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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.

CRISM | Prairies & Alberta Health Services Analytics Partnership: Open for Applications

CRISM | Prairies has partnered with the [Alberta Addiction and Mental Health Research Partnership Program](#) and the [Addictions & Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network](#) of Alberta Health Services and invites Prairie Node members with an interest in secondary analyses of addiction-related health services data to access this new initiative. The partnership offers a dedicated Masters-level analyst to access AHS data holdings for CRISM | Prairie members. Approved projects can address research, evaluation, quality improvement, and measurement questions related to substance misuse through this free service.

Rationale

- CRISM | Prairies has partnered with Alberta Health Services (Alberta Addiction and Mental Health Research Partnership Program and the Addiction and Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network) to promote innovation in analytics related to substance use and health care utilization.
- The long-term goal of this partnership is to support access to addiction and mental health (AMH) client data from relevant health care services and programs in Alberta Health Services (AHS) for researchers and to promote innovative analytic projects.

Purpose

- The overarching purpose is to identify and address mutually agreed upon and mutually beneficial research, evaluation, quality improvement and measurement questions.
- CRISM | Prairies has funded a full time analyst to work in the AHS Knowledge, Performance and Integrated Planning program. Projects will be categorized as follows:
 - Analysis of well-developed research, evaluation, measurement, or quality improvement questions using administrative health data
 - Consultation around development of question

Projects are eligible for this service using the following criteria

- No primary data collection
- The project makes use of data already held in AHS or AH data repositories
- The project proposal must align with CRISM objectives or AHS priorities, or both
- Preference will be given to projects in the following order:
 - Aligns with both CRISM objectives and AHS priorities
 - Aligns with CRISM or AHS with some overlap with the other agency
 - Aligns only with CRISM or AHS with no overlap

Application Process

[Download the short application](#) template.

Submit the completed application to ResearchPartnership@albertahealthservices.ca. Applications are reviewed by a joint CRISM | Prairies and AHS governance committee.

For more information contact Denise Adams at denise.adams@ualberta.ca

**AUDEAMUS Node Development Project
Video Available**

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the work of Prairie Node co-PI Dr. Colleen Dell in their Research Spotlight series.

The goal of this study is to learn from veterans living with PTSD paired with an AUDEAMUS Inc. service dog about how the dog assists them with addressing their problematic use of substances, and specifically opiates. You can read more about the study by visiting the [CRISM Prairies website](#).

You can watch the video on [YouTube here](#) or visit the [SCPOR website](#) to learn more anytime!

Can you assist with study recruitment?

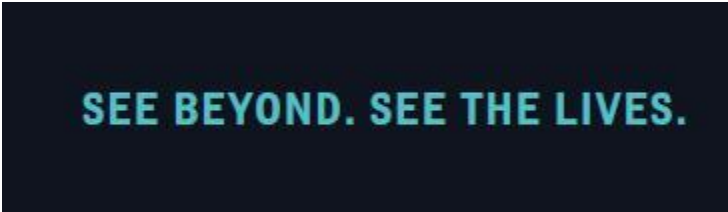
On behalf of Dr. Matt Keough and his doctoral student Jona Frohlich at the University of Manitoba:

"We are currently seeking support with recruitment for an RCT examining an online intervention for comorbid alcohol misuse and emotional problems (depression and anxiety). The target population are young adults in Canada (18 to 35 years), and we have broad ethics to recruit Canada-wide. Currently, we are experiencing difficulties reaching our intended population, and are hoping to increase awareness of the study across the country. Please circulate the attached [recruitment poster](#) to colleagues, organizations, or any others who may have access to this population".

To learn more about the study and access additional recruitment materials please contact either Dr. Keough (matthew.keough@umanitoba.ca) or Jona Frohlich (umfrohlj@myumanitoba.ca).

Events & Activities

See Beyond. See The Lives



SEE BEYOND. SEE THE LIVES.

[See the Lives](#) is a new video series produced in partnership between researchers from the University of British Columbia, the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, and advocacy groups from across Canada. The series shares the stories of those left behind in the wake of an opioid-related death of a family member. It features bereaved parents who have become advocates - with a message that their children are more than just statistics, and that more needs to be done to prevent further deaths.

In each video a parent sits, listening to the audio of a letter they have written to their child since their death. The videos end with a call to action for scaling up harm reduction efforts to provide a safe drug supply and to end the shame that prevents people from speaking out and getting help.

