



Rural Health Services Research Network of BC  
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Hello RHSRNbc members!

Once again, we have been very busy preparing for the [2014 Rural Health Services Research Conference](#). The event takes place next week, and I am so excited to see everyone's hard work come together. I also can't wait to learn so much more about the health services landscape in BC! Registration is still open, for those stragglers who haven't yet.

**2014 Rural Health Services Research Conference**  
 10-12 April 2014 Manteo Waterfront Resort Kelowna, BC

**Building Intersections for Vibrant Rural Communities**  
 Research on Health, Wellness, and Place

Join us for this innovative conference featuring creative and interactive sessions, including participatory dialogue, workshops, networking, and exchange! We invite abstracts for policy dialogue, workshops, posters, and presentations; knowledge translation and exchange discussions; and poster or mixed-media presentations.

Call for Abstracts Now Open!  
 Visit [www.rhsnbc.ca](http://www.rhsnbc.ca) for details!

Also, I'd like to encourage everyone to submit an application for this year's Collaborative Team Awards (details below). With the current granting landscape, securing funding is a challenge, and a Team Award is a way to ensure your team puts their best grant application in the ring. The applications this year are sure to amaze!

Cheers,  
 Taylor Fleming, RHSRNbc Coordinator

## Apply for the 2014 RHSRNbc Collaborative Team Awards!

The RHSRNbc annually supports the development of two new interdisciplinary teams, with an award of \$5000 each. Each team will focus on an issue of current importance to rural and remote health services, and will endeavor to apply for research funding. Funds are to be used for activities, resources, and expenses related to building research teams and identifying research themes and questions. Past awards recipients have established teams dedicated to researching issues such as rural palliative care and preventative childhood injury.

Applications are due by May 16th, 2014. For more information about the application and selection process, see [our website](#).

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## Upcoming Events

### **CAG: Age-friendly communities - Age-friendly active transportation**

April 10 | Online | [More information here](#)

Given Canada's aging population and the importance for seniors to live healthy active lives evidence/statistics re: aging population and this Age Friendly Communities (AFC) domain and how it will influence a positive outcome with other AFC domains, access to community supports/health services, and promote civic and social participation.

### **NCCDH: Populations and the power of language**

April 22 | Online | [More information here](#)

As part of the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (NCCDH) Let's Talk series, the NCCDH has released Let's Talk... Populations and the power of language . The document explores the language public health practitioners and organizations use to label populations that are identified by their social, economic, geographic or other demographic characteristics.

### **Walk with your Doc**

May 3-11 | Around BC | [More information here](#)

Want a fresh start this spring? Walk with your Doc is an annual walking event in BC celebrating the World Health Organization's Move for Health Day. Doctors across the province are hosting free walking events for their patients and the public throughout the week of May 3 - 11, 2014. All participants receive a free pedometer for signing up. In addition to helping you lose weight, walking increases energy, quality of sleep, and lowers stress and blood pressure.

### **1st BC eHealth and Innovative Technology Showcase**

May 9 | Vancouver, BC | [More information here](#)

An exciting brand new conference co-hosted and developed by the UBC eHealth Strategy Office and UBC Division of Continuing Professional Development (UBC CPD). Regardless of whether or not you are an innovator, average user, novice or technophobe, this conference will appeal to you as we showcase the most practical and applicable eHealth technologies and innovations relevant to a busy BC health care provider today! Practical, easy, and fun!

We will aspire to assist every participant to identify at least one eHealth tip/approach that they can immediately use in their own professional practice to enhance patient care that is in synchrony with the evolution of eHealth in BC. In the long term we are planning to engage professionals by supporting them with tools and education to navigate the fluctuating technological landscape.

## Community University Victoria Conference

May 20-22 | Victoria, BC | [More information here](#)

As universities seek to enhance their potential to contribute to the public good, there is growing effort globally to promote community-university engagement. At the same time communities, organizations and governments seek to leverage the knowledge and resource capacity of universities to address community needs. CUVIC 2014 is an opportunity to reflect on these efforts and enable community-university innovation and action within the institutional, Indigenous, national and global context.

## 2014 Childhood and Adolescent Obesity

Sept 24-26 | Winnipeg, MB | [More information here](#)

This conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of professionals and policy makers working in the field of childhood and adolescent obesity. The 5th conference will focus on the burden of obesity among Indigenous Youth and particularly on the strengths youth. This theme will address a major gap in our understanding of the role that resiliency plays in the prevention and management of obesity. Through presentations from Indigenous youth living in communities with a high burden of obesity, sharing circles with Indigenous leaders and stakeholders and presentations from experts, the conference will turn the discussion to the strengths of Indigenous youth. Additionally, we will explore interventions designed to promote these strengths and enhance resiliency among children and adolescents.

## 7th International Symposium: Safety and Health in Agricultural and Rural Populations: Global Perspectives

Oct 19-22 | Saskatoon, SK | [More information here](#)

This symposium will capture the impact of global issues and challenges facing the health and safety of rural peoples in the twenty first century will seek to bridge gaps that occur between the spectra of basic research, applied research, the community and policy. The Symposium is intended to be inclusive of all rural settings, from those in fully industrialized countries to those in emerging or subsistence economies. ***The Symposium Planning Committee is currently accepting proposals for workshops and special sessions.***

## In the News

- BC Doctor's are now writing prescriptions for exercise as an innovative new way to encourage activity. See the story [here](#).
- Finding a balance between a physician's priorities and a patient's priorities for health care. See more [here](#).
- Early childhood interventions improve adult health outcomes. Read the [story](#).

## 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 [on our website](#).

### RHSRNbc Collaborative Team Awards

**Application deadline: May 16, 2014** | [More info online](#)

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apply for research funding. Funds are to be used for activities, resources, and expenses related to building research teams and identifying research themes and questions. Past award recipients have built teams dedicated to researching such issues as rural palliative care and preventative childhood injury. This year's applications are sure to amaze! For more information about the application and selection process, [click here](#). The deadline to apply is Friday, May 16th, 2014.

## Recent Publications

[Ritchie SD, Wabano M, Russell K, Enosse L, Young NL](#). Promoting resilience and wellbeing through an outdoor intervention designed for Aboriginal adolescents. *Rural and Remote Health* 14: 2523. (Online) 2014.

[Thepwongsa I, Kirby C, Paul C, Piterman L](#). Management of type 2 diabetes: Australian rural and remote general practitioners' knowledge, attitudes, and practices. *Rural and Remote Health* 14: 2499. (Online) 2014.

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