



In this edition

- [News from the RHSRNbc Office](#)
- [Research Spotlight](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Online Resources](#)
- [Recent Publications](#)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)

News from the RHSRNbc Office

Dear RHSRNbc members,

We wish everyone a happy spring and hope that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

In accordance with British Columbia's public health orders, the University of British Columbia remains operational with limited access. To keep everyone safe, the Rural Health Services Research Network of British Columbia team will

continue to work remotely-- the best way to contact us is via [email](#). As vaccines roll out across the province, we look forward to seeing each other again in person in the not too distant future.

Over the past two months, we continue to support rural health research, through the development of a “for students, by students” Rural Research Knowledge Hub page (we would love to hear what you think and know what blog post ideas you would like to see next!). We are also awaiting a response from the FAFM Co-RIG Phase II grant on the 'Enhancing rural resiliency' project.

In our May newsletter, we highlight the work of the T̓silhqot'in Nation and UBC researchers: *Dada Nentsen Gha Yatast̓ig: T̓silhqot'in in the Time of COVID*, updates on the network's activities, upcoming events, research, funding and volunteer and employment opportunities, online resources, recent rural research publications and more.

Have a great week!

Activity Updates

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.

Recent Posts:

- [Complex Adaptive Systems](#)
- [Qualitative research methodologies in research](#)

Introducing new team members

Luke Barbour, RHSRNbc Flex student



Luke is a first-year medical student at UBC. He grew up in Nanaimo, B.C., where he attended Vancouver Island University and completed a Bachelor of Science degree in molecular biology and analytical chemistry. Though he has spent most of his life on Vancouver Island, he has spent some time living in rural B.C. and Nova Scotia. Luke is passionate about climate change and living a sustainable life. He likes to be active in his community and has spent many years volunteering at youth groups, food banks, and crisis lines. On a personal note, Luke likes to read, run, hike, and spend as much time with his family as he can.

Maya Venkataraman, RHSRNbc Flex student



Maya Venkataraman is a first-year Medical Student at UBC. She completed her Bachelors of Medical Sciences Honours degree at Dalhousie University. She is passionate about physical activity, connecting with nature, and spends a lot of time outdoors running, mountain biking, and camping. She was involved with a Quality Improvement project that aimed to provide online resources to patients in remote locations preparing for surgery. She is now focusing her research on policies and actions which affect the environment in which rural populations live.

Elyse Tsang, RHSRNbc Work Learn Student



Elyse Tsang is a fourth-year undergraduate student majoring in Physiology and Immunology at UBC. Her experience working with rural families in Guatemala has fueled her passion for advancing health equity through research, education, and community engagement. She currently volunteers with several health-related non-profit organizations and aspires to make a positive impact on eliminating global health disparities.

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.

Research Spotlight



Photo credit: Rebecca Dyok, Williams Lake Tribune

The T̓silhqot'in Nation has led a coordinated and largely successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In a report, titled "Dada Nentsen Gha Yatastig: T̓silhqot'in in the Time of COVID", which translates to "I am going to tell you about a very bad disease" in English, the T̓silhqot'in Nation documents how it used its laws, jurisdiction, and leadership to respond to the pandemic, as well as systemic and institutional barriers that impeded this response. RHSRNbc had the opportunity to interview the team that led this research.

What were the key factors that contributed to T̓silhqot'in Nation's success in responding to COVID-19?

The most important factor in the pandemic response was the strength of the T̓silhqot'in people and staff. Many of our interviewees emphasized how well the Nation comes together in times of crisis. The T̓silhqot'in Nation has significant experience with emergency management, dealing with annual flooding and wildfires, most notably the 2017 wildfires. Since 2017, the Nation has worked hard to become a leader in Indigenous emergency management, through implementing the Nation's Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement with BC and Canada, the first tri-partite agreement of its kind in the country. The work of building up emergency management capacity and of working with provincial and federal partners before the pandemic proved to be essential in implementing a coordinated, rapid pandemic response. The T̓silhqot'in Nation has strong relationships with other BC First Nations and leaned on those relationships for sharing resources and for joint advocacy with provincial and

federal partners. Finally, the communities rapidly shut down work travel and initiated checkpoints to reduce travel into and out of the communities. This led to the coordination and delivery of supplies and food to the communities to reduce travel to cities and therefore stopping the spread of COVID-19 into households that house multiple generations.

The report is prefaced by a forward by TI'etincox Elder Angelina Stump discussing the important connections between disrupting nature and COVID-19. How does climate change connect to COVID-19, and how will the Tâilhqot'in Nation's response to COVID-19 inform responses to future disasters?