The new website, see-beyond.ca hosts the videos along with the full stories of the featured parents, the calls to action, and additional resources for those who want to get involved.

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Prevention Matters 2019 Conference



The [Prevention Matters 2019 Conference](#), hosted by the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute, will run **October 2-4, 2019** at TCU Place, Saskatoon SK.

Prevention Matters 2019 will focus on building connections and collaborations across disciplines and across the province, to learn from one another to address healthy child development and well-being. The conference will highlight the role of prevention in health and how knowledge exchange (sharing knowledge in multiple directions and ways) is the foundation to addressing needs and improving health.

Special **Early Bird Registration ends March 31, 2019**. Please follow this link for registration information <https://skprevention.ca/pm2019/#registration>.

The **Call for Abstracts deadline is March 29, 2019**. Follow this link for information on the Call for Abstracts <https://skprevention.ca/pm2019/#abstract-submission>.

Moms Stop The Harm
Petra Schultz



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discovered their son Danny's body on the bathroom floor of his apartment. When faced with what to say in his eulogy, they decided to tell the truth.

In this heart-wrenching talk, Petra shares Danny's story and the idea that people who use drugs are just like everyone else: people who deserve a chance to be safe and healthy, and to live without judgment or shame.

Watch the TedX talk [My son Danny: The truth about substance use, stigma and overdose](#)

SIIT : Crystal Meth Dialogue



SIIT WELLNESS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UNIT

2019 CRYSTAL METH DIALOGUE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 & THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019

RAMADA HOTEL | SASKATOON, SK

A two-day gathering to speak to the crystal meth crisis gripping our communities. Hear from speakers who have first-hand knowledge; doctors who will explain the science and treatment options that are currently being used, enforcement issues, community & personal safety. Your Participation in solution building is required. There will be a panel discussion focused on the four pillars of the Continuum of Care and lived experience presentations.

The event is scheduled for April 3 & 4 2019 at the Ramada Hotel in Saskatoon SK.

For more information please download the [event poster and registration form](#) or email the SIIT Wellness & Community Development Unit wdu@siit.ca.

University of Alberta Chancellor's Forum
The opioid crisis: Perspectives on health and harm

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The crisis dominates headlines with a tragic statistic: two Albertans die every day from an opioid overdose. Evidence and experience from the front line show it's time to shift our efforts. How will we address the human and social conditions at the root of this crisis? Join us for this provocative conversation!

Event Details:

April 8, 2019 Reception 5:30-6:30, Forum 6:30-8:15pm
1-001 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (Maier Complex)
116 Street and 92 Avenue Edmonton AB

You can learn more about the event by visiting the [UofA School of Public Health website](#) or [register here!](#)

Can't join in person? Watch the [live stream here](#) on April 8!

Resources & Funding Opportunities

CIHR Team Grant: Cannabis Research In Priority Areas



In December 2017, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) invested \$1.4 million to support 14 projects to catalyze future research related to the health impacts of cannabis legalization. That catalyst grant funding opportunity had a specific focus on population health intervention research related to the legalization and regulation of non-medical cannabis in Canada. Further, in July 2018, CIHR and partners invested \$3 million to support an additional 24 projects designed to address urgent priority areas identified through a research priorities workshop held in September 2017. Identified research areas included both the potential therapeutic benefit for specific indications and the potential risks/harms of cannabis use in different populations. However, there still remain many unknowns about the health and safety effects of cannabis, as well as the behavioural, social, ethical and economic implications of legalization.

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position Canada as a leader in developing the research capacity and amassing the research evidence needed on the effects of cannabis. This includes validating the potential therapeutic benefits of cannabis, as well as understanding risks and harms, and supporting policy and regulatory models for studying cannabis use (including development of common data standards). This Team Grant funding opportunity represents the first targeted funding opportunity launched under ICRS, with additional opportunities planned in the coming years.

The purpose of the current Team Grant is to explore in more detail the potential therapeutic benefits and harms associated with cannabis use in a number of targeted areas identified through previous consultations. In particular, these Team Grants will address stakeholder priorities by supporting specific defined priority areas in targeted pools, to strengthen the evidence base and to build cannabis-related research capacity.

Letter of intent is due May 15 2019.

You can learn more about this funding opportunity by visiting [ResearchNet](#) or sign up for [CIHR's 'How to Apply' webinar](#) that will be hosted April 18 2019.

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

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](#).

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](#).

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

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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.

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

Want to participate? We are now open for abstract submissions.

**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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