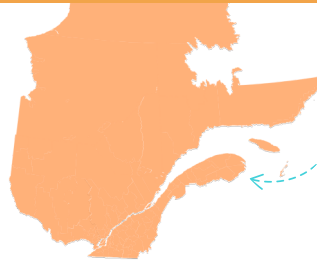


**elan**

english language arts network

**Where We Are**● **Province of Quebec**
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About the English Language Arts Network (ELAN) Project

ELAN's project included providing a series of workshops led by mental health professionals to train Teaching Artists to better understand and identify mental health issues as they arise in their work with Older Adults, Children and Pre-Teens. An expansion on their successful Youth Mental Health Initiative, this training by supporting the training of teaching artists working in schools, daycares, out-of-school programs, Seniors Wellness Centres, assisted living, hospitalized settings and more. In addition, a series of workshops led by mental health professionals was offered to support artists around Quebec who have been gravely impacted by the pandemic.



Promising Practice

The structure of the professional development workshops provided for teaching artists was very effective in supporting teaching artists and reaching a very large number of participants. Teaching artists were uniformly positive and vocal about the need and desire for recurring learning communities in which they can discuss issues that arise. This type of space for discussion is very rare in this profession, and clearly one that is sought after.

★ Key Success Factors

- Training from mental health professionals with teaching artist backgrounds
- Well-designed workshops
- Partner collaboration



Providing ongoing opportunities for teaching artists to feel supported, empowered, and connected, enables them to engage participants more appropriately and effectively in their roles.