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Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse

News and Notes

News and Notes keeps you in the loop on Regional and National activities from the Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM) Prairie Node.

New

- CRISM launches Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines
- CRISM submits implementation research proposal to CIHR
- UPDATED: CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting
- SK researchers host successful CRISM supported knowledge exchange
- Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation and CRISM Prairies
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- New Resource: Substance Abuse Services and Information
- CCSA 2017 Issues of Substance: Program at a Glance
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CRISM is a national network dedicated to translating substance misuse intervention research results into practice and policy.

**CIHR IRSC**

Funded by the Canadian
Institutes of Health Research

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and certificate program

- Centre of Excellence for Women's Health Webinar Series: *Trauma, Gender and Substance Use*

Plus 9 items from our previous issues...

CRISM launches Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines

Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines (LRCUG)



Recommendations

- Cannabis use has health risks best avoided by abstaining
- If you smoke cannabis, avoid harmful smoking practices
- Delay taking up cannabis use until later in life
- Limit and reduce how often you use cannabis
- Identify and choose lower-risk cannabis products
- Don't use and drive, or operate other machinery
- Don't use synthetic cannabinoids
- Avoid cannabis use altogether if you are at risk for mental health problems or are pregnant
- Avoid smoking burnt cannabis—choose safer ways of using
- Avoid combining these risks

The LRCUG are an evidence-based intervention project by the Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM).



CANADIAN RESEARCH INITIATIVE IN SUBSTANCE MISUSE
INITIATIVE CANADIENNE DE RECHERCHE EN ABUS DE SUBSTANCE

Reference: *American Journal of Public Health*, 2017

The LRCUG have been endorsed by the following organizations:

ASSOCIATION MÉDICALE CANADIENNE



CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

CPHA*ACSP

COSAM SMCMA
Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine
La Société Médicale Canadienne sur l'Addiction

camh
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Centre de Recherche et de Soins en Santé Mentale



Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction
Centre canadien sur les dépendances et l'usage de substances
Admission: Réception: Accueil | Services: Engagement: Soins

Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health (in principle)

Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines were released June 23 2017 with the endorsement of Health Canada and key medical and public health organizations. The guidelines provide 10 science-based recommendations to enable cannabis users to reduce their health risks.

The Guidelines are an evidence-based intervention project by CRISM, and are based on a scientific review by an international team of experts, including CRISM Ontario Nominated Principal Investigator Benedikt Fischer. The review was published in the *American Journal of Public Health*, and the guidelines are available as a **public brochure** for users and an **evidence summary for health professionals**.

All of the CRISM Nodes are engaging in strategic planning to encourage adoption and uptake of the Guidelines with regional partners. As Canada moves towards legalization

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prevent or reduce cannabis-related health problems.

To learn more about the guidelines please visit the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health [website](#), or view the news release [here](#).

CRISM submits proposal for an implementation research program on opioids to CIHR

CIHR's Science Council recently approved a funding opportunity for a directed grant to CRISM for a 5-year implementation research program to address Canada's opioid emergency. Only a few weeks were provided to prepare the submission. CRISM NPIs and Node Managers wrote a proposal to develop projects in four thematic areas that have high potential for reducing the individual and population burden of opioid use (1) scaling up public health interventions, (2) optimizing opioid use disorder treatments, (3) improving the evidence base for withdrawal management, psychosocial, and recovery-based treatment options, and (4) collaboratively developing new intervention approaches to meet the needs of high-risk target populations.

Specific projects have not been determined. Projects within these themes will be developed *purposively*, capitalizing on regional service innovations, *strategically* by developing longer-term working relationships with groups disproportionately affected by the emergency, and *collaboratively*, through a structured process to engage CRISM member expertise and people with lived experience.

The proposal was submitted to CIHR on August 1, 2017 can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

UPDATED: CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting

November 15-16* Calgary AB

Following a poll of CRISM Prairie Node Members, our annual meeting will take place in Calgary AB. The CRISM Prairies Network meeting will be held November 15 & 16 2017!

