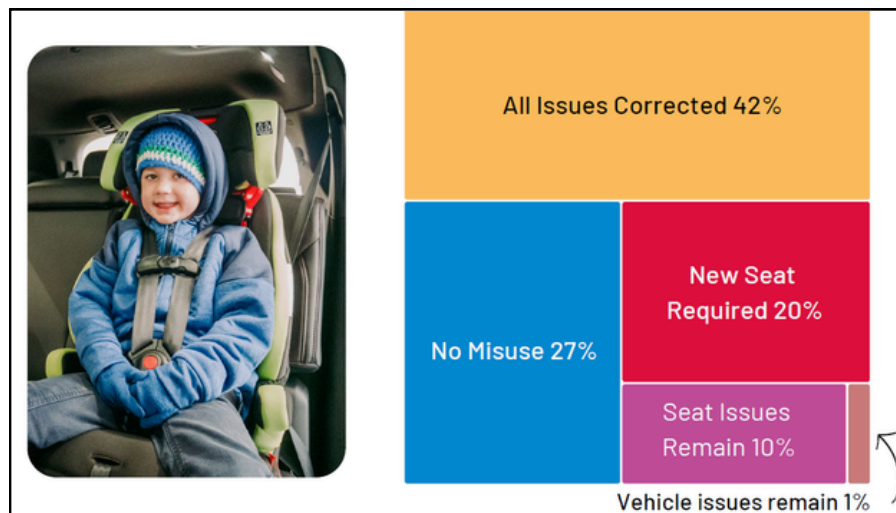
Preliminary information (Subject to change once all data is analyzed)

**74%**

of child passengers observed car seats/booster seats checked had one of the following errors:

a stage-based error, restraint issue, usage error, and/or installation error.

### Situation on Departure



### THANK YOU!

CSL wants to thank Dalhousie University, the Child Passenger Safety Association of Canada and funders Cybex for their significant contribution (including car seats) to the success of this research project. CSL also wants to thank all of the volunteers, Child Passenger Safety Technicians, police and fire partners who supported this work.



# On the Road

## Child Passenger Safety



### Car Seat Grant Program

CSL implemented a car seat grant program across Nova Scotia providing 22 \$1000 grants. According to the post grant survey, 95% grant recipients found the grant process straightforward and easy to understand.

**21 grants  
awarded**



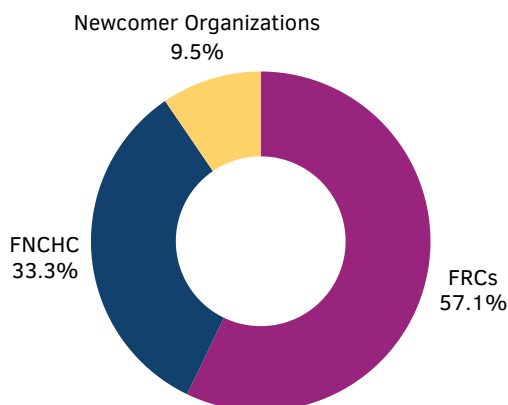
**133 car seats  
distributed**



**118 Families  
supported**

### Grant distribution by Service providers

- FNCHC=First Nation Community Health Centres
- FRC's = Family Resource Centres
- Newcomer Organizations



### Inquiries

CSL answers inquiries from both families and service providers (e.g. nurses, Family Resource Centres staff, occupational therapists, etc.) and provides consultation services (e.g. policy development) to organizations across Atlantic Canada and beyond.

**Total Inquiries  
1271**

**Inquiries/Month  
106**

**6.2%  
increase from  
2023-2024**

#### Inquiries by Province

Nova Scotia	PEI	NB
606 (47.7%)	62 (5%)	234 (22%)
Other/Unsure	Newfoundland/Labrador	
228 (17.9%)	141 (11%)	

**Professionals:** Family Resource Centres, Police, Fire personnel, Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, etc.

#### Method of Inquiry

317 Phone (25%)  
532 Emails (42%)  
422 Facebook (33%)

#### Audience

Caregivers: 32%  
Professionals: 78%

# On the Road



## Child Passenger Safety

### Capacity Building

CSL trains and assists service providers across Atlantic Canada to support child passenger safety in communities and health centres.

