














Mental Health and Substance Use Research Organizations in British Columbia




Research Organization	Brief Description	Research Focus
<p><u>BC Center of Substance Use (BCCSU)</u></p> 	<p>BCCSU is an academic centre housed within Providence Health Care and Providence Research, and is a UBC Faculty of Medicine-affiliated centre focused on substance use and addiction medicine. The BCCSU is also affiliated with the VCH Research Institute.</p>	<p>BCCSU leads an innovative multidisciplinary program of research, monitoring, evaluation and quality improvement activities to guide health system improvements in the area of substance use.</p>
<p><u>BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services Research Institute, PHSA</u></p> 	<p>The Institute includes affiliations with either the University of British Columbia or Simon Fraser University and hold multiple research institute affiliations, including with the BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute (BCCHRI) and the Women’s Health Research Institute.</p>	<p>Researchers conduct research and leverage knowledge translation and exchange to transform care for people with complex mental health and substance use needs as well as other needs, including involvement with the criminal justice system.</p>
<p><u>BC Schizophrenia Society (BCSS)</u></p> 	<p>BCSS is a non-profit organization founded by families and friends of people with schizophrenia and dedicated to supporting, educating the public, raising funds for research and advocating for better services for people with schizophrenia and other serious and persistent mental illness.</p>	<p>BCSS has provided vital funding for programs, and for research in schizophrenia – helping fund more than 80 research projects and contributing more than \$2 million towards schizophrenia research.</p>





<p><u>Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR)</u></p> 	<p>CISUR is housed at the University of Victoria, and is a network of individuals and groups dedicated to the study of substance use and addiction. CISUR seeks to support community-wide efforts to promote health and reduce harm.</p>	<p>CISUR’s research is used to inform a broad range of projects, reports, publications and initiatives aimed at improving the lives of those with substance use. CISUR embraces collaborative relationships, ethics, social equity and justice, to reduce risk and increasing protection, and harm reduction.</p>
<p><u>Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse, British Columbia</u></p> 	<p>Canadian Institute Initiative in Substance Misuse is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM) is a national research consortium focused on substance use disorders, comprising four large interdisciplinary regional teams (nodes) representing British Columbia, the Prairie Provinces, Ontario, Québec, and the Atlantic Provinces.</p>	<p>Each CRISM node is an expert network of research scientists, service providers, policy makers, community leaders, and people with lived experience of substance use disorders. CRISM’s mission is to translate the best scientific evidence into clinical practice and policy change.</p>
<p><u>Centre for Applied Research in Mental Health and Addiction (CARMHA)</u></p> 	<p>CARMHA is based at the Faculty of Health Sciences, SFU and is recognized for innovative scientific research related to mental health and substance use, primarily in the areas of clinical or other intervention practice, health systems and population health and epidemiology.</p>	<p>CARMHA’s mission is to conduct research, generate evidence, and translate knowledge into policies and practices that reflect evidence regarding the most effective ways to prevent addiction and mental illness, and to promote recovery.</p>

<p><u>Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health, (DMCBH), University of British Columbia</u></p> 	<p>The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health builds on UBC’s impressive legacy of brain research and brings together experts in the fields of neuroscience, neurology, psychiatry and rehabilitation in a hub for training, research and clinical care.</p>	<p>The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH) is committed to investing in its researchers and trainees to promote brain health through innovative research, education and patient care.</p>
<p><u>McCreary Centre Society</u></p> 	<p>McCreary Centre Society is a non-government not-for-profit committed to improving the health of BC youth through research, evaluation and community-based projects.</p>	<p>Their vision is that all youth are supported to be healthy and connected.</p>
<p><u>Mood Disorders Centre – Research, Education, Awareness, and Care Hub (MDC, REACH)</u></p> 	<p>MDC REACH is affiliated with the Department of Psychiatry, UBC; the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute; the UBC Institute of Mental Health; and the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health.</p>	<p>MDC Reach’s mission is to improve the lives of people living with mood disorders (depression, bipolar disorder) through creating and translating scientific knowledge into innovative clinical care.</p>
<p><u>University of British Columbia, Institute of Mental Health (UBC IMH)</u></p> 	<p>UBC IMH is affiliated with UBC’s Department of psychiatry and is committed to building research capacity, conducting world class innovative mental health and addiction research.</p>	<p>UBC IMH is dedicated to translating knowledge into clinical practice that reaches individuals, their families, and society, and transforms the lives of those affected with mental health and illness and addictions.</p>



Provincial Research Organizations with Collaborations with Mental Health and Substance Use