Pandemics and climate change are absolutely connected. Climate science has long predicted increased disease transmission as a result of a warming climate. They are also connected in the sense that they are both products of colonization. In a broad sense, the Tâilhqot'in Nation's response to the 2017 wildfires and to the pandemic is the response to both of these global challenges: Indigenous self-determination.

Cumulative impacts from industry further affect traditional use on the land. Industry and climate change reduce access to lands and further put stressors on wildlife, fish stocks, and traditional plants and medicines. Any impacts to lands impact the social, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of Indigenous People. Elder Stump highlighted that traditional and cultural practices are determinants of health.

[Read Full Interview here](#)

Funding Opportunities

2021 - 2022 RHSRNbc Collaborative Team Building Grant

Funding up to \$5000 available to support the development of a rural research team that contributes to the advancement of knowledge in the field of rural health and, any anticipated outcomes. See more on this award [here](#).

Application Deadline: May 31, 2021

2021 - 2022 RHSRNbc Symposia Grant

The RHSRNbc Symposia grant program provides support for rural researchers or physicians to develop a symposium to explore issues focused on rural health services for amounts up to \$5000. This grant is intended to bring together academics, rural practitioners, policymakers, citizens, and other stakeholders or allies whose knowledge and practice can be shared to build upon and advance the specific area of rural health research, practice or policy. See more information [here](#).

Application deadline: May 31, 2021

Partnership Engage Grants | SSHRC

Partnership Engage Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the Insight program and the Connection program. These grants provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision-making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector. See information on this grant [here](#).

Application deadline: June 15, 2021

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

Events

COPEH-CANADA COURSE AND WEBINAR SERIES (May - June 2021)

Discover innovative and dynamic approaches for better understanding the multiple factors which influence health – ecosystem approaches to health – with an experienced, pan-Canadian team. During this intensive course, you will learn methods for carrying out research and interventions on issues at the confluence of health, the environment and society. See more information [here](#).

COVID-19 Impacts: Expert Q&A with Public Health, Vaccine, Epidemiology, and Lab Specialists

Join us for this free webinar where public health leaders and experts will answer your questions, share their experiences, and recommended best practices in managing the COVID-19 pandemic. See more information [here](#).

Date: May 12, 2021, 18: 30 - 20:00 PDT

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



The graphic features the logo for the Virtual British Columbia RHC Rural Health Conference. The logo includes the word "Virtual" in a green script font, "BRITISH COLUMBIA" in a blue sans-serif font, and "RHC Rural Health CONFERENCE" in a large, bold, blue and green sans-serif font. Below the logo, the dates "May 29-30, 2021" are displayed in a blue sans-serif font. A green box contains a list of activities: "More than 25 clinical & practice-oriented plenaries, sessions & workshops", "Opportunities to virtually connect with colleagues", "Movement & wellness breaks", and "Fun & interactive Saturday night activities, including a mixology class & magic show". A dark blue box with white text says "REGISTER NOW: WWW.RCCBC.CA/RHC". The background is decorated with stylized illustrations of various fruits and vegetables like lemons, blueberries, and leafy greens. The Rural Coordination Centre of BC logo is in the bottom right corner.

Register now for The RCCbc's virtual BC Rural Health Conference on May 29 & 30! The program offers engaging & informative presenters of interest & benefit to rural physicians, nurse practitioners, allied health pros, residents & med students. 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](#).

BC SUPPORT Unit Fraser Centre's Indigenous Health Research Event (June 3, 2021)

Strengthening the Circle: Fraser Salish Indigenous Health Research Symposium 2021, taking place virtually on June 3rd and 4th. The event is free of charge and is open to all. Please share widely with your networks, including students and trainees who may be interested in attending. Registration is now open and a more formal agenda of events will follow. To learn more and register, please see the attached poster or [click here](#).

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](#)

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

Preventing COVID-19 Infection in the Workplace

This course is offered by UBC.

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](#) Apr - June 2021

[Saving the salmon: why the Gitanyow are creating a new Indigenous Protected Area](#)

[Nuu-chah-nulth healing practices introduced to health care staff in Tofino](#)

[Influence of contextual factors on death by suicide in rural and urban settings](#)

[Mental Health Support Through Telehealth](#)

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.

Employment Opportunities

Researcher/ graduate student position



Twitter



Website

Copyright © 2020 Rural Health Services Research Network of BC, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

3rd Floor David Strangway Building
5950 University Boulevard
Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z3
Tel 604 827 2194
Fax 604 827 4184
Email rhsrn.bc@ubc.ca.

Funded through the
**Rural Coordination
Centre of BC**



Enhancing rural health through education and advocacy

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).