*Please note the date change (no longer November 17) to better accommodate Node Members attending the CCSA Issues of Substance Conference.

Stay tuned for more details on registration

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knowledge exchange event



On June 14 2017 Drs. Geoffrey Maina, Brenda Mishak and Anthony de Padua teamed up to host a one-day stakeholder community engagement and knowledge exchange forum for substance use and addiction in Prince Albert.

Service providers, policy makers, administrators, patients and family members, community leaders, law enforcement, school board representatives and scholars were among the over 50 attendees concerned about the state of substance use and addiction in Prince Albert and Northern Saskatchewan.

To learn more about the event please see the news release available from the College of Nursing [website](#) and while you're there be sure to check out the photo gallery!

Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation and CRISM Prairies



Canada's new anti-spam legislation came into full effect on July 1 2017. These rules disallow the practice of sending unsolicited emails without consent. Recipients must consent (expressed or implied) to receiving the communication, the organization must identify itself, and the offer to unsubscribe must be clearly stated.

Because you have joined CRISM Prairies as a Node Member, this is considered implied consent to receive our communications, such as this Newsletter and periodic Bulletins. If you would like to continue receiving these updates please do nothing! However, if you would like to stop receiving these updates, please click the link provided at the bottom of this email to unsubscribe from our mailing list.

If you do unsubscribe we are always happy to share information in another manner. You can contact node manager, Denise Adams, by [email](#) or phone anytime using the contact information provided at the bottom of this email.

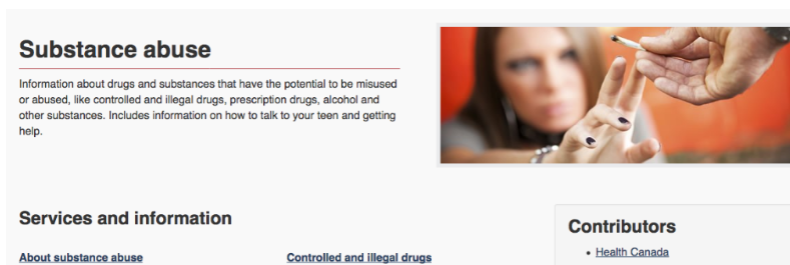
Funding Opportunity: Substance Use and Addictions Program

The Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP) is a federal contributions program, delivered by Health Canada. SUAP provides financial support to provinces, territories, non-governmental organizations and key stakeholders to strengthen responses to drug and substance use issues in Canada.

SUAP is pleased to invite eligible organizations to submit applications to support evidence-informed and innovative health promotion, prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives to address substance use issues related to licit and illicit psychoactive substances.

To learn more about this opportunity and to access the call for proposals please follow this link to the Government of Canada website: [link](#)

New Resource: Substance Abuse Services and Information



Health Canada has contributed to a new resource to access information about drugs and substances that have the potential to be misused or abused, like controlled and illegal drugs, prescription drugs, alcohol and other substances. This resource includes information on how to talk to your teen and getting help.

To access this information please click [here](#).

CCSA 2017 Issues of Substance Program at a Glance



The Program at a Glance is now available for the Issues of Substance conference and features a lineup of national and international speakers, workshops, and keynote panel discussions. Please visit the CCSA [website](#) to learn more, or download the [pdf file here](#).

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Report Available: Canada's Drug Futures Forum

Canada's Drug
Futures Forum |
Forum sur l'avenir
des drogues au
Canada

Available in both English and French, "**Canada's Drug Futures Forum: Summary of Proceedings and Final Recommendations**" synthesizes dialogue generated by speakers at the Forum and outlines recommendations from over 200 policymakers, public health officials, law enforcement professionals, researchers, people who use drugs, and community organizers, providing an innovative roadmap to improve Canada's policy response to illegal drugs over the coming ten years.

