

Joanna Nemis-White, BSc, PMP
Principal, Strive Health

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Highly accomplished professional who possesses extensive experience across Canada in disease and health management, strategic planning, partnership development and continuous quality improvement. Self-motivated and flexible, a results oriented individual with exemplary written and oral communication skills. Committed to excellence and accountability with a 'can-do' positive attitude and strong interpersonal skills. Certified in Project / Change Management.

Areas of Expertise

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| ✓ Project Management | ✓ Stakeholder Partnerships | ✓ Change Management |
| ✓ Care Gap Analysis | ✓ Needs Assessment | ✓ Knowledge Translation |
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Strive Health Management Consulting Inc. Halifax, N.S. A successful health management consulting business established in Nova Scotia by Joanna Nemis-White in 2010; a Nova Scotia government Managed Business Services Standing Offer vendor.

Principal 2010 – Present

Proactively identified business opportunities. Engaged stakeholders, then designed, developed and delivered successful needs-based, client-centered programs. *Example initiatives include:*

- Integrated Management Program Advancing Community Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation, Nova Scotia Health Authority. Providing project planning and management support to leading researchers and extended team from the Nova Scotia Health Authority, Dalhousie and McMaster Universities for a \$5.5 million, 5-year investigator sponsored study evaluating the impact of a computerized clinical decision support system on the management and outcomes of patients with atrial fibrillation in primary care across NS. Providing strategic guidance and advice to support project initiation, implementation and evaluation activities including engagement of a broad range of health system stakeholders such as the NS Department of Health and Wellness, Doctors NS and primary health care providers.
- Together We Can Strategy Evaluation, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness. Co-lead the implementation of an evaluation for the province. Provided project management leadership and evaluation support in collaboration with Jenn Dixon, lead evaluation consultant, Lorianne MacLean (sub-contractor) and Nicole MacPherson (Strive Health).
- Health Care in Canada Survey, Merck Canada. Successfully engaged and facilitated broad stakeholder collaborations with representatives from national organizations such as the CMA, CNA and CFHI. Led development of the Project Charter, committee Terms of Reference, request for proposals and project implementation plan. Providing ongoing project management support in collaborating with CareNet regarding knowledge translation and impact assessment.
- Benefits Evaluation, Nova Scotia EMR Peer Network, Primary Health Care, Primary Health Information Management (PHIM) Program, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness.

Supported a benefits evaluation of the Nova Scotia EMR Peer Network. Led development and implementation of evaluation strategies (focus group discussions, follow-up survey). Synthesized existing evaluation data, collating information into a formal report for the PHIM Program / Canada Health Infoway. Delivered the final report on time / within budget.

- Patients First Award, Merck Canada.
Providing project management support to the Merck Patients First Awards. Support advisory review panel member recruitment; manage all aspects of the review panel meeting including document preparation / facilitating the discussion. Supporting development of web content, knowledge translation and impact assessment planning activities.
- School Mental Health Clinician Evaluation, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness.
Facilitated a Focus Group Discussion with School Board Managers and SchoolsPlus Facilitators. Prepared an accompanying project report.
- Clinical Practice Guidelines Deployment Strategy, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness. Led the development of a realistic and achievable deployment strategy, with evaluation and change management plans, regarding the implementation of two clinical practice guidelines in Nova Scotia. Successfully facilitated repeated consultation meetings with numerous health system stakeholders. Delivered a comprehensive final report to the Minister of Health on time and on budget.
- Capital Health Frailty Portal, Primary Health Care, Capital District Health Authority.
Supported the development of provider and patient resources integrated into an online portal. 2015 Capital Health Quality Team Awards, Silver Prize winner.
- Behaviour Change Institute (BCI) - Operational Framework, Capital District Health Authority
Conducted qualitative assessments of past and current BCI providers from across NS to inform operational framework. Identified challenges and opportunities to better integrate behaviour change principles into primary care. Lead development of summary report.
- Collaborative Team Care, Cape Breton District Health Authority.
Supported the development of primary care team collaborations including: team charters, quality improvement processes and internal District department collaborations. Lead the successful development, implementation and evaluation of a primary care / mental health services initiative aimed to improve patient care and outcomes.
- Quality Collaborative - Diabetes, Cape Breton District Health Authority.
Coordinated the planning, implementation and evaluation of a primary care quality improvement initiative. Developed the project charter, facilitated the advisory stakeholder partnership development, led the CFPC Mainpro accreditation and supported development of efficient project processes. The project successfully launched on time and has shown positive improvements in patient care and outcomes.
- Primary Care Provider Needs Assessment, Cape Breton District Health Authority.
Led the development, implementation and reporting of a comprehensive primary care provider needs assessment including partnership development, research protocol, ethics submission, internal/external project communications, survey tool creation, focus group facilitation, data analysis and report preparation/presentation. Led publication of the findings in a peer reviewed journal. Project results helped inform strategic planning process.

Merck Frosst Canada Ltd. Montreal, Quebec. Merck is one of Canada's leading research-based pharmaceutical companies.

Manager, Patient Health Management (PHM)

1997 – 2010

Led the development, implementation and evaluation of multifaceted, innovative, health management partnership projects across Canada. Spearheaded from initiation phase through to completion and knowledge transfer.

- Collaborated with governments, health care professionals, patient advocacy groups, academia. Closed care gaps and improved health care practice patterns and outcomes.
- Recognized as a leading authority in the continuous quality improvement process of health management. Instrumental in care gap identification, root-cause analysis, data-responsive intervention design and implementation, measurement and feedback.
- Utilized behaviour change principles and knowledge of effective intervention approaches; co-developed effective adherence strategies for Singulair®, Hyzaar® and Januvia®.
- Supported collaborative care teams in Ontario with strategies and tools to enhance the management of patients with chronic diseases. Consulted clients nationally / internationally.
- Actively participated as project executive and advisory committee member. Identified issues quickly and efficiently, keeping projects on track with a strong business acumen approach.
- Co-authored various peer-reviewed publications; presented at academic/scientific meetings.
- Repeat recipient of Merck Frosst *Award of Excellence* for leadership and work.

Merck Frosst Canada Ltd., Hospital / Professional Sales Representative

1990 – 1997

- Communicated with community specialists, general practitioners and other health care professionals. Ability to readily create strong interpersonal business relationships.
- Acted as a Sales Trainer for new representatives. *Director's Award* recipient.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Consumer Studies - Major: Consumer Studies **1989**
St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS University Silver Medalist, Dean's List

CERTIFICATION

Prosci® Change Management **2012**

AdPro and the Change Management Learning Centre

Project Management Professional (PMP) **2011, Renewals '14, '17**

Project Management Institute®

Professional Development: HITS (Health Informatics Training System), Level 1 Education Course (COACH); Merck Frosst Leadership Course; Kepner-Tregoe Problem Solving; Business Case Development; Motivating and Influencing Others; Effective Writing. Member of the Nova Scotia PMI Chapter and Canadian Evaluation Society.

PUBLICATIONS

See: <http://strivehmc.ca/publications/>