<p><u>BC Cancer, PHSA</u></p> 	<p>BC Cancer’s mandate covers the full spectrum of cancer care from prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment, to research and education, to supportive and palliative care.</p>	<p>The Research and Knowledge Translation department promotes innovation and excellence in interprofessional research and knowledge mobilization to drive evidence-informed improvements in care, including the intersectionality of mental health and substance use.</p>
<p><u>BC Center for Disease Control (BCCDC), Provincial Health Service Authority (PHSA)</u></p> 	<p>BCCDC provides health promotion and prevention, analytical and policy support to government and health authorities, and diagnostic and treatment services to reduce communicable & chronic disease. BCCDC Harm Reduction & Substance Use Services works to address harms associated with illicit drug supply including overdose and communicable disease (HIV/Hep C).</p>	<p>BCCDC collaborates with the UBC, SFU, and other institutions to advance public health policy, applied research and clinical testing. Toward the Heart is a project of the Provincial Harm Reduction Program and one of many initiatives of the Harm Reduction Program of the BC Centre for Disease Control.</p>
<p><u>BC Corrections Performance, Research and Evaluation (PREv) Unit</u></p> 	<p>Performance, Research and Evaluation (PREv) unit takes an evidence-based approach to develop, implement and evaluate BC Corrections’ programs, to ensure our programs, policy and practice are driven by data.</p>	<p>The PREv unit considers empirical research and correctional best practice to support the work that happens across BC Correctional Services.</p>




<p><u>Center for Advancing Health Outcomes (CAHO), St. Paul’s Hospital, Providence Health Care</u></p> 	<p>CAHO is a group of experienced health outcomes researchers and support staff based at St. Paul’s Hospital. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and mentorship of emerging health researchers, CAHO produces and translates high-quality evidence that informs health care from the individual to the system level.</p>	<p>A major focus of Advancing Health Scientists is research surrounding structural and intermediary determinants of health. The center’s work spans the areas of urban populations with research related to mental health, substance use, and infectious diseases, as well as other groups such as ethnic minorities, new Canadians, and Indigenous.</p>
<p><u>Centre for Indigenous Research & Community-Led Engagement (Circle), University of Victoria</u></p> 	<p>Situated on the territories of the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ people at the University of Victoria, the Centre for Indigenous Research and Community-Led Engagement (CIRCLE) is a research centre dedicated to promoting and engaging in research with Indigenous Peoples to improve their well-being.</p>	<p>CIRCLE seeks to promote, facilitate and lead ethical research that improves Indigenous peoples' well-being. They bring together diverse academic and community members to support inclusive research training and knowledge sharing driven by, and for the benefit of the Indigenous.</p>
<p><u>First Nations Health Authority, Research and Knowledge Exchange</u></p> 	<p>The FNHA aims to support First Nations to redefine how research is conducted in communities, regions and the province. By sharing and protecting their knowledge, they respect cultural perspectives and values and strengthen traditional ways of knowing, and toward self-determination and intellectual sovereignty.</p>	<p>The FNHA aims to support research that is relevant, meaningful and beneficial in accordance with the Seven Directives, and the principle of First Nations Health Information Governance stipulated in the Tripartite Data Quality and Sharing Agreement TDQSA.</p>



<p><u>Indigenous Research Institute, Simon Fraser University, Office for Aboriginal Peoples</u></p>  <p>Office for Aboriginal Peoples</p>	<p>The Indigenous Research Institute promotes research by bringing together the expertise of Indigenous individuals, groups, and organizations with that of the academic community, to engage in work that meets goals and objectives that is specified by and meaningful to both Indigenous and academic individuals and groups.</p>	<p>The purpose of the Indigenous Research Institute is to promote research in areas related to Indigenous Peoples and to facilitate community-based projects with Indigenous partners. The Institute also promotes collaborative research within the university and will seek and support internal and external funding for the promotion and pursuit of such research.</p>
<p><u>Providence Health Care Research Institute</u></p> 	<p>The Providence Research Institute includes research partner of Providence Health Care affiliated with the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University, and has a focus on improving the community through robust learning environment, and also enhanced patient care.</p>	<p>At Providence Research, their expertise include laboratory, clinical, and epidemiological research in the fields of HIV/AIDS, heart disease, renal disease, gastro-intestinal diseases, psychiatry, geriatrics, and much more.</p>
<p><u>Women’s Health Research Institute (WHRI)</u></p>  	<p>The WHRI was established by BC Women’s Hospital + Health Centre to enhance and galvanize the impact of women’s health research conducted at BC Women’s Hospital and throughout BC.</p>	<p>WHRI is devoted to improving the health of girls and women through knowledge generation, serving as a catalyst for research in women’s health and supporting an expanding provincial and national network of women’s health researchers, policy makers and healthcare providers.</p>

