



Rural Health Services Research Network of BC  
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Hello RHSRNbc members!

The days are getting longer, and hopefully everyone's busy springs are winding down for easy yet productive summers. May was certainly full for the Network - especially our educational endeavors! Educational Committee Chair, Dr. Jude Kornelsen kicked things off by participating on the research partnerships panel for Island Health's Five Days in May, as well as facilitating a workshop on strategic grant-writing. Next, Dr. Grzybowski, Director of the RHSRNbc, gave a workshop titled "Developing your Research Project from the Ground-Up" at the RCCbc's annual Rural Emergency Continuum of Care Conference in Penticton, where the Network also exhibited. It was great to see some of you at RECC!

I also wanted to share this neat online tool I found, [Project Big Life](#). By filling out a simple survey, it gives a rough estimate of your life expectancy, expected hospital usage, as well as a look at your sodium intake patterns. Once you have your calculation, you can even go back and see how changing certain lifestyle habits can affect your outcomes. I took the survey, and found that based on my current lifestyle, my life expectancy is 95.8 years (yay!), with an expected 17 days spent in hospital. I'm also well within the recommended sodium intake range! This seems like a useful tool to communicate the real-world effects that lifestyle can have, and I can tell you that it is quite encouraging.

Cheers,  
Taylor Fleming, RHSRNbc Coordinator

## Save the Date!

**Northern Health Research Days 2014 - Partners for Health:  
Communities, Families, Researchers, & Care Providers**

Nov 5-7 | Prince George, BC | [More info here](#)

Health authority employees, researchers, students, health care practitioners and community organizations

are invited to submit their abstract for an oral or poster presentation. We are also seeking abstracts for two to four hour afternoon workshops. We welcome all submissions that relate to our conference themes and objectives. **Abstracts will be accepted until Sept 5.**

 IDC partners

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## Upcoming Events

### BC Mobile Medical Unit coming to Elk Valley Hospital

June 23-24 | Fernie, BC | More information [here](#) | Full MMU schedule [here](#)

BC's Mobile Medical Unit is coming to Fernie for two full days of education and in-servicing for staff and the Emergency Response Community Agencies. Watch the MMU's [video](#) to learn more about this fantastic resource.

### Aboriginal Bridge Program Info Sessions

June 25 | SFU Harbour Centre, Vancouver, 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.

### Aboriginals into Medicine: Preadmissions Workshop

July 28-30 | University of Victoria campus, Victoria, BC | More information [here](#)

This workshop provides Aboriginal students with the necessary tools to be successful in their application process into and completing the undergraduate MD program. The presentations for the workshop will be given by faculty/staff, medical students, and residents. The workshop will cover accommodations and meals, although travel expenses are the students' responsibility.

### 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.

### Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation's Annual Conference: New Realities, New Relationships

Sept 25-27 | Prince George, BC | More information [here](#)

The conference theme, New Realities, New Relationships will explore the changing relationships across industry, local and senior levels of government, and community organizations as new development opportunities and challenges emerge.

The conference will bring together rural and resource sector leaders, including planners, community and economic development practitioners, government policy-makers, researchers, and students to discuss issues at the heart of rural and resource sector development. Key themes are:

1. Restructuring of rural relationships

2. Building capacity for organizations and governance
3. Building economic resilience
4. Pursuing a high quality of life for rural communities

## 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

- A British study looked at mortality among different medical specialties. Find out the results [here](#).
- Keynote summaries and presentations from Creating Rural Connections are available [online](#).
- New initiative in Oliver, Osoyoos, and Okanagan Falls to connect all children to a family physician. Read more [here](#).
- On the importance of rural residency. Read the story [here](#).
- Taylor Medical Clinic set to re-open, thanks to telehealth. Read [here](#).
- Cheese can kill you in your sleep: misleading correlations and good science. Read the article [here](#).
- [Read](#) the First Nations perspective on wellness.

## 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](#).

### CIHR Operating Grant: Population Health Intervention Research

**Deadline for application is Sept 9, 2014** The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support population health intervention research on timely population health interventions. For this funding opportunity, eligible population health interventions are "natural experiments" defined as programs, policies and resource distribution approaches that have been initiated by others (e.g., policy makers) and have the potential to impact health and health equity at the population level.

## Recent Publications

[Bragg SM, Bonner A.](#) Degree of value alignment - a grounded theory of rural nurse resignations. Rural and Remote Health 14: 2648. (Online) 2014.

[Davis, M. M., Aromaa, S., McGinnis, P. B., Ramsey, K., Rollins, N., Smith, J., ... & Fagnan, L. J.](#) (2014). Engaging the Underserved: A Process Model to Mobilize Rural Community Health Coalitions as Partners in Translational Research. Clinical and translational science.

[Gaudet A, Kelley M, Williams AM.](#) Understanding the distinct experience of rural interprofessional collaboration in developing palliative care programs. Rural and Remote Health 14: 2711. (Online) 2014.

[Genovesi AL, Hastings B, Edgerton EA, Olson LM.](#) Pediatric emergency care capabilities of Indian Health Service emergency medical service agencies serving American Indians/Alaska Natives in rural and frontier areas. *Rural and Remote Health* 14: 2688. (Online) 2014.

[Rix EF, Barclay L, Wilson S.](#) Can a white nurse get it? 'Reflexive practice' and the non-Indigenous clinician/researcher working with Aboriginal people. *Rural and Remote Health* 14: 2679. (Online) 2014.

[Volpe T, Boydell KM, Pignatiello A.](#) Mental health services for Nunavut children and youth: evaluating a telepsychiatry pilot project. *Rural and Remote Health* 14: 2673. (Online) 2014.

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