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News from the RHSRNbc Office

Dear RHSRNbc members,

We hope that this month's newsletter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Following the BC government directives for COVID-19, the University of British Columbia remains operational, but access to campus is restricted. Kindly note that the Rural Health Services Research Network is working remotely until further notice. The best way to reach us is via [email](#).

Over the past two months, the RHSRNbc has been working with our climate change

and ecosystem disruption working group in developing a BC-specific project proposal on enhancing the resiliency of communities in rural BC. We are also delighted to be partnering with SRPC and RCCbc in moving this agenda forward.

In this edition of our newsletter, we update on the network's activities, upcoming events, research, funding and volunteer opportunities, online resources, recent rural research publications and more.

Have a wonderful week and stay safe!

Activity Updates

Introducing RHSRNbc Rural Research Knowledge Hub page!

If you are a student researcher or a new rural health research investigator, we welcome you to check out the [RHSRNbc Rural Research Knowledge Hub page](#). We will be posting bi-weekly on various topics related to rural health research, on approaching research questions involving the health of rural communities of BC and the various methodologies involved.

- [RHSRNbc 2020 Symposium Proceedings](#)
- [RHSRNbc Symposium recordings and learning materials](#)
- [RHSRNbc publications on climate change, ecosystem disruption and enhancing rural resiliency](#)

Surveys

Engagement survey

If you are interested in spotlighting rural health workers, community members working on community health initiatives, or if you want to feature a personal story, pictures or other opportunities, please fill out this [survey](#). We would love to feature it in the next newsletter.

Awards

SRPC Awards Program - March 1st, 2021

Rural Service Award

Rural Long Service Award

Fellowship of Rural Remote Medicine of the SRPC
Lifetime Membership Award

More information [here](#)

Funding Opportunities

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) LOI Reminders

- [Scholar Program](#)

Letter of Intent (Revised Deadline): February 8, 2021, 4:30 p.m. PT

Full application deadline: March 22, 2021, 4:30 p.m. PT

- [Research Trainee Program](#)

Letter of Intent: February 8, 2021, 4:30 p.m. PT

Full application deadline: March 29, 2021, 4:30 p.m. PT

Team Grant: Indigenous Gender and Wellness Team Grant

This funding opportunity is the third phase of a larger initiative on the topic of Indigenous Gender and Wellness. The first phase supported individuals to attend an Idea Fair and Learning Circle event in June of 2019 through a travel award. At the Idea Fair, Indigenous individuals and allies shared ideas on Indigenous gender and wellness with supporters to work together to develop these ideas into potential projects. For more information, click [here](#).

Registration Deadline: June 22nd, 2021

Application Deadline: June 29th, 2021

Rural physician research grants

The Rural Physician Research Support Project aims to empower rural physician-researchers – or new aspiring researchers – to pursue innovative rural research and knowledge translation projects contributing to advancing rural health in BC. Through this project, rural physician researchers will be able to apply for research grants of up to \$10,000 per year to support research activities. To be eligible, applicants must be BC physicians with experience practicing rural medicine and with demonstrable extensive connections to rural communities. The research must be pertaining to health in rural BC. For more information, click [here](#).

Deadline: April 30, 2021

Rural global health partnership initiative

The Rural Global Health Partnership Initiative (RGHPI) is a new program that supports partnerships between BC physicians or medical trainees committed to rural service, and lower resource communities in BC, Canada, and developing countries. Applicants may apply for grant categories up to \$5000 and \$10,000. To apply for this opportunity, please check [here](#).

Deadline: April 30, 2021

Events

Rural Health Virtual Lecture Series!

By Gateway Centre of Excellence in Rural Health, presenting talks on rural health issues by Gateway's Rural Health Research Chairs and Associates.

First Tuesday of every month, 12-1 pm EST

FREE admission to the first 100 people to [register](#)

Rural Connect 21! (March 26th & 27th)

Join the University of Calgary Distributed Learning and Rural Initiatives as they look forward to welcoming rural generalists, specialists, residents and other health care professionals from across Canada to this new virtual event on March 26th & 27th, 2021. The conference will run from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm each day and will see a variety of keynote speakers and workshops.

