



BCRHN

British Columbia Rural Health Network

What is the BC Rural Health Network?

The BC Rural Health Network (BCRHN) is a not-for-profit society and CRA registered charity, that leads initiatives to improve healthcare in rural and remote communities across British Columbia by employing community-driven solutions and advocacy rooted in solid science. Confronting challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and a growing disconnect between rural residents and their healthcare systems, the BCRHN champions communication and solution-sharing among rural communities, recognizing that although communities are unique, there is pan-provincial applicability of local, successful health strategies.

The Network consists of over 120 health related organizations: non-profits, municipalities, regional districts and individuals working in cooperation with healthcare policymakers. The purpose of the Network is to promote and support a health services system that improves and sustains the health and well-being of residents of rural communities across British Columbia. The BC Rural Health Network is apolitical, nonpartisan and solutions based.

To learn more about the BC Rural Health Network, please visit our website:

<https://bcruralhealth.org/>

As an organization, we strive to:

1. Offer access to resources on rural well-being.
2. Offer access to reliable rural health news and information.
3. Record and share community experiences.
4. Present research-backed positions and solutions that are driven by rural communities.
5. Support system changes that help create equity in access to care and better health for all rural BC residents.

6. Share successful strategies to address rural healthcare concerns.
7. Advocate for policy changes that provide all rural residents with attachment to a health care practitioner.
8. Identify areas of research aimed at improving access to healthcare in rural communities and to provide fertile ground for research to take place.
9. Inform the BC Ministry of Health of rural healthcare concerns.
10. Recommend solutions for the improvement of services to rural BC residents.
11. Work in partnership with other provincial organizations to influence policy changes that improve access to healthcare services.
12. Recognize the healthcare concerns of indigenous communities and include their issues and concerns as part of our work.
13. Improve access to mental health services.
14. Promote patient-centred, community-based primary healthcare reform.

How we work:

Solutions based: we represent solutions that our membership agrees upon and don't represent people or organizations.

Evidence based: we work with research teams to validate our beliefs and to provide evidence of our positions.

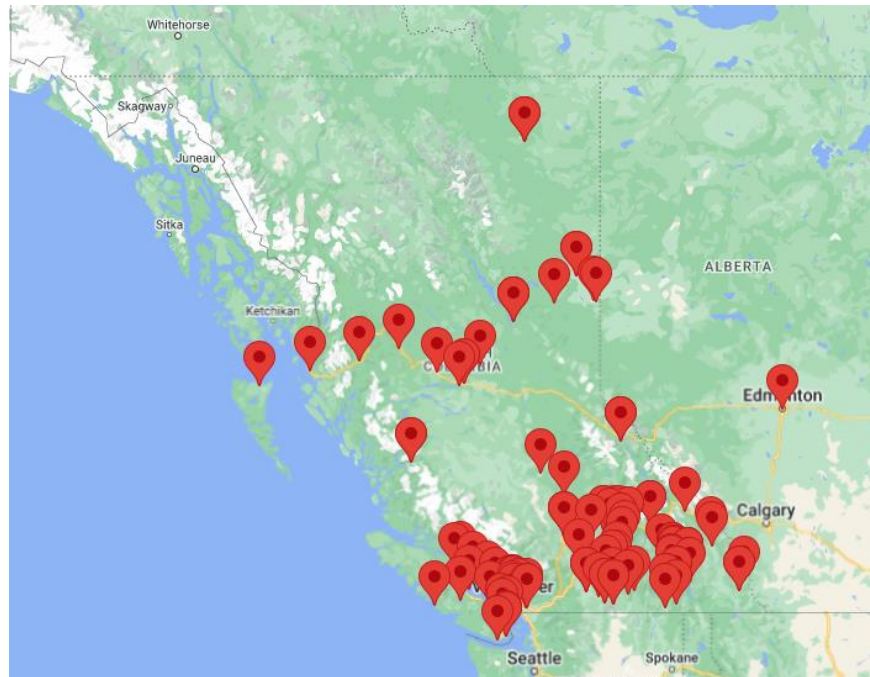
Driven by lived experience: we believe that qualitative data and the lived experiences of communities and their residents is often missed in developing health policy and procedures for rural communities. We seek the lived experience of individuals from across BC, we record and share these experiences.

