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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.

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You can contact CRISM Prairies using the information provided at the bottom of this email.



Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research



CRISM is a national network dedicated to translating substance misuse intervention research results into practice and policy.

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CRISM | Prairies Updates

Happy New Year!



The CRISM Prairies team wishes all Node members a great start to the New Year and all the best in your pursuits for 2018! We are looking forward to new opportunities and the ambitious year ahead in our region and across the country.

CRISM's Section 56 exemption consultation results now available

Canada has seen an extensive rise in opioid use and related morbidity (including opioid use disorders) and mortality. As a result, there is an urgent need to increase availability of and access to treatment options for opioid use disorder, including opioid agonist therapy. A potential barrier to the provision of opioid agonist therapy is the current regulatory requirement for a federal exemption for practitioners (i.e., physicians and nurse practitioners) to prescribe methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) under Section 56(1) (s.56) of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

At Health Canada's request, and in order to inform future Federal policy options, CRISM facilitated a national consultation to assess the utility, advantages, and disadvantages of the current s.56 requirement. CRISM Nodes across Canada conducted an on-line survey and a series of teleconferences to gather information from a variety of stakeholders to inform this issue.

The report prepared for Health Canada has been published on their website, and is available by following this link: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/healthy-living/national-consultation-section-56-exemption-requirement-methadone-prescribing.html

Prairie Node Funding Support Program - ON HOLD!

Due to overwhelming interest in this program we have received and funded more applications than our current budget can support. The Node Project Funding Support program is being put on hold pending renewal of our Node Infrastructure Funding.

Thank you to all who applied for sharing your exciting projects with us and we look forward to working with you on their completion!

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117 Annual Node Meeting Evaluation Results

Thank you for sharing your feedback regarding the CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting, hosted in Calgary AB on November 15-16, 2017. Evaluation results are now available as a pdf file that you can download here. We will also distribute the full meeting report in coming weeks to highlight action items, key discussions, and next-steps for CRISM Prairies!

Implementation science working groups & declaration of Interest - you're invited!

Background

Last year CIHR approved a proposal submitted by the CRISM network for a 5-year directed grant addressing the opioid emergency. The submission to CIHR was to develop and execute an implementation science program in four thematic areas that have high potential for reducing the individual and population burden of opioid use. The thematic areas are: 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, 4) Developing new intervention approaches to meet the needs of high-risk target populations. The CIHR proposal can be accessed here. Prior to the 2017 Annual Meeting CRISM members (researchers and non-academic members!) were asked to declare their interest in this program by completing the Member Interest Registration Form.

Register Now

If you were not able to complete the form before the meeting and holiday season, please do so now! It's a great time to get involved! CRISM has developed a short registration form to quickly assemble regional and national teams of interested researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers to develop specific projects within the four thematic areas.

The Member Interest Registration Form, is available for download as a <u>word file</u>. Or you can access this information on the CRISM Prairies <u>website</u>. Please submit Member Interest Registration Form to Prairie Node Manager <u>Denise Adams</u> by **March 14 2018**.

Once all registration forms are received, the CRISM NPIs will review them and organize registrants into provisional teams. *Please note that no guarantee of funding or project leadership is implied by submitting a registration form.* If you have any questions or concerns regarding this process please contact Prairie Node NPI <u>Cam Wild</u>.

Invitation to Collaborate



An Edmonton-based service provider is looking to partner with a researcher in a pilot project to evaluate a prevention/treatment protocol in illicit drug users. The protocol is intended to reduce the incidence and

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pnarmaceuticals. Preliminary observational evidence has demonstrated cross-cultural relevance and effect. For more information please respond to Brad Kauffman at contact@bradkauffman.ca

Events & Activities

Save The Date - Stimulus 2018!



Stimulus 2018: Drugs, Policy, and Practice in Canada will be held in Edmonton, AB from October 3-5, 2018. CRISM | Prairies is part of the organizing committee for this event. Please visit the conference website for more information and registration details!

HR19 Host City Announced - Porto, Portugal



Harm Reduction International (HRI) and Agência Piaget para o Desenvolvimento (APDES) are delighted to announce that the 26th Harm Reduction International Conference – HR19 – will be held in Porto, Portugal from 28 April to 1 May 2019.

Held once every two years in a different country around the world, the Harm Reduction International Conference is the only global meeting for knowledge-sharing, networking, and discussion of best practices in the field of harm reduction. The last conference in Montreal 2017 was attended by more than 1000

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HRI and APDES will publish further details about registration and abstract submission by the end of April 2018.

For more information about this event please visit the HRI website or join their mailing list here.

Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum



The Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum will be hosted in Winnipeg, MB at the <u>Canadian Museum</u> <u>for Human Rights</u> on **June 10-12 2018**.

The theme for 2018 is: Mobilizing Evidence for Human Rights and the Social Development Goals. Knowledge Mobilization is often described as making the best of what we know, whether from research, assessed practice, or traditional knowledge, ready for others to use so that new value can be created.

For more information please review the call for content <u>here</u>. Abstracts and submissions are due March 30 2018. You can also learn more about the history of this conference <u>here</u>.

Resources & Funding Opportunities

One Health - Working with dogs in human services



On November 30th CRISM affiliated researchers Dr. Colleen Dell and Dr. Darlene Chalmers hosted a One Health Day Community Discussion in Saskatoon SK titled: *Working with Dogs in Human Services*. Two resources are now available including; a video series sharing presentations from the day and a guide sharing Animal Assisted Intervention education opportunities along with other human-animal training information.

You can download the <u>guide</u> as a pdf file and access the video series either as a <u>playlist</u> or individually by visiting the <u>website</u>. Just click on the image of the speaker you would like to see!

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5K Health Research Foundation Patient-Oriented Research Leader Award



Are you someone who can lead meaningful collaborations between researchers, decision makers, patients, families, communities and clinicians to facilitate the creation, exchange and uptake of patient-oriented research?

The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) and the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) will support patient-oriented research leaders, at any career stage, who will exemplify and champion the mandate and goals of SCPOR by leading a research program in the areas of indigenous health and/or mental health and addictions. The full application is due March 15 2018.

You can find more details regarding eligibility and application requirements in the program guide at the SHRF website.

Did you miss it? Items from our previous issues...

CCSA and National Recovery Advisory Committee, release first-ever report highlighting recovery in Canada



Evidence. Engagement. Impact.

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*, shows 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 <u>here</u> or learn more about Thunderbird Partnership Foundation by visiting their website <u>here</u>.

Questions? Comments? Contributions? Please be in touch using the information provided below!

News For the Node?

If you have news for the node please send the information that you would like included in our next issue to barb.fornssler@usask.ca. If something is happening in our region we are happy to share!

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

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