Click here to [register](#)

BC Infectious Diseases Symposium (Apr 30–May 1)

Target audience: family physicians, hospitalists, emergency physicians, internists, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, registered nurses, other allied health professionals, residents & students. Register [here](#).

The Canadian Conference on Medical Education (Apr 17-20, 2021)



Theme - Making Waves: Exploring the Waters of Medical Education. More information & registration will be posted [here](#) in early 2021.

SRPC Rural & Remote Medicine Course (Apr 22-24, 2021)

More information coming soon [here](#).

29th Annual Rural and Remote Medicine Course (April 22-24, 2021, Niagara Falls)

The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada has postponed their 29th Annual Rural and Remote Medicine course to April 22-24th, 2021 in Niagara Falls, ON. Read a statement from Peter Hutten-Czapski, Scientific Editor for the Canadian Journal for Rural Medicine [here](#). More information [here](#).

RCCbc Virtual Rural Health Conference (May 29-30, 2021)



RHC 2021, which will occur in a virtual format due to pandemic restrictions, will feature plenary sessions with keynote speakers that are sure to inspire. The event will also feature hands-on skill-building workshops for rural health practitioners on suturing, airway, ultrasound and other rurally-relevant topics and techniques. For more information, click [here](#).

Online Resources

RCCbc Real-Time Virtual Support Toolkit for Healthcare Providers

This toolkit is designed for physicians, nurses, and nurse practitioners in rural, remote, and First Nations communities to access different real-time virtual support pathways and collaboratively deliver care with partnered physicians.

Locums for Rural BC

Locums for Rural BC administers the Rural GP Locum Program, Rural GP Locum Program, and the Rural Specialist Locum Program. Check their website for more information and current locum openings.

UBC Rural Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

UBC Rural CPD provides opportunities for rural health providers to improve and broaden their scope of practice, with many courses offering flexible and tailored support in areas spanning from addiction medicine to surgery.

RCCbc Really Rural Surgery and Obstetrics Podcast

This educational medical podcast series is hosted by Dr. Bret Batchelor, an Enhanced Surgical Skills (ESS) family physician practicing in Revelstoke. The show analyzes recent surgical and obstetrical studies relating to rural practices.

Preventing COVID-19 Infection in the Workplace

This course is offered by UBC.

Social justice terminology

An online resource from the University of Colorado.

BC AHSN: COVID-19 Research Inventory

BC AHSN offers a repository of COVID-19 related research undertaken in BC

Free Mental Health Support for BC residents

UBCO collaborates with BCPA and province to offer psychological first-aid service

Recent Publications

[Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine](#) Jan - March 2021

[Operational framework for rural hospitals during a pandemic \(Nortje et al, 2021\)](#)

[Engagement with health in national climate change commitments under the Paris Agreement: a global mixed-methods analysis of the nationally determined contributions](#)

[Climate change, environment pollution, COVID-19 pandemic and mental health](#)

[Health experts urge Ottawa to add anti-racism as the 6th pillar of the Canada Health Act](#)

[A rapid review of evidence to inform an ear, nose and throat service delivery model in remote Australia](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

REACH BC

REACH BC connects volunteers like you with health researchers across British Columbia.

COVID-19 volunteering opportunities in Canada

Resource connects Canadian students, academics, and technical staff and trainees from relevant programs to volunteer opportunities to address the impacts of COVID-19 across Canada.

Volunteer BC COVID-10 Resource Page

List of resources on how to safely volunteer in BC during the time of COVID-19.

Volunteer Canada

Includes a list of volunteer opportunities during COVID-19, and how to stay safe and volunteer.

List of Volunteer Centres in BC

List of organizations in BC that provide volunteer programs and citizen engagement opportunities.

Volunteer Postings

Current volunteer openings in BC.



Our mailing address is:

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Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z3
Tel 604 827 2194
Fax 604 827 4184
Email rhsrn.bc@ubc.ca.

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