# GAN WE TALK?

A mental health discussion with Movember



## WHAT'S Next?



#### PART 1: MOVEMBER

- Movember 101
- The state of men's health

#### PART 2: MENTAL HEALTH

- Why mental health?
- Our approach
- Impact of COVID-19 on mental health

#### PART 3: HOW TO HAVE BETTER CONVERSATIONS

- ALEC (Ask, Listen, Encourage Action, Check-in)
- Movember Conversations
- Take action
- Q+A

OUTCOME: we're all better informed about mental health and equipped to manage difficult conversations.





CHANGING THE FACE OF MEN'S HEALTH



### THE MOVEMBER JOURNEY

From a grassroots campaign that started in a pub in Melbourne we've grown and groomed our way to becoming the largest global movement for men's health.

### **5** INSPIRED TO JOIN GLOBAL MEN'S HEALTH MOVEMENT

# 20

COUNTRIES



#### THE GLOBAL GAP IN LIFE EXPECTANCY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN IS

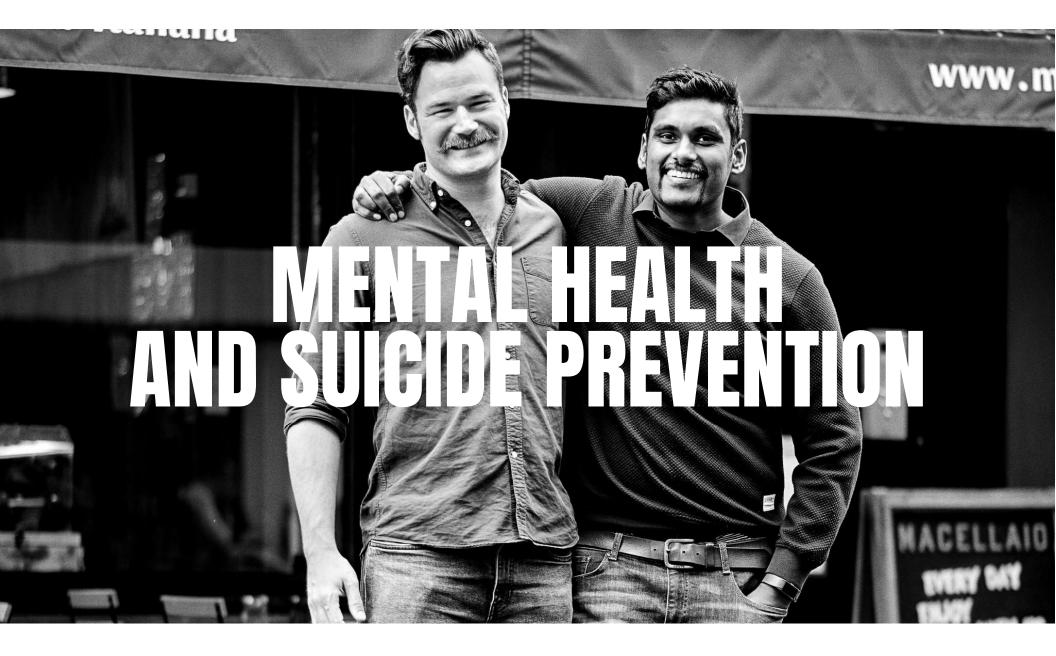
# **BARE DYING TOO YOUNG AND FROM** LARGELY PREVENTABLE REASONS

# **LET'S PUT THIS IN REAL TERMS**

#### 6 YEARS x 52 WEEKENDS=

**312** LOST WEEKENDS







## **3** OUT OF 4

Suicides in Canada are men

## MEN AGED **15-45**

suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for Canadian men

## OUR Approach

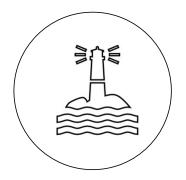
Our focus is upstream health promotion, prevention and early intervention.

We aim to do this by:

- Equipping men with increased understanding of their mental health and well being
- Men feel confident taking action early to improve their mental health
- Those around men have an increased understanding of how to support men in their lives







STRENGTHENING SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

INCREASING MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION

**RAISING AWARENESS** 

## EXAMINING THE PROBLEM

Suicide is complex, and is rarely caused by any single factor

Men often burden under traditional masculinity social norms (particularly self-reliance and stoicism) and can be slow to take action for their health. This "tough it out" mentality works against their well being.

#### OVER HALF (59%)

of Canadian men feel society expects them to be *"emotionally strong and to show no weakness."* 

#### OVER A THIRD (37%)

of Canadian men said they will not talk to others about how they feel to avoid feeling *unmanly*.

\*Based on a 2019 study of 1,000 Canadian men



Men often don't recognize symptoms of depression and are more likely to "mask" or hide their feelings with behaviours such as:

- Becoming irritable or aggressive
- Work compulsively
- Isolate from friends + family
- Increased consumption of alcohol or drugs
- Engage in higher risk activities

Significant life events often contribute to mental health challenges, such as relationships breakdown, physical health challenges, job loss or financial difficulties



### COVID-19 MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT WE DID THE RESEARCH

Movember conducted a Canadian survey to understand the impact of COVID-19 on men - with a focus on social connection, help seeking, conversations, mental health and chronic illness:

- Eight out of 10 (80%) Canadian men find it helpful to talk through problems yet 4 out of 10 (40%) Canadian men say no one has asked them how they are coping during the pandemic
- Over a quarter of Canadian men (27 per cent) reported their mental health had worsened
- A third of Canadian men (34 per cent) stated they felt lonely more often
- Canadians are more likely to check in on female friends (66%) or family members (71%) than male friends (58%)





## HAVE A CONVO, SAVE A BRO

HELPING A FRIEND IS EASY WHEN YOU KNOW HOW. Follow these four steps to let The conversation flow



### A.SK Ask how they're doing

### LISTEN Listen to what they say

## **E.NCOURAGE ACTION**

Explore the options they might have

## C.HECK-IN

Keep in touch with where they're at



## CONVERSATIONS CAN BE DIFFICULT.

Movember.com/conversations

Movember Conversations is a free online tool designed to provide practical guidance on how to support the men in your life who might be struggling.

