

ASPECTS OF CULTURAL ADAPTATION

WHAT'S PART OF THE CULTURAL ADAPTATION PROCESS?

ELDERS

Elders are integral to the cultural adaptation process - supporting and collaborating with program facilitators as the key knowledge holders. Elders help guide the adaptation process by incorporating appropriate cultural elements and language. Their valuable experience and stories also play a role in the implementation of the program.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Community participation and local Indigenous knowledge is relevant to any adaptation process. Engaging the unique voices from each community is crucial for promoting inclusion, and bolstering engagement and enthusiasm for the program.

CULTURAL SAFETY

Cultural safety is at the forefront of the adaptation process. The LTOA program aims to be inclusive of the diverse cultural traditions and values of each community. To support cultural safety, cultural protocols, activities and practices are integrated into the program. Moreover, building authentic and trusting relationships are necessary in the creation of culturally safe spaces.

MATERIALS

Materials outlining the LTOA program are key to understanding the ins-and-outs of the program and adaptation process. The generic facilitator's manual and accompanying booklets are meant to be modified to the user's needs. LTOA materials have been organized in different ways in different communities, and are currently being updated to be more user-friendly.

LANGUAGE

Language is a cultural resource that must be preserved and strengthened; therefore, the translation of the LTOA program into a community's language is one of the main goals of adaptation.

FLEXIBILITY

Flexibility underlines the notion that cultural adaptation is a slow process that requires patience and care. Timelines and goals remain flexible throughout the adaptation process, reflecting and respecting the needs of the community.