#### *Training Summary Overall* Instructor & Technician Training (CPST)

**9 courses**

[NS: 4; NL: 2; PEI: 2; NB: 2]

**83 new CPST**

[NS: 35; PEI: 14; NB: 17; NL: 17]



**3 CSL Courses**

[1 NS; 1 PEI, 1 NL]

**40 new CPST**

[NS: 12; NL: 14; PEI: 14]

**6 new Instructors**

[NS: 2; NL: 2; PEI: 2 NB Instructors]

#### Instructor Hub courses

**6 CPST Courses**

**43 new CPST**

[NS: 23; NL: 3; NB: 17]



## INSTRUCTOR HUB

CSL established an Instructor Hub with the aim to support and sustain instructors throughout Atlantic Canada to provide technician training and education in communities. With financial support from the Insurance Bureau of Canada, CSL trained and supported **6 new Instructors** and **7 current Instructors** with an Instructor toolkit including educational resources, and consultative support. Kits included a choice of supplies that an instructor may need when conducting a course (e.g. sandwich board sign, clip boards, teaching dolls, and a LATCH manual). CSL provides on-going support through consultations, newsletters, and posting on the Community of Practice.

These Instructors have conducted **6 Child Passenger Safety Technician training course** training 43 new CPST. New technicians include Family Resource Centre staff, NS RCMP officers, Fire services, and Tobique First Nation community members). We want to thank them for their commitment to child passenger safety and for helping increase capacity across Atlantic Canada.

# On the Road



## Child Passenger Safety

### Other Support

CSL supports the transportation of children with special healthcare needs and also trains nurses at both IWK Health and NS Health to support safe transportation policies. Although there were no STAC trainings (Safe Travel for All Children) this year, a CSL staff renewed her Instructor status for another three years. A story about CSL and STAC was posted in the IWK newsletter (see below).

CSL also provides orientation about child passenger safety and applicable policies to both IWK and Nova Scotia Health Nurses throughout Nova Scotia. Those who transport children for their work have also been supported with free access to an on-line child passenger safety basics course.

To support newcomer families, CSL implemented a Newcomer Prenatal Car Seat Project (See spotlight on page 22) and also provided 18 additional seats to families in exceptional circumstances at the IWK.

#### Safe Travel for All Children (STAC)

8 patients supported in person at IWK

#### Nurse Orientation

##### 7 Presentations

70 IWK nurses  
13 NS Health nurses

#### Newcomer Prenatal Car Seat Project

30 seats distributed to newcomer families at IWK.

Since 2002, Child Safety Link has been dedicated to keeping kids safe at home, on the road, and at play. The Safe Travel for All Children (STAC) program, addressing adaptive transportation needs for kids with special healthcare requirements.

Read more about their impactful work in Canadian safety initiatives: <https://shorturl.at/6iGQz>



#### Car Seats to IWK Families

18 additional seats distributed to families in exceptional circumstances at IWK Health.



#### Child Passenger Safety Basics for Drivers course (on-line)

822 participants

45% increase from 2023-2024

# Overarching

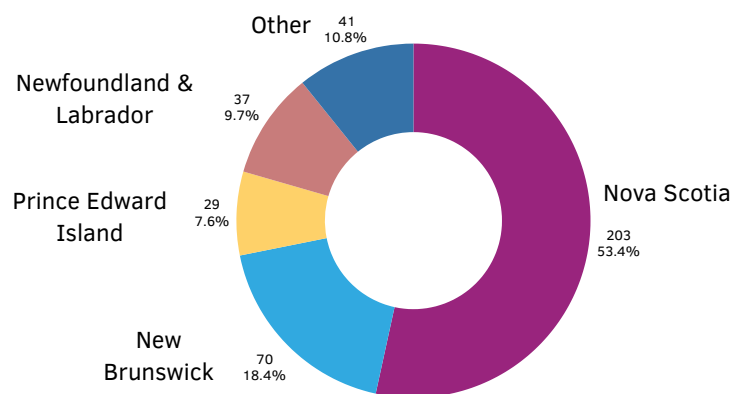
## Community of Practice

CSL's On-line Community of Practice (COP) was established in November 2022 and membership continues to grow. The purpose of the COP is to encourage networking and the promotion of injury prevention initiatives. In 2024-2025, CSL extended the COP to include an Atlantic Collaborative on Injury Prevention (ACIP) forum.

