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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.

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- CRISM environmental scan: Naloxone distribution across Canadian provinces and territories

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

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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 Updates



Oh deer - it's that time of year!
CRISM Prairies would like to extend our very best wishes for a great new year in 2020!

Prairies Searchable Membership Registry

We are delighted to announce that we have created a searchable registry of CRISM Prairies members. The registry will be accessible on the CRISM website but PASSWORD PROTECTED so that only CRISM members will be able to view it. Please do not share the password with non-CRISM members.

The registry is located on our CRISM Prairies website on the resources page. You can get there via the website or by using this link <https://crismprairies.ca/resources/>

The first line of the resource table contains the member registry. If you click on the link in the table you will be taken to the password page. All CRISM Prairie members received the password by email sent on December 10 2019 by Denise Adams.

Instructions for use

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You can search for specific member names in the registry by using the text box at the bottom of the list, or you can search by:

1. Type of member (Researcher, Health Care Provider, Program Manager, Policy/Decision Maker, or Person with Lived/Living Experience (PLE) Advocate);
2. Province or Territory within the Prairies Node;
3. Institution the member is affiliated with (Academic/Research, Community/Social Services, Funder, Government/Regulatory, Harm Reduction/Education/PLE Advocacy, or Treatment);
4. You can mix and match these menus to make your search more specific.

You can also search by:

5. Target population;
6. Intervention;
7. Specific substance or addiction;
8. Again, you can mix and match the menus to make your search more specific.

In order to reset the registry for a new search, please refresh your browser. If you wish to download a list please use the 'download' button at the bottom right corner of your screen. This will provide the option to select a copy of the list as an image or pdf file.

Only CRISM Prairie members who completed a member survey are included in the registry. If your name is missing, please complete the survey to have your information added to the directory. The survey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MKZWL3N>

We also did not include members who do not fit into one of the individual or institutional categories in order to protect the privacy of members of the public.

If you notice an error or would like to update your information or be removed from the directory please contact Denise Adams at denise.adams@ualberta.ca

Prairies Member Publication Registry

We are also excited to announce that we have created a searchable registry of CRISM Prairie member publications.

The registry is located on our CRISM Prairies website on the resources page. You can get there via the website or by using this link <https://crismprairies.ca/resources/>

You can access publications based on year of publication, CRISM member author name, or by topic. Links are also provided to the publications themselves.

If you would like to have your publications added to the registry, notice an error, would like to update your information or be removed from the directory please contact Denise Adams at denise.adams@ualberta.ca

Events & Activities

ARDN Survey
Share your thoughts on Cannabis

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The Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN) is being funded through Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP) to develop a mobile exhibit on cannabis awareness. To ensure that we showcase information that is anchored in real experiences, we'd love to hear your experience with cannabis (whether you've never tried it, experimented with it, or use it daily). We will be using these anonymous experiences to build a mobile exhibit on cannabis awareness for rural high school students. These answers will be used to develop narratives that youth can relate to.

Please visit the [survey here](#) or if you have any questions, concerns or comments you can reach out to the Project Manager, Cassandra Rasko at cassandrar@ardn.ca or 780-289-7998.

Opportunity to contribute to development of a core outcome set for substance use



The International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM) is an independent not-for-profit organisation. Their mission is to support improvements in the quality of health and support services by encouraging providers to measure the treatment outcomes most important to people who access services.

ICHOM brought together an international Working Group including healthcare professionals, researchers, and those with lived experience with substance use disorders. Following a consensus-building process this group has suggested a core set of measures to assess a wide range of treatment outcomes. They are now seeking feedback on these measures from **professionals** in the field to improve this recommendation, which they hope will be a minimum global standard in clinical practice. A survey for Families/People with Lived Experience will be released soon.

If you would like to review this core set of measures and give your feedback, please do so by following this [link](#). Your comments and contributions are greatly appreciated. For more information about ICHOM please view their [website](#).

News Release: USask leads study into PTSD service dogs and veteran's substance use recovery

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Video: A PAWSitive Support Project for Veterans with PTSD and Who Problematically Use Substances

Learning how psychiatric service dogs can help veterans living with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) recover from problematic alcohol and drug use is the focus of a new \$1.4-million research program led by Dr. Colleen Dell, titled *A PAWSitive Support Project for Veterans with PTSD and Who Problematically Use Substances*.

Working with participating service dog organizations, the goal of the team's three-and-a-half year project is to develop an addictions specific toolkit and pilot test it with 30 veterans from the AUDEAMUS service dog program. The kit will highlight the role of peer support, recognizing it is an important part of the Canadian Armed Forces culture, as well as addictions recovery.

The project was announced Nov. 26 at the national Issues of Substance conference in Ottawa. You can learn more about the project by accessing the [news release](#) or [watching the video](#)!

Knowledge Bites Lunch & Learn March 12 2020

On Thursday, March 12, 2020 Dr. Carol Adair will present "A Coherent and Effective Performance Measurement Framework for Mental Health and Addictions in Canada: Inevitable or Impossible?" from 12:00pm - 12:40pm MST

This is the first Knowledge Bites event to be held in Calgary, but this will still be available via Skype or telephone. For more information and to register to attend use [this link](#).