Visit Canada's Drug Futures Forum [website](#) to download the report in English or French language.

Implementation Science: Online courses and certificate program

University of California San Francisco

UCSF Accelerate
Access services to enable research

The University of California San Francisco is offering a one-year, part-time certificate program consisting of a series of six online courses focused on theories and methods relevant to the design of strategies to facilitate uptake of health-related interventions.

The courses and program are designed for people from a broad range of professional settings who are currently engaged in the development, implementation, and evaluation of strategies to promote and improve health and health care quality, including clinical and public health researchers, quality improvement officers, community-based clinic staff, public health and public policy practitioners, and clinicians.

Trainees who work in clinical and public health settings outside the U.S. are welcome!

To learn more about the program and courses please visit the University of California San Francisco [website](#).

Centre of Excellence for Women's Health Webinar Series: *Trauma, Gender and Substance Use*

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The Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (CEWH) is a research and knowledge exchange centre focused on linking research on gender and health to policy and practice.

The *Trauma, Gender and Substance Use* (TGS) project aims to guide the further integration of trauma informed and gender informed practices into prevention, health promotion, treatment, harm reduction and policy affecting those with substance use issues in Canada.

You can view the TGS webinar series on the CEWH website [here](#) or contact Rose Schmidt (Rose.Schmidt@cw.bc.ca) to learn more about the TGS Project.

From our previous issues... in case you missed it!

Further CRISM research on opioids endorsed by CIHR

Our sincere thanks to everyone who responded in April to our request for quick input on opioid-related research priorities via conference call and our online survey. Your priorities were reviewed and were combined with those obtained by the other CRISM Nodes in parallel consultations, and the [attached concept proposal](#) was produced. The proposal was submitted to CIHR and Health Canada, and we are pleased to announce that CIHR's Science Council recently approved a directed grant in the amount of \$7.5M to CRISM for further work on opioids, under the Emerging Health Threats funding program.

CIHR is developing a RFA for CRISM to apply for this new directed funding. Details (e.g., scope, timing) are being negotiated, but early indications are that CIHR is open to a programmatic series of studies rather than a single national trial. Our goal is to ensure that Prairie Node priorities are supported. Further consultation processes will be arranged over the summer - stay tuned!

Cannabis Legalization in Canada forum a great success!



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Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse

Congratulations to Dr. Rebecca Haines-Saah (Prairie Node Member) who organized this highly successful event, held in Calgary on May 5! Over 300 people joined the public forum and discussion

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The Prairie Node was pleased to provide funding to support this event using our **Node activity funding support program**. The event brought together some of Alberta's leaders in substance use and public health research, people with lived experience, and service providers to learn from U.S. and Canadian policy experts about experiences of legalization from other jurisdictions.

To access presentation materials and the event's photo gallery please visit the **O'Brien Institute for Public Health website**.

Funding Announcement: CIHR Catalyst Grants on Cannabis

Population Health Intervention Research Related to the Legalization and Regulation of
Non-Medical Cannabis in Canada



CIHR's Institute of Population and Public Health (IPPH), along with CIHR's Institutes of Circulatory and Respiratory Health (ICRH), Gender and Health (IGH), Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA), and Health Services and Policy Research (IHSPR), is pleased to announce the launch of a **Catalyst Grant focusing on the impact of legalization and regulation of non-medical cannabis in Canada**.

Given the potential health and social implications of legalization and regulation, this funding opportunity will catalyze future population health intervention research involving new cannabis legalization in Canada (i.e., the legalization and regulation of non-medical cannabis is the intervention to be studied). This initiative and the research supported will serve as an initial step in laying the foundation for future studies on the impact of cannabis legalization in Canada. **The total amount available for this opportunity is currently \$1 million over one year, enough to fund 10 grants of up to \$100,000 each for up to 1 year.**

The deadline for full applications is **August 22 2017**. For further information please visit the **CIHR website**. Please contact us if you would like to discuss Node involvement in an application.