**380 Members**  
**30% increase from**  
**2023-2024**

**141 posts**  
**14,645 views**

**COP Membership by Province**



## IWK Survey

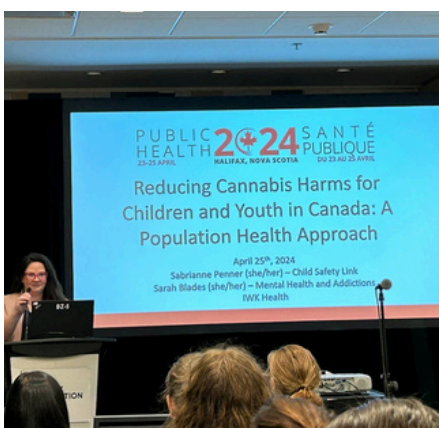
CSL conducted an awareness survey with IWK staff in January 2025. A full report is available. The results will inform the development of an internal communication strategy. Some highlights (n=160 respondents)

- 77% were aware of CSL
- 66% indicated that injury prevention is part of their role
- 48% were aware that CSL offers resources in diverse languages
- 3.75% are members of CSL's COP

## Advocacy

CSL supported several advocacy opportunities - for example:

- CSL collaborated on a letter to the Nova Scotia Provincial government to advocated against Alcohol vending machines which could lead to increased risk of injuries in Nova Scotia.
- CSL wrote a letter to the Federal government to support the development of a national strategy to prevent brain injury (i.e. Bill C-277).

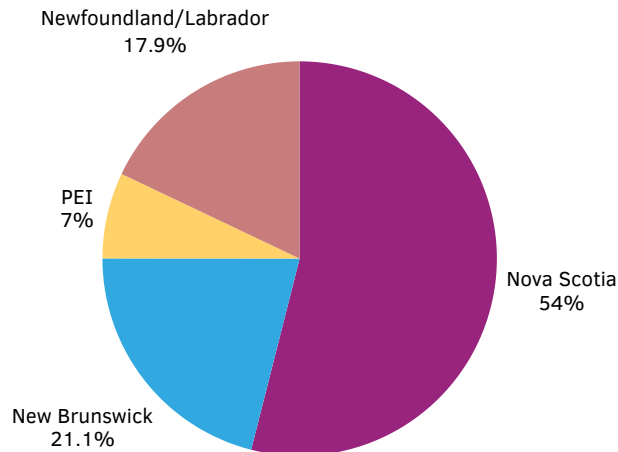


# Overarching

## Educational Resources

CSL distributes educational resources across Atlantic Canada free of charge to support service providers.

### Resource Distribution by Province



**Resources Distributed**  
**48,190**

**# of Requests**  
**173**

**# of Requests by Province**

**NS: 90 (52%) NB: 37 (21%)**  
**PEI: 17 (10%) NL: 29: 17%**

## New Resources



### Helmet Safety

- See list on page 11



### Child Passenger Safety

- Is your child in the right seat?
  - Video: Russian, Ukrainian
  - Print resource: Wolastogey
  - Poster: English/French
- Reels: 5 short videos focusing on different CPS issues
- Spotlight: Coats and Car Seats blog published on website



### Safety in the Home

- Infographic: Dos and Don'ts of Baby Gates: French, Arabic, Spanish, Mi'kmaq
- Print resource: Facts on Preventing Poisonings Before They Happen



### Shopify

In November,  
CSL launched a Shopify account for  
ordering resources



# Overarching: Media

## CTV News Atlantic

CSL appeared 11 times on CTV Morning Live. Each month was a different topic such as sport helmets, safe summer road trips, summer poisons, pedestrian safety/back to school, child passenger safety, and winter holiday safety.



## Other News Media

CSL staff conducted interviews on several news media channels. For example:

Global:

- Safe road trips with kids
- Child Passenger Safety

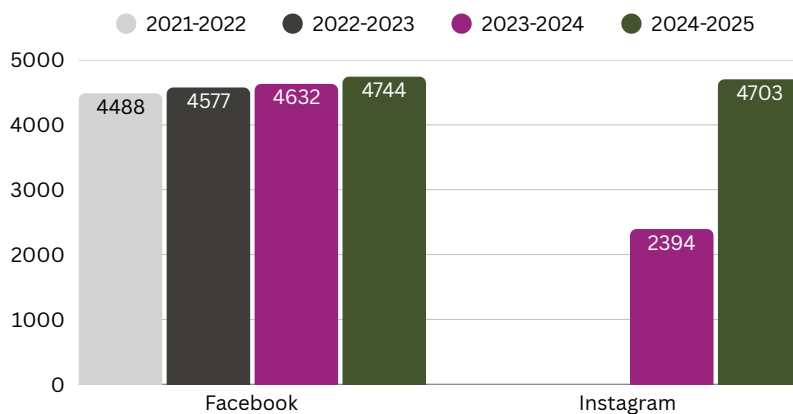
Other

- Hot 105.5 PEI: Child passenger safety
- CTV news: Child passenger safety
- IWK Intranet & newsletter: STAC story
- NL St John's radio VOCM: Car seats
- CKDU: Poisoning prevention
- CBC Mainstreet: Poisoning prevention
- Radio Canada (CBC): Elimination of tax on car seats



## Social Media

Social Media followers by Year



### Facebook

**2.4% increase from 2023-2024**

### Instagram

**96.4% increase from 2023-2024**

**LinkedIn (new)**

**121 followers**



# Overarching

## Presentations/Webinars

CSL presented to a variety of audiences at events, universities, colleges and conferences to promote child passenger safety and CSL services.

### Child Passenger Safety

- Safe Travel for All Children to Children's Autism Services of Edmonton
- An Introduction to the Nova Scotia Child Restraint Use Roadside Study
- CPS programming and strategies to the Interagency leaders of Edmonton.

### Other Topics

CSL services to the:

- Newfoundland & Labrador Injury Prevention Coalition
- NS Family Resource Centre Knowledge Translation event

### Conference Presentations

Public Health Agency of Canada Conference:

- *Lost in Translation: Lessons learned creating resources for newcomer families.*
- *Reducing Cannabis Harms for Children & Youth in Canada: A Population Health Approach*

Cybox Canada Child Passenger Safety Summit 2024:

- *Roadside study and the landscape of CPS in Canada* (with Dalhousie)

Kidz in Motion: International CPS conference:

- *Combatting Illegal Car Seats: Canada's Advocacy Success Story*
- CSL moderated the workshop: *Techs, Fitters and Advocates: Building a Culture of Safety*

LifeSavers Conference (International)

- *Yes, YOU TOO CAN BE a Researcher! A Roadmap for Real-World CPS Research* [research panel]
- *From inquiry to action: a roadmap for real-world roadside research* [with Dalhousie]

### Popping the Bubble Wrap

(Parachute Canada national webinar series)

CSL's Katherine Hutka conducted two webinars entitled:

- How and When to use Rear-Facing Car Seats
- How and When to use Car Booster Seats

### University/College Presentations:

- CSL's Dhruv Patel visited StFX university and attended Health 111 as a guest lecturer.
- CSL's Katherine Hutka presented on child passenger safety basics and answered other injury prevention questions for NSCC students.

### CSL Webinars

CSL hosted two webinars:

- Consumer Product Safety: 42 attendees (5 NL (12%); 9 NB (21%))
- An Introduction to the Nova Scotia Child Restraint Use Roadside Study: 38 attendees (1 (2.6%) NL; 3 NB (8%))

### Child Passenger Safety Association of Canada Webinars

- Katherine Hutka:
  - hosted a webinar: CPS Products.
  - presented: *Combatting Illegal Car Seats: Canada's Advocacy Success Story*

# Spotlight

## Support to Newcomer Families

One of CSL's Strategic goals is: *Advancing equity and inclusivity in the context of child and youth injury prevention*. Below is a spotlight on our work to support newcomer families. This does not include our list of new educational resources (see page 19), poison prevention supplies, and grant programs.

### Seats to Families

CSL received a grant from the NS Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration and provided 30 car seats to families receiving care at a newcomer Prenatal clinic at the IWK. CSL also received a grant from the IWK Special Request funding to provide 18 seats for families in exceptional circumstances to facilitate safe discharge of a child where no safe seat was available (55% were newcomer families).

### Needs Assessment

CSL conducted a *Newcomers' Needs Assessment Survey* to understand the injury prevention needs of newcomer agencies in Atlantic Canada. Participation rate was 67.67% [67/99 invited organizations participated in the survey]. Some highlights:

- Ukrainian was identified as a high-demand language. Other most requested languages included Arabic, Spanish, Hindi, Punjabi, Mandarin and Tagalog.
- Newcomers in Atlantic Canada inquired most often about child passenger safety, home safety, sleep safety, and poison prevention.
- 81% of participants identified a lack of awareness about injury prevention among newcomers as the most significant barrier.