For more information about this series and recordings of past events please visit the [Knowledge Bites website](#). For more information please email amh.knowledgeexchange@ahs.ca

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Focus group participants are being recruited to inform a new Family/Caregiver program in Alberta. Project partners are seeking both adults and youth (age 15 plus) with or without mental health knowledge or experience who will help explore some key questions to inform the development and pilot phase of this unique program.

The family/caregiver program is being designed for in-community by-community delivery with key goals of reducing family stigma, helping caregivers create a more nurturing environment for mental wellness, teaching adults how to talk to children and youth about their mental health and how to take action to help.

This project is being supported by the University of Calgary and the Mathison Centre for Mental Health Research and Education and the Mental Health Commission of Canada. To learn more about this work and to get involved with the study please contact Eshleen Grewal by email at ekgrewal@ucalgary.ca

Global News Video

Cannabis edibles, extracts, and topicals



With edibles, extracts and topicals hitting stores on December 17 2019 Addictions Foundation of Manitoba medical director Dr. Ginette Poulin discusses how edibles can affect users differently than smoking, and stresses the need for education.

Watch the video on [Global News here!](#)

Resources & Funding Opportunities

Catalyst Grant: *Cannabis and Mental Health*



In October 2018, Canada became just the second country in the world to legalize cannabis for non-medical use. Legalization has provided for a much-needed opportunity to better understand the

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To seize this opportunity, the federal government allocated \$10 million over five years in Budget 2018 for the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) to help assess the impact of cannabis use on the mental health of Canadians. This investment will help inform future policy development, building on earlier significant public education investments of \$46 million that have helped inform Canadians.

There are pronounced gaps in knowledge concerning the negative impacts of cannabis use on mental health outcomes, the potential therapeutic benefits of cannabis and cannabinoids, the influence of mental health problems and illnesses on patterns of cannabis use, and the experiences and needs of diverse populations who live with cannabis use disorder and/or a mental illness.

The purpose of this current funding opportunity is to strengthen the evidence base and expand cannabis research related to mental health, to build cannabis-related research capacity and/or to inform the development of future larger-scale research projects. Lived experience perspectives* will be meaningfully included in all stages of research, including research design, execution, knowledge translation and dissemination, and evaluation.

To learn more about this opportunity please visit [ResearchNet](#).

New Publication Available

Drug Decriminalization: A matter of justice and equity, not just health



American Journal of Preventive Medicine

Volume 58, Issue 1, January 2020, Pages 161-164



A new publication titled "Drug Decriminalization: A matter of justice and equity, not just health" by CRISM Prairies affiliated researchers is now available online.

Excerpt:

"The growing chorus of voices now calling for drug policy change is encouraging. However, the underlying reasons for a new policy direction are critically important and, on that, many well-intentioned newcomers to the chorus are somewhat off key. The central cause for drug law reform is not its relevance to health or the present public health catastrophe. It is a matter of correcting a social injustice. Failing to articulate this in public discourse risks perpetuating harms on the people decriminalization advocates wish to help."

Citation:

Virani, H. N., & Haines-Saah, R. J. (2019). Drug Decriminalization: A Matter of Justice and Equity, Not Just Health. *American journal of preventive medicine*.

The full article is available for download by following this link:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0749379719303514>

New Publication Available

Acute and residual effects of smoked cannabis

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Drug and Alcohol Dependence

Volume 205, 1 December 2019, 107641



A new publication titled "Acute and residual effects of smoked cannabis: Impact on driving speed and lateral control, heart rate, and self-reported drug effects" by CRISM affiliated researchers is now available online.

Excerpt:

"Although driving under the influence of cannabis is increasingly common among young adults, little is known about residual effects on driver behavior. This study examined acute and residual effects of smoked cannabis on simulated driving performance of young cannabis users."

Citation:

Brands, B., Mann, R.E., Wickens, C.M., Sproule, B., Stoduto, G., Sayer, G.S., Burston, J., Pan, J.F., Matheson, J., Stefan, C., George, T.P., Huestis, M.A., Rehm, J., Le Foll, B. (2019). Acute and residual effects of smoked cannabis: Impact on driving speed and lateral control, heart rate, and self-reported drug effects. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*.

The article is available for review or download by following this link:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0376871619304181>

New Publication Available

Voices of Remanded Women in Western Canada: A qualitative analysis



Journal of
**COMMUNITY
SAFETY &
WELL-BEING**

The Journal of CSWB
A Canadian Peer-Reviewed Journal from the
Community Safety Knowledge Alliance (CSKA)

A new publication titled "Voices of Remanded Women in Western Canada: A qualitative analysis" by CRISM Prairies affiliated researchers is now available online.

Excerpt:

"Based on 39 qualitative in-depth interviews conducted with remanded women in a Western Canadian remand prison as part of the University of Alberta Prison Project (UAPP), this article serves to describe the five main issues that women in our sample highlighted about their incarceration and how those were shaped by their own backgrounds and life histories: 1) Victimization; 2) Distrust of the police, 3) Parenting while incarcerated; 4) Addictions and mental health; 5) Contextual benefits of prison. The implications of this work for criminal justice practitioners, policymakers, and scholars are discussed."