It's been developed to give people the confidence to have conversations with men who might need some support.

It provides simulated conversations for scenarios that are very relevant in today's environment – **job loss, social isolation** and **family pressures.** 

Using the ALEC framework, it allows the user to explore and practice different questions and responses, developing skills to have an open and productive conversation with a co-worker who might be struggling. MH1 Mitch to do quick run through of tool online w sharescreen Mitch Hermansen, 2020-06-16

### **IF YOU THINK SOMEONES NOT DOING GOOD, REACH OUT TO THEM** LOCK IN A TIME TO CATCH UP. Do Something. Take A Walk. Plan A Catchup. Be there. Listen. Share What's Happening With You too.



## TAKE Action

Take 5 minutes to check-in with a friend or colleague

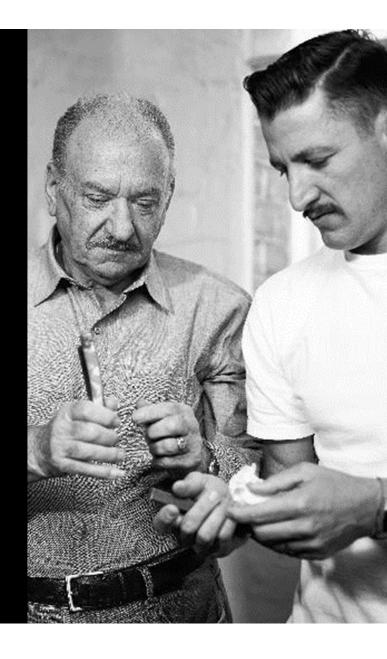
Head to movember.com/conversations and review tool

Share ALEC and Movember Conversations within your organization at your next safety meeting

Review Appendix 1 and be mindful of the stereotypes and language we use around mental health

If you want to do more, please reach out to me to chat mitch.hermansen@movember.com

## DURING MY PRESENTATION WE HAVE LOST 25 MEN. THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW. TALKING IS LIFESAVING.





# THANK YOU

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### **APPENDIX 1**

## **BEING CAREFUL OF STEREOTYPES**

MYTH:	FACT:
People who are mentally ill are violent, dangerous, untrustworthy and unpredictable	Many violent people have no history of mental illness and most people with mental illness have no history of violence. People with a mental illness are more likely to be the victims of violence and crime than the perpetrators
People are unable to recover from mental illness	Mental illness is not a life sentence. Most people will recover completely and go on to live full and productive lives. There are various treatments available to enable people to manage their symptoms/illness.
Mental illnesses are all the same	There are many types of mental illnesses and many kinds of symptoms and effects
People who share the same diagnosis will have the same experience of mental illness	Even though a particular mental illness will tend to show a certain range of symptoms, not everyone will experience the same things. A diagnosis will tell you little about a persons ability and personal characteristics.
Some cultural groups are more likely than others to experience mental illness.	Anyone can develop a mental illness and no one is immune to mental health problems. Cultural background may affect how people experience mental illness and how they understand and interpret the symptoms of mental illness.

### **APPENDIX 1**

## **CONSIDER LANGUAGE**

ISSUE:	PROBLEMATIC:	PREFERRED:
Certain language sensationalises mental illness and reinforces stigma	Terms such as 'mental patient', 'nutter', 'lunatic', 'psycho', 'schizo', 'deranged', 'mad' and 'crazy'	A person is 'living with' or 'has a diagnosis of' a mental illness
Terminology that suggests a lack of quality of life for people with mental illness	*Referring to someone with a mental illness as a 'victim', 'suffering from', or 'afflicted with' a mental illness	A person is 'being treated for' or 'someone with' a mental illness
Labelling a person by their mental illness	X A person is 'a schizophrenic' or 'an anorexic'	A person 'has a diagnosis of', or is being treated for' schizophrenia or anorexia
Descriptions of behavior that imply existence of mental illness or are inaccurate	Using words such as 'crazed', 'deranged', 'mad' or 'psychotic'	The persons behavior was unusual or erratic
Colloquialisms about treatment can undermine people's willingness to seek help	XUsing words such as 'happy pills', 'shrinks' or 'mental institution'	Accurate terminology for treatments include antidepressants, psychiatrists, psychologists, mental health hospital

### **APPENDIX 1**

### **CONSIDER LANGUAGE**

ISSUE:	PROBLEMATIC:	PREFERRED:
Presenting suicide as a desired outcome	×'successful suicide'	C 'died by suicide'
Associating suicide with a crime or sin	×'committed suicide'	S 'took their own life'
Sensationalising suicide	×'suicide epidemic'	'increasing rates'
Language glamourising a suicide attempt	*'suicide bid' 'failed suicide'	'suicide attempt' 'non-fatal attempt'
Gratuitous use of the term suicide	'political suicide' 'suicide mission'	refrain from using the term suicide out of context