



## In this issue...

### pg. 1

- A Year in Review

### pg. 2

- Upcoming Events in BC
- Bursary Competition

### pg. 3

- Upcoming Events in BC Continued
- Recent Publications
- Awards & Funding



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## A Year In Review

December not only marks the winding down of another fabulous year for the Rural Health Services Network of BC but it also marks the Network's year and a half anniversary! Two-thousand and twelve has proven to be another busy year with many milestones including: a collaborative workshop series, new partnerships and membership growth to name just a few. The Network partnered with several health authorities and universities to bring our Research Skills Enhancing Workshop Series. This series started in Vancouver at UBC in March 2012, was preceded by workshops in Castlegar and Nanaimo in late Spring, and finished this past November in Prince George. In addition to these workshops, the RHSRNbc partnered with the Interior Health Authority to host a three-day conference in early October. Through all these events, along with our Knowledge to Go Series and different conferences we attended, we have had the privilege of connecting with an array of researchers, clinicians, community members and students who are passionate about transforming their rural communities.

After another wonderful year, we are now in the planning stages for 2013 and would love your input. If you have any suggestions, would like to host a workshop or would like to see a specific topic covered within the next year, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us via email at [info@rhsrnbc.ca](mailto:info@rhsrnbc.ca).

*Thank you RHSRNbc members for your participation and enthusiasm— you have been instrumental in the success of our Network!*

## Upcoming Events in BC

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### Society of Rural Physicians 21st Annual Rural and Remote Medicine Course: *Sea to Sea to Sea*

April 4-7, 2013, Victoria BC

This working conference hosted by the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada offers nearly 200 workshops, lectures and plenaries in a peer-to-peer interactive learning environment. Based largely on small group sessions, this conference will allow you to interact both with speakers and each other in beautiful Victoria, BC. Early bird registration is now open. **Workshop submissions are currently being accepted.** Please visit <http://www.srpc.ca/rr2013/> for more information.

### 2013 Annual CAHSPR Conference

#### *Making Good on the Triple Aim: How to Improve our Success within the Canadian Context*

May 28-30, 2013, Vancouver BC

This three-day conference will explore initiatives within Canada that have simultaneously increased population health and improved the patient and provider experience while constraining cost growth. The conference provides an opportunity to identify the factors necessary to drive improvements across the Canadian health system, and to explore what it means to pursue the triple aim within the promise of universal access. **Call for abstracts closes Thursday, January 24, 2013.** For more details visit <https://cahspr.ca/en/node/2677>.

## *RHSRNbc Travel Bursary Competition*

We still have **two** national bursaries available until March 2013. These bursaries will be awarded to RHSRNbc members who have been invited to present their rural health services research orally or in poster format at a national conference. Preference will be given to junior researchers, graduate students and community based researchers who: a) conduct research on or with rural communities in BC; and b) who are able to clearly articulate their research link with rural health services research in their bursary application. Allowable expenses include: airfare, accommodation, conference registration, meals and transportation. Funds will be reimbursed after the conference with submission of original receipts and airline boarding passes. CIHR guidelines will be applied to define allowable expenses.

### Conditions

- Applicants must be a RHSRNbc member
- Applicants must be presenting rural BC health services research
- Applicants must be actively engaged in rural health services research

### Application

This competition has a **rolling deadline** and bursaries will be awarded on a first come first serve basis to deserving applications given they meet appropriate standards of quality. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible with a copy of your *letter of acceptance* from the conference organizers and a copy of your *abstract*. Application forms are available online at [www.rhsrnbc.ca](http://www.rhsrnbc.ca).

## Upcoming Events in BC Continued

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### The 5th International Conference on FASD

February 27 - March 2, 2013, Vancouver

This conference brings together experts from many disciplines to share international research, to discuss the implications of this research, and to promote scientific/community collaboration. It provides an opportunity to expand our understanding of the relationships between knowledge and research, and how this can apply to critical actions needed to address FASD prevention, intervention and research. For the past ten years, the conference has brought together people who are passionate about this area of work and have provided a stimulating environment for them to make new connections and partnerships. For further information, please visit the conference website at <http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/FASD> or email [marketing.ipce@ubc.ca](mailto:marketing.ipce@ubc.ca).

## Recent Publications

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Forbes D.A., Finkelstein S., Blake C.M., Gibson M., Morgan D.G., Markle-Reid M., Culum I. & Thiessen E. (2012). Knowledge exchange throughout the dementia care journey by Canadian rural community-based health care practitioners, persons with dementia, and their care partners: an interpretive descriptive study. *Rural and Remote Health* **12: 2201**. Available online: <http://www.rrh.org.au>

Myhre D.L. & Hohman S. (2012). Going the distance: early results of a distributed medical education initiative for Royal College residencies in Canada. *Rural and Remote Health* **12: 2151**. Available online: <http://www.rrh.org.au>

Birden H.H. & Wilson I. (2012). Rural placements are effective for teaching medicine in Australia: evaluation of a cohort of students studying in rural placements. *Rural and Remote Health* **12: 2167**. Available online: <http://www.rrh.org.au>

## Awards & Funding

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**Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research | <http://www.msfr.org/>**

Request for Proposals: *Effectiveness of Influenza Immunization on Healthcare Workers and their Patients in BC*

- Deadline: December 12, 2012

Request for Proposals: *Impact of Overcapacity on Quality and Safety of the Practice Environment for Nurses in BC Hospitals*

- Deadline: January 9, 2013



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The RHSRNbc wishes you and your loved ones a very happy holiday!