### Equity & Belonging Lens

Equity and Belonging Lens toolkit: CSL adapted the IWK lens toolkit to be more applicable to health promotion/ injury prevention.

### Newcomer Event

On November 20 (CSL's birthday), CSL held a launch event at the Immigrant Settlement Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) and the Refugee clinic. Twenty-two families attend the event. CSL checked 12 seats and gave away six seats. Languages spoken by families: Arabic, Tigrinya, Hindi, Nepalese, Somali.



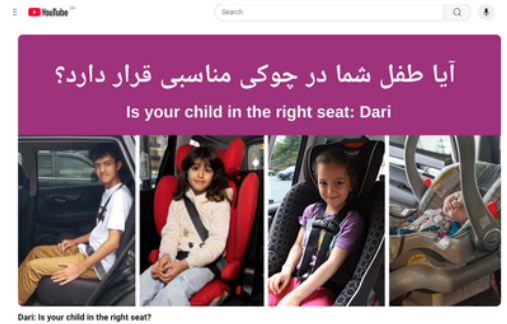
# Spotlight

## Support to Newcomers

### Educational Resources

As outlined on page 19, CSL develops new educational resources every year and is committed to translating these resources into multiple languages to increase accessibility.

CSL's most robust collection is the Right Seat Resource that is available in 14 languages and is in both print and video (on the CSL YouTube channel).



### Media/Social Media

CSL conducts traditional and social media and is developing more media in additional languages. For example, the IWK Emergency Department approached CSL after noticing an increase in burns among specific populations. In response, CSL created a series of social media posts in three additional languages to promote burn prevention.



### CSL Team received the IWK STARS Award for Equity & Belonging

The Award honours the spirit of an inclusive, hospitable culture where differences are celebrated, respect is demonstrated, and systemic approaches are challenged and improved.

# Our Team

## Child Safety Link Staff

**Sandra Newton**

Manager

**Mallorie Cornelius**

Health Promotion Specialist

**Julie Harrington**

PR Coordinator

**Ashley Holden**

Child Passenger Safety Assistant

**Katherine Hutka**

Health Promotion Specialist

**Sarah Mavrak** (*New*)

Health Promotion Specialist

**Ana Ojeda**

Administrative Assistant

**Dhruv Patel**

Junior Health Promotion Specialist

## In Memoriam

### REMEMBERING CHANTAL WALSH



CSL was saddened by the passing of their dear colleague Chantal Walsh. Chantal passed away on September 20, 2024 from cancer. She was a valued part of the CSL team since 2010, shortly after graduating from Dalhousie University with a degree in Health Promotion. During her career at CSL, Chantal made significant contributions in the Home Safety portfolio, contributing to work in fall prevention, poisoning prevention and playground safety.

Aside from her valued contributions to many projects throughout the years, she was bright and energetic, and her humour and wit brought joy to our workplace. Chantal will be profoundly missed by all of us at Child Safety Link.

# Advisory Council

## CSL Advisory Council

**Natalie Bakody**

NS Dept of Education & Early Childhood  
Development

**Melanie Doyle**

IWK Health

**Jill Duncan**

Atlantic Canada Poison Centre

**Janine Gallant**

Public Health Agency of Canada

**Shannon Gallant**

Indigenous Services, First Nations and Inuit Health

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NS Trauma Program

**JoAnna LaTulippe-Rochon**

Cape Breton Family Place Resource Centre

**Dr. Richard Louis**

NB Trauma Program

**Katherine MacIntyre**

Family Resource Centre - Moncton

**Flora Murphy**

NS Health

**Stephanie O'Brien**

Dept of Health and Community Services,  
Government of NL

**Michelle Proctor-Simms**

NS Department of Health & Wellness

**Cindy Russell (New)**

Atlantic Collaborative on Injury Prevention

**Kaileigh Smith (New)**

CHANCES Family Centre

**Anne Yuill**

IWK Health

## Acknowledgements

This year we said farewell to some Advisory Council members and staff. Thank you to them for their support, commitment and passion.

**CSL Staff**

Sabrianne Penner  
Health Promotion Specialist

Samantha Noseworthy  
Health Promotion Specialist

**Advisory Council**

Suzanne Baker  
NS Health

Tessa Firth  
Atlantic Collaborative on Injury  
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Jessica Ling  
CHANCES Family Resource Centre

Stephanie Richard  
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IWK Health

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