Rural governance: we have a governance board that consists of a diverse group of rural community champions whose lived experience is from rural BC.

Inclusive and diverse: our team of directors, liaisons, and staff are from all walks of life, from all political perspectives, are all rural residents and represent a diverse and inclusive team. We seek to expand our diversity and include as many differing opinions as we can attract.

Committee and community driven positions: our committees are led by our volunteers and capture the voices and insights of rural communities.

Our Membership:



<p> 100 Mile House P. Adams Alzheimer Society of BC Angel Flight East Kootenay Ashcroft Ashcroft IDA Pharmacy S. Baker J. Baumgardner BC Association of Community Health Centres BC Association of Community Response Networks BC Crisis Line Network BC Health Coalition BC Hepatitis Network K. Beech Bella Coola Individual Member Doug Blackie Consulting J. Brunelle Burns Lake Canadian Cancer Society Castlegar & District Hospital Foundation Castlegar Regional District of Central Kootenay Central Okanagan Hospice Association Chase & District Health Services Foundation Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce M. Cohen Hospice Society of the Columbia Valley Community First Health Co-op Cortes Community Health Association Dawson Creek B. Day E. Demers Desert Valley Hospice Society B. Doig </p>	<p> East Shore Kootenay Lake Community Health Society Elk Valley Hospice Society R. Elliott Enderby Estela Maris De Guilo C. Firestone Fort Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce Fort St. James Fort St. John Save Our Northern Seniors Fort St. John Individual Members Foundry Fraser Lake Fraser Lake Individual Members Golden D. Grant Greater Trail Hospice Society Helicopters Without Borders Hope Air Hornby & Denman Community Healthcare Society Kaslo & Area D Health Care Select Committee Keremeos J. Kimmel Dr. S. A. Kimpson Lung Transport Housing Support Mackenzie Mackenzie Community Services March of Dimes Canada Masset Merritt & District Hospice Society C. Moss Nakusp Nanaimo Individual Member R. Narayan </p>	<p> Nelson Age Friendly Community Initiative Nelson Area Society for Health New Denver Slocan Chamber of Commerce New Denver Hospice Society New Denver New Denver Bluebirds Hospice Society of North Kootenay Lake Northern Rockies Regional Municipality Okanagan-Similkameen Community Acupuncture Oliver Options for Sexual Health Pender Harbour Health Centre Pender Island Health Care Society Port Alberni Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Nursing Services Pouce Coupe Powell River Voices Praxis Spinal Cord Institute Prince Rupert Princeton Support Our Health Care Society Quadra Island Health Society Radium Hotsprings Revelstoke Hospice Society Robic's Cube Counselling & Supports Rural Coordination Centre of BC Salmo Salmon Arm Shuswap Hospice Society Salt Spring Island Community Health Society Société de Développement Économique de la Colombie Britannique Shuswap Family Resource and Referral Society Sicamous Sicamous Eagle Valley Community Support Society Silverton </p>	<p> Slocan Slocan Community Health Care Auxiliary Society Smithers Sorrento & Area Community Health Centre Society South Shuswap Health Services Society Spallumcheen Sparwood Stigma-Free Society Sun Peaks Sunshine Coast Resource Centre Seniors Terrace Terrace Regional Hospice Network Society K. Thomas Thompson-Nicola Regional District Tofino Trail Society for Protection & Care of Seniors UBC Centre for Rural Health Research/Rural Evidence Review Umbrella Multicultural Health Cooperative University of Victoria Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health Victorian Hospital of Kaslo Auxiliary Society Violet Care, Inc. W.E. Graham Community Service Society West Kootenay Nav-care T. Wilde Williams Lake Williston Lake Elders Society </p> <p> 69 Organizations 31 Municipalities 23 Individuals 2 Regional Districts </p>
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Our Research, Positions and Developing Positions:

[Advancing Community Engagement in Healthcare in Rural BC](#)

[Challenges And Solutions](#)

[POSITION PAPERS FROM THE BC RURAL HEALTH NETWORK](#)

We are currently finalizing positions on:

- Agency Nursing
- Rural Long-Term Care

We work closely with the UBC Centre for Rural Health Research and you can view a full library of work and research on their website [here](#).