Citation:

Jones, D., Bucerius, S., Haggerty, K. (2019). Voices of remanded women in Western Canada: A qualitative analysis. *Journal of Community Safety & Well-Being*.

Developmental Pathways of Addiction & Mental Health Health Provider's Practice Modules

Developmental Pathways Addiction & Mental Health

Developmental Pathways of Addiction and Mental Health is sharing "Health Provider's Practice Modules" a Web-based interactive e-Learning curriculum to support service providers to enhance their practice.

The focus of these modules is to help health providers recognize and reduce significant stressors for vulnerable children and their parents, enhance their resilience, and increase their coping skills. In providing mental health support to children and youth the focus needs to shift toward health promotion and disease prevention, rather than just treating the impact of mental health disorders.

The Developmental Pathways of Addiction and Mental Health curriculum consists of eleven (11) modules, which were developed within a framework of four key learning areas:

- Enhancing foundational knowledge
- Promoting positive behaviour while enhancing relationship
- Promoting healthy development
- Advancing practice

Each module is approximately two hours in length and developed according to adult learning principles. The 11 modules are interactive, experiential, self-directed with a variety of reflective quizzes, case studies, self-assessments and videos.

These modules are easy to access by visiting Absorb Primary Health Care <https://phc.myabsorb.ca/#/login>

More information may be found in this introductory [video](#) or at the Developmental Pathways, Addiction and Mental Health [website](#). If you have questions or require assistance, email Linda Kongnetiman at linda.kongnetiman@ahs.ca

Addressing Stigma: Towards a More Inclusive Health System Latest report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2019



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explores the current state of health of Canadians and focuses on understanding the impact of stigma on our health, as well as how we can reduce it across health systems. During the development of this report, Dr. Tam met with people across Canada who have expertise in, and who experience stigma in the health system.

To read the report please visit Canada.ca/CPHOreport.

For those wanting a deeper dive into the report's findings additional products are available:

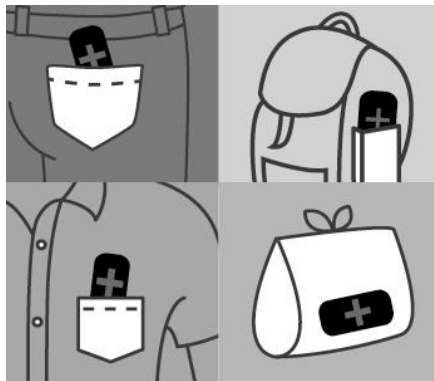
- [What We Heard Report](#): Learn what we heard from people across Canada.
- [Action Framework Poster](#): Use and share this poster to guide your actions to address stigma.

In January 2020, further products will also be released:

- Evidence Summary: Learn more about the evidence on effective interventions to address stigma.
- Reference List: Examples of stigmas related to social identities and health conditions.
- Videos: Health of Canadians 2019 and Voices for Inclusion.

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

Carry It Toolkit From CMHA



IF YOU CARE, CARRY IT.

Anyone can save a life
with **NALOXONE**.

Prevent and respond to an opioid
overdose on campus



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Mental health for all



100
years of
community

www.cmha.ca/carryit

This post-secondary campus toolkit is for administrators, students or members of the faculty or staff. It is designed to help the campus community create a blueprint (or "protocol") to prevent and respond to opioid overdoses including:

- A campus protocol sample
- Opioids 101
- Naloxone 101
- Quick Guide: Drug Safety on Campus
- Quick Guide: Safer Drug Use on Campus
- Fact Sheet: Dispelling Myths about Opioids
- Fact Sheet: Students and Mental Health
- Poster
- Social Media Bank + Social Shareables
- Printable Wallet Card
- And more!

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CRISM environmental scan: Naloxone distribution across Canadian provinces and territories

In response to an epidemic of opioid overdose deaths in Canada, distribution of the opioid antagonist naloxone has been identified as a key emergency measure to effectively prevent rising mortality. As a result, the programs aimed to distribute publicly-funded naloxone kits have been launched across the country.

Between January and May 2019, CRISM developed an environmental scan to consolidate information regarding current practices and programs aimed to distribute naloxone for use in suspected opioid overdose in Canada. The environmental scan process reviewed available grey literature and used interviews with key informants to better understand access and distribution of naloxone across Canadian jurisdictions.

Released in June 2019, the scan finds that over 590,000 publicly-funded naloxone kits have been distributed across more than 8,700 distribution sites in Canada. More than 61,000 kits have been reported used to reverse an overdose. Currently, all provinces and territories maintain publicly funded take-home naloxone programs. While access to naloxone has increased across the country, there remain important barriers to achieving equitable access across communities.

To access the full report, the scan at a glance, and timeline please visit the National [CRISM website](#) or [click here!](#)

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 denise.adams@ualberta.ca or 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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