National Mental Health and Substance Use Research Organizations

<p><u>Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research</u></p> 	<p>CIMVHR has developed partnerships and processes that ensure the best possible understanding of the current Canadian research landscape as it pertains to Military and Veteran Health Research. To further their goal of advancing research, they are dedicated to providing access to valuable publications, resources and research conferences.</p>	<p>CIMVHR provides the infrastructure to: enable more of Canada’s military, Veteran and family health research requirements to be met, enhance the accessibility of military, Veteran and family health research, and engage with stakeholders to foster collaborations, which enables increased research and improves knowledge translation activities.</p>
<p><u>Mental Health Research Canada (MHRC)</u></p> 	<p>Mental Health Research Canada (MHRC) is an innovative national charitable organization that is dedicated to improving the lives of Canadians by advancing mental health knowledge in a unique but important way: we ensure the fulsome engagement of people with lived experience throughout the entire research process. We pride ourselves on being nimble, collaborative, forward-looking and committed to excellence in all that we do.</p>	<p>With the onset of the recent pandemic, there has never been a more important time for mental health in Canada. More Canadians are struggling with their mental health than ever before. According to our research, more than a tenth of Canadians have thought about suicide in the past year; a quarter of Canadians report experiencing the effects of mental health symptoms in their day-to-day life; and one seventh of Canadians are likely to have symptoms of moderate to severe anxiety.</p>

<p><u>National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health (NCCIH)</u></p>  <p>National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health</p>	<p>NCCIH is a national Indigenous organization established in 2005 by the Government of Canada and funded through the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) to support First Nations, Inuit, and Métis public health renewal and health equity through knowledge translation and exchange. The NCCIH is hosted by the University of Northern BC (UNBC) in Prince George, BC.</p>	<p>The NCCIH will pursue its vision through knowledge synthesis, translation and exchange and the creation and fostering of linkages among First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and communities, stakeholders, the population and public health community, and researchers.</p>
<p>Other Mental Health and Substance Use Research Resources</p>		
<p><u>Brain Canada Foundation</u></p>  <p>Fondation Brain Canada Foundation</p>	<p>Brain Canada plays a valuable role as a national convener of those who support and advance brain research. A greater understanding of how the brain works contributes to the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of disorders of the brain, ultimately improving the health outcomes of people in Canada.</p>	<p>Brain Canada scientists aim to drive innovation, researchers have the resources to explore their boldest ideas, and where people across the country have access to solutions to disorders like ALS, epilepsy, and brain injury, mental health, and substance use.</p>
<p><u>Canadian Center on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA)</u></p>  <p>Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction</p>	<p>CCSA is a non-governmental organization to provide national leadership on substance use and to advance solutions to address alcohol- and other drug-related harms.</p>	<p>CCSA aims to improve wellness for those experiencing the harms of substance use through: an accessible, inclusive continuum of quality services and supports; and evidence-informed responses that reduce substance use harms.</p>

<p><u>Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)</u></p> 	<p>Through a presence in more than 330 communities across every province and one territory, CMHA provides advocacy and resources that help to prevent mental health problems and illnesses, support recovery and resilience, and enable all Canadians to flourish and thrive.</p>	<p>As a leading, accredited community-based mental health agency, CMHA Toronto supports the community mental health and addictions sector through data analysis, applied research and program evaluation.</p>
<p><u>Institute of Indigenous Peoples' Health (IIPH), Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR)</u></p> 	<p>IIPH fosters the advancement of a national health research agenda to improve and promote the health of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples in Canada, through research, knowledge translation and capacity building. The Institute's pursuit of research excellence is enhanced by respect for community research priorities and Indigenous knowledge, values and cultures.</p>	<p>IIPH is pursuing ambitious goals to improve the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples in every part of Canada by stimulating Indigenous health research, creating new knowledge, forming research partnerships with organizations in Canada and abroad and respectfully involving Indigenous communities in every project undertaken.</p>
<p><u>Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA); Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR)</u></p> 	<p>As one of CIHR's 13 Institutes, the INMHA contributes to this mandate by supporting research, and knowledge translation and exchange focused on the functioning and disorders of the brain, spinal cord, sensory systems and the mind.</p>	<p>INMHA supports research to enhance mental health, neurological health, vision, hearing, and cognitive functioning and to reduce the burden of related disorders through prevention strategies, screening, diagnosis, treatment, support systems, and palliation.</p>

<p><u>Reach BC</u></p> 	<p>REACH BC is an initiative of Michael Smith Health Research BC, British Columbia's health research agency. REACH BC helps catalyze health research in BC and is part of the organizational strategy working towards a future where BC is recognized worldwide and improves the health of British Columbians, the health system, and the economy.</p>	<p>REACH BC is a place where researchers employed by Health Authorities, Universities can share their health research studies to recruit participants from across BC. Looking for study participants or patient partners? Share your health research opportunity on REACH BC and get matched to volunteers across BC.</p>
<p><u>Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute</u></p> 	<p>VCHRI is in a unique position bridging world-class university research with leading clinical specialists, harnessing the brightest minds and opportunities that will fuel the future of medical innovation. We are committed to accelerating the translation and implementation of new discoveries, technologies and treatment options into the health care system.</p>	<p>The Vancouver Community (VC) Research Program focuses on creating new knowledge and applying it to care across residents' full lifespan through specialized programs for substance use, mental health, public health and aging populations. Investigators aim to design innovative clinical and health service interventions, and program evaluations that will lead to positive health outcomes for clients and their families.</p>