

# POPLAR, the Primary Care Ontario Practice-Based Learning and Research Network

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## BACKGROUND

- Some of the most substantial opportunities for transformative care, QI and research lie within **primary care**.
- Clinical research in primary care means that results are **more generalizable** to daily practice.
- Primary care **practice-based learning and research networks** are key building blocks for **knowledge production, dissemination and practice improvement**

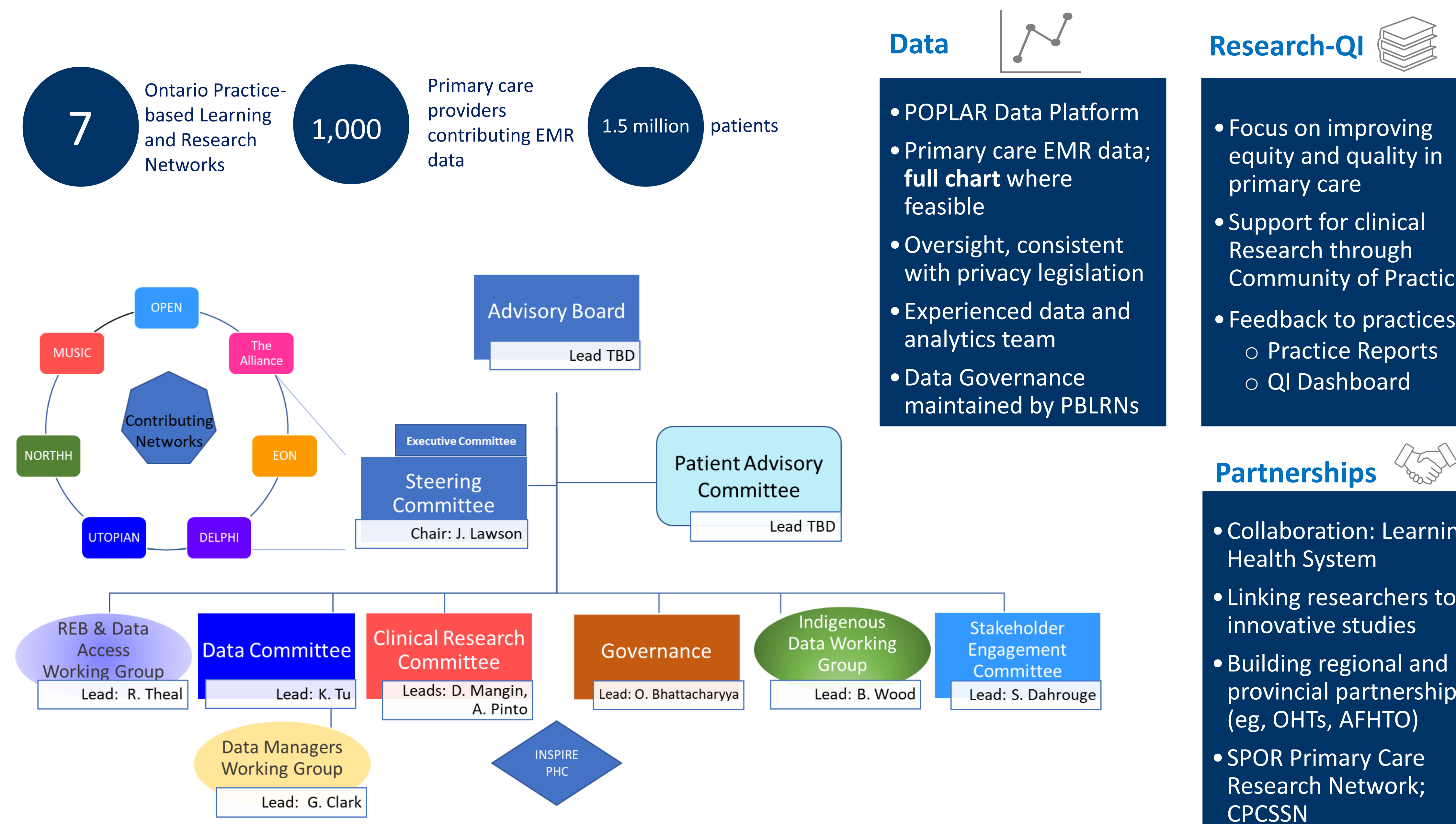
## CONTEXT

- POPLAR is a **provincial initiative**
- **Initiated in 2021**
- **Funded by the Ministry** through [INSPIRE-PHC](#)
- Includes **research, QI and EMR data**
- **Networks:**
  - **six University Departments of Family Medicine**
  - the **Alliance for Healthier Communities**

