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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.

### *In this issue...*

#### [CRISM Prairies Updates](#)

- CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting
- Find out more about your fellow CRISM Prairies members.

#### [Events & Activities](#)

- 11th Annual Addiction Day Scientific Conference and Networking Fair
- Alberta Health Services is offering an ODT Virtual Training Program
- Alberta has tabled a Mental Health Services Protection Act
- CCSA Interactive Cannabis Tool
- The Data Incubator Fellowship
- Alberta Health Services Announces Practice Standards for Addiction Counsellors
- Mental Health First Aid - First Nations Course

#### [Resources & Funding Opportunities](#)

- Crime Reduction Research Program Funding

#### [Did you miss it? Items from our previous issues...](#)

- The Opioid Data Challenge!
- 22nd International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety Conference
- Resilience - Canada Research Chair (Tier 2)
- Resource: CCSA & CISUR - *Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms (2007-2014)*

**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 Annual Meeting

The CRISM Prairies Annual Meeting was hosted at Wanuskewin Heritage Park, near Saskatoon SK, on November 1 & 2 2018. The gathering brought over 100 of our network members together for two days of planning, presentations and discussions that will advance priorities in our region.

We have posted slides, posters and pictures from the meeting on our [website](#).

Thank you to all who provided an evaluation of the meeting. For results of the evaluation please [click this link](#).

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## Find out more about your fellow CRISM | Prairies members!

The Prairie Node has developed an interactive dashboard for you to learn more about our membership.

To access the dashboard [click here](#).

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## Events & Activities

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### 11th Annual Addiction Day Scientific Conference and Networking Fair

SAVE THE DATE!!

Join us for the 11th Annual Addiction Day Scientific Conference and Networking Fair  
"Addiction: Addressing Diversity"

June 7th, 2019

Edmonton, Alberta

Executive Royal Hotel - Edmonton international Airport

Check the website regularly, as we update and confirm conference details:

[AddictionDay.ca](http://AddictionDay.ca)

[Want to participate? We are now open for abstract submissions.](#)

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## Virtual Training Program on ODT

Alberta Health Services has developed a 7 module training program on Opioid Dependence Treatment.

For access to the non-accredited modules go to [www.ahs.ca/PACES](http://www.ahs.ca/PACES)

For access to the CME accredited modules go to <http://ecme.ucalgary.ca>

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## Alberta - Mental Health Services Protection Act

[Bill 30: Mental Health Services Protection Act](#) has been introduced to put standards in place to ensure residential treatment facilities are licensed and health service providers are appropriately trained and regulated.

If passed, the act would apply to an estimated 60 residential addiction treatment facilities in Alberta.

For more information on the proposed Act (referred to as Bill 30), [please follow this link](#).

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## CCSA: Summary of Provincial and Territorial Cannabis Regulations

The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction has produced an interactive tool on cannabis regulations in each province and territory.

To access the tool please use this [link](#).

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## The Data Incubator Fellowship

**Program:** The Data Incubator is an intensive 8 week fellowship that prepares masters students, PhDs, and postdocs in STEM and social science fields seeking industry careers as data scientists. The program is free for Fellows and supported by sponsorships from hundreds of employers across multiple industries. In response to the overwhelming interest in our earlier sessions, we will be holding another fellowship.

**Who Should Apply:** Anyone who has already obtained a masters or PhD degree or who is within one year of graduating with a masters or PhD is welcome to apply. Applications from international students are welcome. Everyone else is encouraged to [sign-up for a future session](#).

**Locations:** In addition to the below in-person locations, we will have a remote *online* session:

- New York City
- San Francisco Bay Area
- Boston
- Washington, DC.

**Dates:** All sections will be from 2019-04-01 to 2019-05-24.

**Application Link:** <https://www.thedataincubator.com/fellowship.html?ch=rec&ref=r9dcfc7b2a73a>

**Early Deadline:** 2019-01-14.

**Regular Deadline:** 2019-01-21.

We are assessing and interviewing candidates who apply for the Early Deadline first and then based on remaining availability, will take candidates who applied for the Regular Deadline on a first-come first-serve basis.

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## AHS Practice Standards for Addiction Counsellors

**Practice Standards for Addiction Counsellors** were launched on October 1st, 2018. These Standards enhance quality addiction services by developing consistent expectations including: foundational competence, licensure and registration, continuing competence, practice, and supervision of restricted activity of psychosocial intervention in addiction counselling.

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modules:

**Part 1: Introduction to the Addiction Counsellor Role – coming in January, 2019****Part 2: Understanding Restricted Activity in Addiction Counselling – available now****Part 3: Continuing Competence Program for Addiction Counsellors – coming in January, 2019**

To access the current course and future available courses, through My Learning Link, click on > [mylearninglink](#) and follow the login instructions.

This activity is an Accredited Self-Assessment Program (Section 3) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and approved by the University of Calgary Office of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development. You may claim a maximum of 3.0 hours (credits are automatically calculated). This program was co-developed with 1. University of Alberta Hospital, 2. Alberta Health Services, Professional Development, Concurrent Capability and Problem Gambling and 3. University of Calgary, Faculty of Psychology and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance.

The Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation has approved this learning series for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) as follows:

- > Introduction to the Addiction Counsellor Role – 1 CEU
- > Understanding Restricted Activity in Addiction Counselling – 1 CEU
- > Continuing Competence Program in Addiction Counsellors – 1 CEU

With the launch of the **Practice Standards for Addiction Counsellors (AC)**, all addiction counsellors must apply to be on the [Addiction Counsellor List](#), which will state whether the AC has permission to perform the psychosocial intervention of restricted activity in Addiction Counselling.

Information on this and the application are on the **Provincial Addiction Practice Council web page on Insite**. Click > [Here](#)

## Resources & Funding Opportunities

### Crime Reduction Research Program

#### Program Overview

The Office of Crime Reduction and Gang Outreach (OCR-GO), part of the Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG), is leading the development of a new joint research model in British Columbia through a Crime Reduction Research Program (CRRP). The CRRP is supported and informed by a Working Group which includes representation from partnership agencies including the Crime Prevention and Community Safety Branch (CSCP), MPSSG, the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of British Columbia (CFSEU-BC) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) "E" Division.

The CRRP operates a \$1M annual funding allocation dedicated to support university-led research at Canadian institutions. The CRRP focuses on investing in pragmatic research that can be applied to support policing operations and inform evidence-based decisions on policies and programs related to public safety in British Columbia.

The OCR-GO, on behalf of the CRRP Working Group, invites submission of research proposals in support of this mandate. Partnership agencies of the CRRP Working Group will support successful proposals by working with researchers to refine study design as necessary, provide or acquire requisite data for projects, and advise on the validity of data interpretation and the practicality of recommendations. Police data can be provided as necessary, subject to security requirements.

#### Call for Research Project Proposals

Following the targeted call-out that was distributed in October 2018, the Crime Reduction Research Working Group has prioritized a number of research themes for the second allotment of funding.

[For more information click here.](#)

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### **First Nations Course: Mental Health First Aid**

Treaty 8 First Nations is excited to offer a course in delivering mental health first aid for Indigenous communities.

Please contact Trevor at 780 819 0607 or email him at [mhfa@treaty8.org](mailto:mhfa@treaty8.org) to schedule the training for your community/agency.

# Mental Health First Aid First Nations Course

## Alberta Region

In partnership with the Mental Health Commission of Canada



## DELIVERING MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID – FIRST NATIONS FOR OUR PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Mental Health First Aid – First Nations is a spark that awakens the courage to have open and honest conversations about mental health with family, friends, and others. We have trained our own Co-Facilitators from our Alberta First Nations Communities to provide Mental Health First Aid – First Nations Course across Alberta Region.

Please contact:

Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta to book the Mental Health  
First Aid – First Nations Course

T: 780 444 9366 | E: [mhfa@treaty8.org](mailto:mhfa@treaty8.org)



Mental Health  
Commission  
of Canada

Commission de  
la santé mentale  
du Canada

**Mental Health First Aid Canada**  
**Premiers soins en santé mentale**



## The Opioid Data Challenge!



Canada faces a growing opioid crisis. Securing data on opioid-related overdoses and harms is crucial to the design and delivery of effective interventions. And yet, timely and accurate data, particularly on non-fatal overdoses occurring in communities, remains limited.

MaRS seeks to engage innovative Canadians — people and organizations of all backgrounds and skills — to propose and test **new data sets, sources and methodologies** to bolster existing information and better measure **opioid overdoses and harms** in our communities.

To learn more about the structure, parameters and how you can meet the challenge visit the HeroX [website!](#)

## The 22nd International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety Conference



You are invited to submit abstracts for oral, paper poster, digital poster at the 22nd International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety (ICADTS) Conference, August 18 - 21, 2019 in Edmonton, Alberta. A limited number of abstracts will be selected for oral presentations. Abstracts are due **November 13 2018**.

Hosted on a rotating basis among a range of relevant organizations including Edmonton's Traffic Safety section, this conference brings together delegates drawn from the areas of public health and safety, traffic, and transport psychology, public health, law, medicine, economics, law enforcement, public policy, education, pharmacology, toxicology, forensic science, human factors, and alcohol intervention and rehabilitation.

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## Resilience - Canada Research Chair (Tier 2)

Dalhousie University, Faculty of Health



The Faculty of Health at Dalhousie University invites applications for a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in the area of “Resilience” to be held in the School of Social Work, Faculty of Health. The appointment will be a probationary tenure-track or tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor with an anticipated start date of September 1, 2019. The successful candidate will have demonstrated potential and capacity to develop and lead an internationally recognized research program, within our Resilience focus, that aligns with our strategic directions within the Faculty of Health and promotes collaboration with external partners in this area.

Consideration will begin **November 30 2018**. The full posting can be retrieved [here](#).

## Resource: CCSA & CISUR -

Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms (2007-2014)



In June 2018, Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) and the University of Victoria’s Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR) released a new report, [Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms \(2007–2014\)](#), covering a broad range of substances including alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, opioids and central nervous system (CNS) depressants, cocaine and CNS stimulants, and other substances such as hallucinogens and inhalants.

Providing national, provincial and territorial estimates for the cost and harms of substance use between 2007 and 2014, the study estimates the total cost of substance in Canada in 2014 at \$38.4 billion. Alcohol and tobacco use contributed over two thirds of these costs, while opioids ranked a distant third.

To learn more and download the full report please visit the [CCSA website](#) or [CISUR website](#). You can also visit the Canadian substance use costs and harms website at [csuch.ca](#) to learn more about this project.

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

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