



Hello members!

It's getting to that time where work is just piling up, and you can't seem to catch a break. Maybe it's grant proposals, conference planning, or tackling some big projects that are weighing you down. If you're like me, sometimes the best thing to do to make sure you complete your goals is to stop, breath, and take a few moments to refocus yourself. Taking care of ourselves mentally and physically is so important to meeting the demands of our crazy lives, and this can be easy to forget when deadlines are drawing near. So make sure you look after yourself and don't hesitate to contact the Network if ever you need help with anything!

-Taylor Fleming, RHSRNbc Coordinator

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Upcoming Events and Webinars

PHAC Digital Games and Public Health: Learnings from Food Quest

Nov 12, 2013 from 10-11:30am PST | Online at <http://ow.ly/qfAYX>

Digital games are becoming increasingly common knowledge transfer media. This Fireside Chat will examine the potential and constraints of so-called 'serious' games that are designed for public education and learning purposes. In particular, we will describe the process of developing 'Food Quest', a browser-based digital game that was developed by a diverse team of NGO, government and academic partners and aims to demonstrate the complex linkages between food insecurity, poverty and chronic disease. The Fireside Chat will highlight the experiences and learnings from Food Quest in order to generate a broader discussion on the efficacy of game based technology to advance public health goals.

PHAC Helping our Children use their WITS to Prevent Bullying

Nov 20, 2013 from 10-11:30am PST | Online at <http://ow.ly/qfE64>

WITS has recently been identified as a Best Practice on the Public Health Agency of Canada's Canadian Best Practices Portal and has received funding through the PHAC's Innovation Strategy. It is considered innovative because it takes place in multiple settings and uses multiple strategies and intersectoral approaches. Aboriginal communities are also involved in the WITS program. Are you interested in learning more about and applying some of WITS key practice-based learnings? Then don't miss this timely and relevant fireside chat during Canadian Bullying Awareness Week.

Canadian Association on Gerontology—Age-Friendly Housing for an Older Population

Nov 27, 2013 from 10-11:30am PST | Online at <http://ow.ly/qfFv6>

There will be four topics and presenters in this Fireside Chat: (1) Understanding and responding to a housing market for older Canadians; (2) Building lifelong communities: the rural way; (3) Imagining housing strategies to age in place: the case of postwar suburbs; and (4) Rising tide: housing solutions for the wave on seniors in St. John's Nfld.



Submit to the International Journal of Aboriginal Health

The International Journal of Indigenous Health is published bi-annually by the Aboriginal Health Research Networks Secretariat (AHRNetS) at the University of Victoria. This peer-reviewed, online, open-access Journal was established to advance knowledge and understanding to improve Indigenous health. The Journal seeks to bring knowledge from diverse intellectual traditions together with a focus on culturally diverse Indigenous voices, methodologies and epistemology. This journal has recently relaunched online, and has announced an open call for papers for volume 10(1). The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2013.

More information here: <http://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ijih>

Educational Opportunities

Professional Specialization Certificate in Population Health Data Analysis (PHDA): PHDA 03 Population Health and GIC

Registration closes **Dec 30, 2013** | Online course from Jan 13-April 6, 2014

In this course, students will learn about the geographic nature of population and public health; how geographic data are incorporated into health research; key considerations in spatial analysis; and the applications of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to health research and population and public health. Throughout the course, students will gain hands-on experience working with a wide range of spatial data and analysis methods using ArcGIS. Find more information at <http://www.popdata.bc.ca/etu/PHDA/courses/03>



In the News

- Yahoo News recently published a five-part series of reports on small towns in Canada. The topics of the series, entitled "Canada's Disappearing Small Towns", are called: (1) Small town troubles, (2) Big city dreams, (3) The human factor, (4) Small town survival, and (5) The future of small towns. Be sure to check out the series here: <http://ca.news.yahoo.com/smalltowns/>
- Saman Ahsan, Executive Director of the Girls Action Foundation, wrote a blog post about socially supporting rural girls in Canada. Check it out at <http://ow.ly/qiPb7>
- An innovative public health strategy has been put in place in Oregon regarding point-of-sale nutrition information. Read more here: <http://ow.ly/qiPmR>

Call for Abstracts

Today's Children & Youth, Tomorrow's Families: 2014 Youth & Family Consensus Conference