AHS Addiction and Mental Health, Edmonton Zone Education Series 2017

addiction and mental health education courses are free, and scheduled throughout the summer months, but you must pre-register and bring your own lunch.

Please follow the registration instructions detailed in the **attached document**. For more information please call 780-644-3642 or email prevention.edmonton@albertahealthservices.ca

CRISM at CCSA Conference in November 2017



Two CRISM Network presentations are scheduled for the **CCSA Issues of Substance** conference November 13-15 2017. A poster presentation sharing the **OPTIMA** trial work to date, and an oral presentation addressing National Opioid Use Disorder Treatment will be shared.

Please stay tuned to the program details as they are made available for specific dates and times. We look forward to seeing you there!

AUDEAMUS Project: Training Underway



CRISM Prairies Co-PI, Dr. Colleen Dell and partners (pictured above), are working alongside AUDEAMUS Inc., trainers to develop an evaluation model for their program with veterans who are addicted to opioids and to continue expanding ongoing research regarding the multiple applications for Animal Assisted Therapies, including application to substance misuse.

AUDEAMUS is a bilingual, injured veteran-run not for profit organization dedicated to the principle of providing highly skilled and effective Certified service dogs to persons traumatized in the line of duty (PTLD) and whose quality of life depend on them. AUDEAMUS is the Latin word for “May we Dare”, and

To learn more about Dr. Dell's research program please visit her [website](#) and to learn more about the AUDEAMUS program directly you can visit their [website](#) anytime.

Database of Mental Health Resources: Public Health Agency of Canada



The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) contributes to promoting the mental health of Canadians in collaboration with key mental health partners and stakeholders. As such, PHAC is pleased to share with you the **attached summary of resources** compiled from Canadian, national level organizations with a mental health or Indigenous health mandate.

This document is part of a collection produced by the six National Collaborating Centres (NCC) for Public Health to encourage positive mental health promotion for children and youth within a strong, integrated public health practice. The collection provides numerous entry points for the public health sector to collaborate with other stakeholders to support evidence-based action that addresses the determinants of mental well-being for all children and youth in Canada.

For further information about the National Collaborating Centres for Public Health please visit the [Public Health Agency of Canada website](#).

Prevention Matters 2017 Conference

October 4-6 2017



Prevention Matters 2017 will provide opportunities to explore prevention efforts to support the health of Saskatchewan children. The conference will focus on four streams: public health; child maltreatment; maternal and infant health; resources and skill development for individuals who work directly with families (mothers, fathers, and other caregivers) and children.

Speaker bios, session descriptions, and registration details are available by visiting <http://skprevention.ca/prevention-matters-conferences-2017/>

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National Research Agenda on the Health Impacts of Non-Medical Cannabis Use



On October 18-19, 2016 the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) hosted a meeting to start developing a national research agenda on the health impacts of the non-medical use of cannabis. The meeting brought together close to 50 experts and stakeholders representing a wide range of perspectives to identify knowledge and research gaps, identify existing data sources, prioritize opportunities for research on the health effects, and discuss steps for moving forward with a research agenda.

The work of this group is summarized in the report "National Research Agenda on the Health Impacts of Non-Medical Cannabis Use" and is available for download by visiting the [CCSA website](#) or you can download a pdf of the report [here](#).

News for the node?

Is there an event happening that we should know about? Do you have information to share in the region? Please send your ideas and information to [Denise](#) or [Barb](#) anytime!

Questions? Comments? Contact us!

Denise Adams is the CRISM-Prairie Node Manager.

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News and Notes is a way to keep informed about Prairie CRISM Node developments. Email us anytime if you would like to discuss Node activities or want additional information. Please send to denise.adams@ualberta.ca with a copy to cam.wild@ualberta.ca

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