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**CRISM** | PRAIRIES

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 Implementation Research Proposal Update
- CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting - Registration Open!
- Operating Grant: Opioid Crisis Knowledge Synthesis
- Cannabis Research Day - Monday October 30 2017
- Funding Announcement: SPOR's Rewarding Success Initiative
- Report: CCSA & National Recovery Advisory Committee Release First-Ever Report Highlighting Recovery in Canada
- Briefing: Thunderbird Partnership Foundation - Legalized Cannabis: The pros and cons for Indigenous communities
- **Plus 7 items from our previous issues...**



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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CRISM's submission to CIHR to create a 5-year implementation science program on opioid-related services has been reviewed and approved. In consultation with CIHR, we are designing a process to allow CRISM members to declare their interest in developing and leading projects in this program. Stay tuned for additional details.

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## CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting: Registration Now Open



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Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse

The CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting will be held at the University of Calgary Hotel Alma November 15 & 16 2017! There is no cost for CRISM Prairie Node members to attend this meeting. Please complete your registration information as soon as possible by filling in the survey available [here](#). We look forward to seeing you in Calgary!

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## Operating Grant: Opioid Crisis Knowledge Synthesis



In Canada, the dramatic and increasing number of overdoses and deaths related to the use of opioids is a national public health crisis. The Government of Canada is committed to tackling this crisis and has emphasized the need for a strong evidence base through the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS), and the Joint Statement of Action to Address the Opioid Crisis.

This funding opportunity will support expedited knowledge synthesis grants to rapidly

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All forms of knowledge synthesis are eligible, including systematic reviews, realist syntheses, narrative syntheses, meta-analyses, meta-syntheses and meta-ethnography. Syntheses that are intended to lead to the development of practice guidelines are also eligible. Syntheses in this funding opportunity may synthesize results from qualitative, quantitative or multi-method research. The types of knowledge that can be synthesized are broad and can include empirical as well as theoretical knowledge. All syntheses in this funding opportunity must assemble, analyze and summarize knowledge.

The application deadline is December 5 2017. For further information and to access the full application guidelines please visit Research Net [here](#).

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## Cannabis Research Day: Non-medical Cannabis Legislation



On Monday October 30 2017 a forum discussing the impact of non-medical cannabis legalization will be hosted by Alberta Health Services to explore the impacts on our health care system and how Alberta's research community can work together to prepare.

Keynote Speaker: Dr Jonathan Caulkins , H. Guyford Stever University Professor of Operations Research and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University.

To register for this event please visit the AHS registration page [here](#).

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## Pre-Announcement: SPOR's Rewarding Success Initiative



The SPOR Rewarding Success Initiative is an experimental funding model that is being

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developed to support innovation and impact, such as risk sharing, social impact bonds, and innovation prizes. The basic principle is that teams of patients, healthcare delivery organizations, clinicians, and researchers identify potential solutions to identified problems and priorities in health care; solutions that will enhance patient and provider experience.

Teams will partner with payers of health services (e.g. Ministries of Health, Regional Health Authorities, insurers, hospitals, etc.) and/or charities and philanthropic organizations who recognize the identified challenges and agree to pay for successful improvement in outcomes, efficiencies, or reduction in low value services based on actual (e.g. lower drug costs) or measured but not readily retrievable savings (e.g. reduction in hospital admissions). Teams and their payers will work together to determine the outcomes, the metrics to be measured, the value of the payback, and the mechanism of the payback. If agreed-upon outcomes are achieved, there will be redistribution of a portion of the savings by the payer, which may be returned to the multidisciplinary research team, and/or redirected into an Innovation Fund, depending upon the agreements outlined.

For more information about this opportunity please visit the CIHR Pre-Announcement page [here](#) and learn more about the Rewarding Success model by visiting [here](#).

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## CCSA and National Recovery Advisory Committee Release First-Ever Report Highlighting Recovery in Canada



The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) and National Advisory Committee have released the first ever report highlighting recovery in Canada.

The report, titled *Life in Recovery from Addiction in Canada*, showed survey results of people in recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. The survey provides a wealth of information about recovery in Canada that can inform healthcare providers, decision makers and the public as they work towards building a system of care and a society that supports the principles of recovery and celebrates recovery. These results emphasized that recovery is associated with positive citizenship — engagement with family, friends, the community and the workforce.

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## Legalized Cannabis: The Pros and Cons for Indigenous Communities



The plan made by the Canadian Government to legalize the use of recreational cannabis by 2018 spurred Thunderbird Partnership Foundation to increase community knowledge and dialogue about cannabis. This brief provides factual information to Indigenous peoples and communities so that they can plan how to reduce harms, especially to vulnerable populations.

To read or download the briefing please click [here](#) or learn more about Thunderbird Partnership Foundation by visiting their website [here](#).

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

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## Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines Released

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### Recommendations

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

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



Reference: *American Journal of Public Health*, 2017

The LRCUG have been endorsed by the following organizations:



Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines were released June 23 2017 with the endorsement of key medical and public health organizations and provides 10 science-based recommendations to enable cannabis users to reduce their health risks. The guidelines, based on a scientific review by an international team of experts, including CRISM Ontario Principal Investigator Benedikt Fischer, are published in the ***American Journal of Public Health***. The guidelines are available as a **public brochure** for users and an **evidence summary for health professionals**.

As Canada moves towards legalization with the introduction of the federal **Cannabis Act**, it provides an opportunity not only to regulate the use and supply, but also to educate and inform cannabis users to prevent or reduce cannabis-related health problems.

To learn more about the guidelines please visit the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health **website** to read the **details**, or view the news release **here**.

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



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.

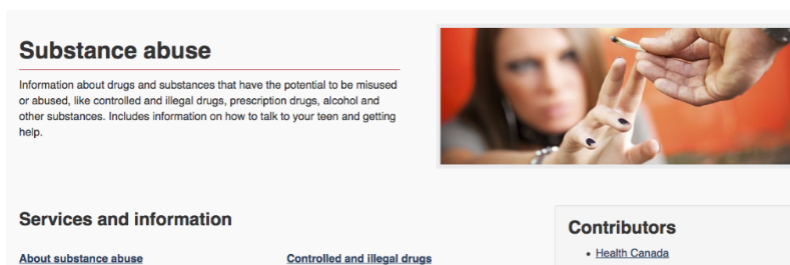
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promotion, treatment, harm reduction and policy affecting those with substance use issues in Canada.

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

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## 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](#).

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## Funding Opportunity (Ongoing): Substance Use and Addictions Program



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

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](#)

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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.

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## 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!

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## Database of Mental Health Resources: Public Health Agency of Canada



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



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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](#).

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## 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!

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## Questions? Comments? Contact us!

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Denise Adams is the CRISM-Prairie Node Manager.

Contact information

CRISM Prairie Node

University of Alberta | 4-061 Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (ECHA) | 11405 - 87 Avenue | Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 1C9

Phone: 780-492-0135

Fax: 780-492-0364

Email: [denise.adams@ualberta.ca](mailto:denise.adams@ualberta.ca)

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](mailto:denise.adams@ualberta.ca) with a copy to [cam.wild@ualberta.ca](mailto:cam.wild@ualberta.ca)

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