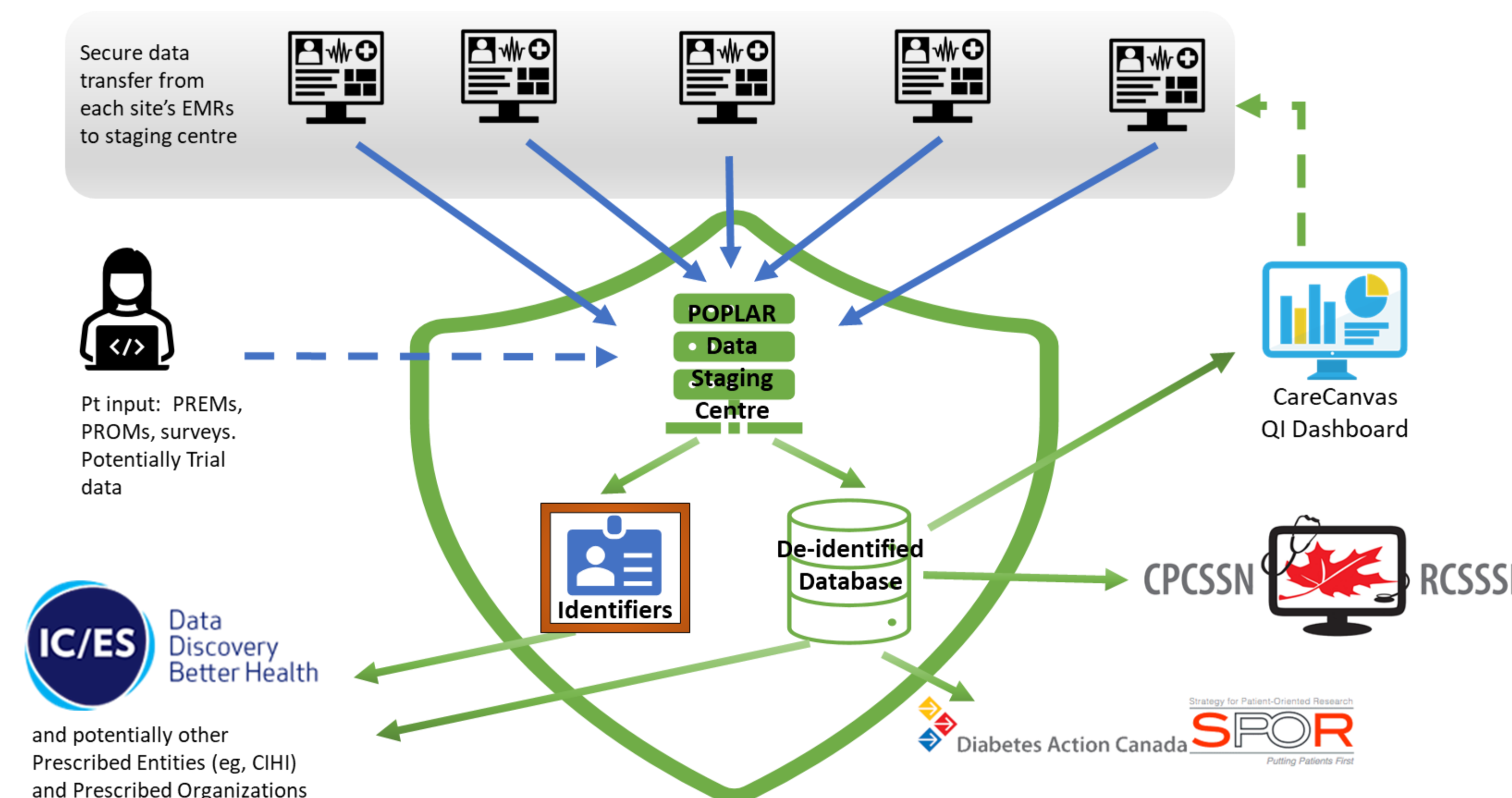
## OBJECTIVES

- POPLAR's vision is to advance equitable primary healthcare delivery and health outcomes for everyone in Ontario
- Aim to achieve the **Quintuple Aim**, inclusive of **Health Equity**, through
  - A single **provincial EMR data platform** for data analytics
  - Processes and procedures to support **Clinical Research and QI** in practices

## POPLAR STRUCTURE



## POPLAR DATA PLATFORM



- POPLAR EMR data is cleaned, de-identified and standardized.
- POPLAR studies can look at **patient and practice data**.
- Complies with robust ethics, governance and security measures.
- Individual patients have the **right to opt out** of their data being collected through POPLAR's networks

## IMPLICATIONS for HEALTH SYSTEMS

- Ability to test initiatives in one POPLAR Network
  - **Scale up** across Province
- Development of Provincial QI Dashboard, **CareCanvas**, led by University of Toronto **DFCM Q&I**
- POPLAR EMR data can provide
  - **Provincial and regional data reports**
  - **Planning information** for OHTs and health system
- EMR data will be **linked** with administrative data at ICES for health systems planning (early 2023)
- Data is used for approved **research projects**
- Centralized coordination of **clinical research projects** in primary care practices across Ontario

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Increase **primary care provider participation** across Ontario-- this is for all of us!
- Increase engagement with **patients and communities**
  - Patient Advisory Committee to begin meeting this fall
  - Build relationships with **Indigenous Partners**
- Continue to develop POPLAR infrastructure and processes
- Support the provincial roll-out of the **CareCanvas QI Dashboard** to all POPLAR members in early 2023
- Increase **research in practices and QI** activities

Advance our **shared Culture of Curiosity**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Joining is easy! For more information:**
  - Email: [info@poplarnetwork.ca](mailto:info@poplarnetwork.ca)
  - Visit our website at [www.poplarnetwork.ca](http://www.poplarnetwork.ca)

