

September 2022

Building communication, collaboration, and capacity for research and better health outcomes for rural communities.

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News from the RHSRNbc Office

Dear RHSRNbc members,

Happy September!

We are excited to share updates from the past two months and invite you to upcoming rural health research events.

Our September newsletter provides updates on the network's activities, upcoming events, research, events such as conferences and symposiums, funding and volunteer opportunities, online resources, recent rural research publications, and more.

Have a wonderful 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 post on various topics related to rural health research, approaching research questions involving the health of rural communities of BC and the various methodologies involved. We look forward to sharing more posts penned by the student research assistants working with us.

Recent Posts:

 Are you curious about the effect of climate change and temperature disruption on rural farming systems? Read our latest knowledge hub blog post: <u>Forecast for the Future: Extreme Temperature Effects on British</u> <u>Columbia's Rural Farming System</u>.

Introducing New Team Members!

Welcoming Martina Francisco, our new Student Research Assistant!

Martina is a fourth-year student pursuing a BSc in Integrated Sciences:

Neuroscience and Environmental Biology, with a minor in Resource Economics.

She is particularly interested in environmental change and sustainability, and how it can be used to address global health problems. In the past, she has provided support and care to the youth by educating, empowering, and promoting healthy living in her hometown Brandon, Manitoba. She currently volunteers as a Sustainability Ambassador and works on designing projects that foster human and environmental wellbeing. With her passion for health care, advocacy, and



youth empowerment, she aspires to create a tangible change within rural communities.

Research Highlight: Rural Community Perspectives

Understanding the impact of climate change from the perspective of those living within rural communities can provide valuable insight in regards to how we can plan initiatives to adapt to their needs. Read our new <u>interview-based blog post</u> created by Salina Edwards, one of our Student Research Assistants! This blog post aims to uncover the various perspectives present within rural communities.

Want more like this? Check out the rest of our blog series!

Research Recruitment Opportunities

Share Your Thoughts on Personal Health Records in BC

Do you have some thoughts on Rural Personal Health Records in British Columbia? Please join our <u>Thought Exchange</u> and make your voice heard. Feel free to share your input, return to add more thoughts, star newly submitted thoughts, and/or review what others are saying.

Aging and Climate Change Study

If you are over 65 years of age, we would love to hear from you! The purpose of this study is to examine the role of seniors in the climate crisis, including the risks that seniors face due to increasing frailty and vulnerability, the challenges they pose for climate change action or adaptation, and their potential as a valuable, untapped resource in combatting climate change. Learn more here.

Opportunities

Rural Physician Research Grants

The <u>RCCbc Rural Physician Research Grant program</u> 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 a BC physician practicing rural medicine and with demonstrable connections to rural communities. The research must be pertaining to health in rural BC.

To apply for this opportunity, please download the application forms from the <u>website</u> and submit it to apeltonen@rccbc.ca. The deadline for the next round of submissions is October 31, 2022.

Rural Global Health Partnership Initiative: For Health Equity at Home and Abroad

The <u>Rural Global Health Partnership Initiative</u> (RGHPI) is a program which provides funding to support partnerships between rural BC physicians or medical trainees committed to rural service, and underserved rural communities in BC, Canada, and internationally. The goals of this initiative are to enhance capacity for generalism in rural BC; to foster reciprocal learning in diverse health systems and community contexts; and to demonstrate how global health (local and international) community partnerships can heighten awareness, create innovative solutions to address healthcare challenges, and lead to improved health outcomes, especially for underserved, marginalized, and indigenous populations.

Through this initiative, rural BC physicians and medical trainees (residents and medical students) committed to rural medicine and global health can apply for funding up to \$10,000 to support global health partnership projects. To apply for

this opportunity, please download the <u>application forms</u> and submit them to apeltonen@rccbc.ca. The application deadline is October 31, 2022.

Events

RHSRN*bc* 2022 Symposium: Resilient Transformation of BC Rural Communities



Virtual Research Symposium May 25 & 26, 2022

5.5 Mainpro+ Group Learning credits certified by **UBC CPD**

Resilient Transformation of Rural Communities in British Columbia







Did you miss our May symposium? Please refer to the following for recordings of the event!

- Day One
- Day Two: Part 1
- Day Two: Part 2

Key themes investigated in the symposium include:

- Relationships and Communication
- Health Service Delivery
- Youth Engagement
- Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Engagement
- Responding to Ecosystem Disruption

For more information, check out our **Symposium Proceedings!**

The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Remote Mental Health and Substance Use – Webinar

Did you miss the March webinar about the impact of COVID-19 on rural and remote mental health and substance use from UBC (Okanagan), Mental Health Commission of Canada, and RCCbc? You can now watch the recording here. The webinar built upon a 2021 policy brief whose analysis and recommendations were brought to life through a case study from Princeton, BC.

Online Resources

Two Loop Model

The Two Loops Theory of organizational change is a model of change that describes nonlinear emergent processes of change within complex organizations. It is a model inspired by looking at living systems' growth and decline cycle.

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 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.

<u>Free Mental Health Support for BC residents</u>

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

SRPC's Rural Research Peer Support Group

Join the SRPC's Rural Research Peer Support Group to discuss strategies for rural health research and academic writing!

Recent Publications

RHSRNbc Publications:

- Our new rural perspectives blog post can be found here.
- Our May symposium Proceedings can be found <u>here</u>.
- Symposium recordings for <u>Day One</u>, <u>Day Two: Part 1</u>, and <u>Day Two:</u>
 Part 2
- Chapter 3 (Climate Adaptation Strategies) infographic can be found <u>here</u>
- Chapter 6: Reconnecting with nature



- Chapter 6 Accompanying infographic found <u>here</u>
- Chapter 5: Behavioural determinants of climate action and commitment to collective change
- Chapter 5 Accompanying infographic found <u>here</u>
- <u>Development and implementation of a Heat Alert and Response System in</u>
 rural British Columbia
- It's not one size fits all: a case for how equity-based knowledge translation
 can support rural and remote communities to optimize virtual health care
- Position statement: Research and reconciliation with Indigenous People in rural health journals
- Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine Current Issue: January March 2022
- Journal of Rural and Community Development Volume 16: Issue 4
- <u>Living as older adults with mental health concerns in rural British Columbia:</u>
 <u>A photovoice study</u>

- Access to Mental Health Supports and Services: Perspectives of Young
 Women Living in Rural Nova Scotia (Canada)
- The impact of interpersonal relationships on rural doctors' clinical courage
- <u>Physician wellness: Doctors taking care of doctors</u>
- <u>Fraser Basin Council Report: Investigations in Support of Flood Strategy</u>
 <u>Development in BC</u>
- Addressing rural and Indigenous health inequities in Canada through socially accountable health partnerships
- CAEP 2021 Academic Symposium: recommendations for addressing racism and colonialism in emergency medicine
- Complexities of Continuing Professional Development in Context: Physician
 Engagement in Clinical Coaching

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, 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 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.

<u>Volunteer Postings</u>

Current volunteer openings in BC.

Employment Opportunities

Rural Health Job Opportunities:

<u>Island Health Research Associate</u>
<u>Virtual Care and Systems Super User</u>

Visit the RCCbc <u>careers</u> page to find more current job posting's with RCCbc and their partners



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