Abstracts due **Nov 30, 2013** | Conference May 2-3, 2014 | Vancouver, BC

The purpose of this conference is to bring together youth and families with researchers, policymakers, service providers and educators to share knowledge and experiences about practices that best meet the needs of people living with mental health and/or substance use challenges. The conference will focus on what youth and families need from each other, their communities and service systems to flourish today and in future generations. Find more information at <http://ow.ly/qikd7>

12th WONCA World Rural Health Conference

Abstracts due **Nov 30, 2013** | Conference April 3-5, 2014 | Gramado, Brazil

This will be a great opportunity to study the multiple relationships between rural and urban health, a current and challenging issue in a world increasingly interconnected. The Congress will feature the participation of national and international speakers, workshops, presentation of experiences and research as well as visits to local health services, and an interesting social and cultural agenda. See more at: www.sbmfc.org.br/woncarural/



Funding Opportunities

RHSRNbc Travel Bursary Competition

The RHSRNbc offers four bursaries—three national bursaries of up to \$450 and one international bursary of \$750—to subsidize the cost of travel, accommodation, and other expenses related to conference participation. Bursaries are awarded to RHSRNbc members who have been invited to present their rural health services research orally or as a poster at either a national or international conference. This application has a rolling deadline, so be sure to get yours in soon!

Find the application at rhsrnb.ca/the-latest-in-rural-health-research/funding/

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship

The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS) program was created to attract and retain world-class doctoral students and to establish Canada as a global centre of excellence in research and higher learning. It is worth \$50,000 per year for three years and is available to both Canadian and international PhD students studying at Canadian universities.

Universities must nominate candidates by November 6, 2013 at <http://ow.ly/qfRT>

Master's Award

The Canada Graduate Scholarships Master's Awards are intended to provide special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a Master's degree in a health related field at a Canadian institution. These candidates are expected to have an exceptionally high potential for future research achievement & productivity.

Apply by December 1, 2013 at <http://ow.ly/qfRNV>

CIHR Operating Grant: Knowledge into Action

The intent of this funding opportunity is to accelerate the translation of knowledge by linking researchers and knowledge users to move knowledge into action, and in so doing, increase the understanding of knowledge application through the process. Applicants can request funding to support partnerships, knowledge and tools for implementation projects of up to two years duration.

Apply by December 2, 2013 at <http://ow.ly/pdBwP>

CIHR Institute Community Support Grants and Awards

CIHR integrates research through a unique interdisciplinary structure made up of 13 virtual Institutes. The Institutes are networks of researchers and stakeholders brought together to focus on important health problems, with each Institute dedicated to a specific area of focus, linking and supporting researchers pursuing common goals. One of the mechanisms for the Institutes to achieve their mandates is the Institute Community Support (ICS) Program. The ICS Program is designed to foster community development by:

- Providing grants, awards or prizes in aid of research and knowledge translation activities where the circumstances fall outside of CIHR's current suite of funding programs.
- Supporting individuals and organizations whose goals are consistent with CIHR Institutes' vision, mandate and strategic directions.

Apply by February 28, 2013 at <http://ow.ly/qfUKC>



Recent Publications

Auret KA, Skinner L, Sinclair C, Evans SF. Formal assessment of the educational environment experienced by interns placed in rural hospitals in Western Australia. *Rural and Remote Health* 13: 2549. (Online) 2013. Available: <http://www.rrh.org.au>

Bigbee J, Mixon D. Recruitment and retention of rural nursing students: a retrospective study. *Rural and Remote Health* 13: 2486. (Online) 2013. Available: <http://www.rrh.org.au>

Buske, L. (2013). First practice: family physicians initially locating in rural areas. *Can J Rural Med*, 18(3), 80-85. Available: <http://www.srpc.ca/PDF/cjrm/vol18n3/pg80.pdf>

Cobier E, et al. (2013). Perinatal health inequalities and accessibility of maternity services in rural French region: closing maternity units in Burgundy. *Health and Place*, available online at: <http://ow.ly/qgr0q>

Devine SG, Williams G, Nielsen I. Rural Allied Health Scholarships: do they make a difference? *Rural and Remote Health* 13: 2459. (Online) 2013. Available: <http://www.rrh.org.au>

Hogan KA. (2013). How to sustain emergency health care services in rural and small town Ontario. [Doctoral thesis]. Available online at: <http://ow.ly/qgreR>

