



# Policy Brief: In Conversation Round Table

One of the Scholars and Thinkers of Public Administration, Professor Guy Peters, maintains that the Holy Grail of public administration is whole systems integration. This is a challenge that has been accepted by the health field. There is growing recognition across the global public policy and research community that to respond to the complex health, social, economic, political, and environmental challenges facing society will require integrated approaches to establishing transparent, yet complex, systems. Systems that are innovative, adaptive, and responsive and that are collaborative and multisectoral by nature, working across boundaries to deliver joined up responses.

The Centre for Health in All Policies Research Translation aims to contribute to this ambitious agenda, by strengthening the capacity for a better, and more reciprocal joining of research, practice and policy in the fields such as HiAP, the determinants of health, wellbeing economies and health equity. The Centre aims to work at the interface of research and policy to support the transfer of new innovative ideas and knowledge to the wider policy making and research communities.

The journal Health Promotion International contains refereed original articles, reviews, and debate articles on major themes and innovations in the health promotion field. As the thought journal of the international health promotion movement, it seeks theoretical, methodological and activist advances to the field. Thus, the journal provides a unique focal point for articles of high quality that describe not only theories and concepts, research projects and policy formulation, but also planned and spontaneous activities, organisational change, as well as social and environmental development.

## In Conversation: Boundary Spanners, Thinkers and Policy Actors

A round table discussion – co-creating knowledge & impact for better lives.

### Introducing the In Conversation Round Table

The In Conversation: Boundary Spanners, Thinkers and Policy Actors Round Table will provide a space for researchers, policy actors and implementation experts to come together to explore and unpack new and emerging issues, hear diverse perspectives and debate potential impacts and solutions. The round tables will concentrate on the interface between accumulated evidence of various types on one hand, and policy options and processes on the other.

The In Conversation Round Table will:

- Elevate discussion on key emerging issues
- Present evidence from a range of perspectives
- Showcase diverse points of views
- Consider solutions - feasibility and desirability.

The objectives are to:

- Test new ideas and emerging challenges with the research and policy making communities
- Provide senior policy makers with high quality, timely and accessible evidence and advice from leading researchers and implementation experts
- Engage policy makers and researchers in an open dialogue around the applicability of the evidence to the current policy context
- Foster the development of relationships between policy makers, researchers and implementation experts.

### Partners and Process

The Centre for HiAP Research Translation, in partnership with Health Promotion International will convene the In Conversation Round Table three times a year.

The content topic area of each session is to be determined by the Centre, in consultation with the Editor in Chief of HPI and the Centre Advisory Committee. The Round Table will include topic specific partners with knowledge and expertise in the area. The expert partners will vary for each Round Table depending on the subject of conversation. The sessions are invitation only meetings that bring senior policy makers together with researchers, academics and implementation experts to discuss a high priority topic of shared interest. The sessions will be online using Zoom, or live, face to face depending on participant availability and taking current health guidelines into account.

### Outputs

The session will be recorded with participants' consent. Conversations and ideas from the event will remain confidential until there is consensus on external messaging. A video will be released and circulated with participants' approval.

Following participants consent, the Round Table discussion will be synthesized into key messages for:

- A podcast to be shared across social media platforms.
- A policy brief summarising the issues and key messages for inclusion in the Health Promotion International.

**Boundary Spanner**  
describes an individual within an innovation system who has, or adopts, the role of linking the organisations' internal networks with external networks and sources of information.

**Thinker**  
A person who thinks deeply and seriously. A person with highly developed intellectual powers, especially whose profession involves intellectual activity.

**A Policy Actor**  
is one involved in the formulation of policies, especially politicians, public sector officials, non-government actors, and activists.

