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Rural Health Services Research Network of BC

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**Building Capacity, Collaboration & Communication**

**Dear RHSRNbc members,**

We would like to congratulate our outgoing network coordinator Emily Ryan, who has been accepted to UBC medical school! Emily has done an excellent job during her time here with the RHSRNbc as many of you have seen, and we look forward to seeing her career in (perhaps rural) medicine develop. I would also like to introduce myself, Max McAlpine, as the new coordinator – please see the included picture and bio.

In May's newsletter we featured our Collaborative Team Building Award competition, and on June 26th we closed the application process. We have received some strong applications this year and look forward to announcing the successful applicants in the next newsletter. For those of you who were planning to apply but just didn't quite pull it together in time, we are already planning next year's competition. We look forward to hearing from you!

Warm regards,  
Max McAlpine, Network Coordinator

**In this newsletter:**

- Symposium Proceedings
- Introduction of the New Coordinator
- Upcoming Events
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- Recent publications

The RHSRNbc has a new [website!](#) We're in the process of updating the content, but check back frequently for up to date publications and rural health services news.

**May Symposium Proceedings**

To follow up with the very successful RHSRNbc Research Symposium that was held at the Liu Institute from May 6-8, we will be

publishing the proceedings on the website shortly.

These proceedings will highlight the key issues that were discussed, as well as the knowledge gaps that were identified as critical areas of future research along the themes of maternity care, small surgical services, and emergency transport.

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## Introducing Max McAlpine as the New Coordinator



I would like to introduce myself as the new Network Coordinator for the RHSRNbc. I'm a recent graduate of UBC, and over the past year I've worked with the Centre for Rural Health Research (CRHR) in a number of capacities.

Although I've spent the last few years living in Vancouver, I grew up in a small town in rural Saskatchewan and it was during that time that I developed an appreciation for the needs of rural communities. I'm excited to be a part of the network through my new role, and I look forward to collaborating with all of you, the members of the RHSRNbc, as it continues to evolve and grow.

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## Upcoming Events and Calls for Abstracts

### Call for Abstracts: Conference on Healthy Mothers & Babies

Deadline for Abstracts: July 17, 2015 | Conference: March 11-12, 2016 | Vancouver,

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## Funding Opportunities

### Vancouver Foundation Grants

Check out Vancouver Foundation's [website](#) for information on their many grants!

### RHSRNbc Travel Bursary Competition

RHSRNbc offers four bursaries to **RHSRNbc members** who have been invited to present their rural health services research at a conference. Find the application [on our website](#).

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## In the News

Dr. Alan Ruddiman elected as the [new president](#) of the Doctors of BC

UBC receives [two major gifts](#) to grow ranks of aboriginal health providers

Island Health receives two [Excellence in BC Health Care](#) awards

New mental health and substance use [support programs](#) to help support residents of northern B.C.

More medical

**BC | More information [here](#)**

This conference will be an opportunity for health care professionals interested in the care of pregnant and postpartum women and their newborns to be updated on new research and clinical best practices across the continuum of perinatal and newborn care.

graduates than ever are [choosing family practice](#)

**Challenges and Opportunities in Rural HIV Health**

**July 18, 2015 | Vancouver BC | More information [here](#)**

This speaker series and networking session will take place at SFU (Harbour Centre) - for more information please [click](#) here.

**San'yas Indigenous Cultural Competency Training program**

**Ongoing | More information [here](#)**

This is an 8-hour online course accredited for 8.0 MainPro credits. Rural physicians or rural UBC residents who enroll in this course are eligible for a \$500 bursary through the Rural Education Action Plan (REAP).

**UBC CPD - Preventing Burnout in Physicians: Achieving more happiness and resilience in your lives through Mindfulness**

**August 13, 2015 | Vancouver, BC | More information [here](#)**

This event will review the impact of chronic stress on physician health and wellness, and further explore the growing issue of physician burnout and exhaustion.

**Recent Publications**

[A framework for developing rural academic general practices: a qualitative case study in rural Victoria](#)

[Assessing doctors at times of need—measuring the distance tolerance of rural residents for health-related travel](#)

[Reducing health inequalities: the use of Health Impact Assessment on Rural Areas](#)

[Does a local financial incentive scheme reduce inequalities in the delivery of clinical care in a socially deprived community? A longitudinal data](#)

[analysis](#)

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