

Regarding COVID-19

For trusted information we recommend these credible sources:

Protecting yourself and your community: [http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-\(novel\)](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-(novel))



Information and latest updates from the BC Centre for Disease Control on Twitter @CDCofBC or visit <http://www.bccdc.ca/>

- The latest audio clips of COVID-19 BC media availabilities: <https://soundcloud.com/bcgov>

Interior Health breaking news & information website:

<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/CommunicableDiseaseControl/Pages/Breaking-News-and-Info.aspx>

Community Recognition

Reimagining Rural Communities using Asset Based Community Development

In the past, rural communities across Canada depended on settlers to build infrastructure so communities could thrive and prosper. Fast forward 100 years and rural communities are now looking to re-imagine themselves. Learn how rural communities along the east shore of Kootenay Lake engaged residents using an Asset-Based Community Development approach. Read the case study [here](#).



Healthy Food Choices at Kamloops Tournament Capital Centre

The Tournament Capital Centre (TCC) in Kamloops is now offering patrons healthier choices in its vending machines. This move is part of a larger trend across Canada to improve the eating environments in schools, public buildings, and recreation facilities. The City of Kamloops received a \$1,100 grant from the BC Parks and Recreation Association to implement healthier vending choices at the city's busiest recreation facility, and will be a pilot project for other facilities in Kamloops. View a news article [here](#)

Events & Learning Opportunities

Rural Health Equity Conference 2020

Date: May 14 and 15, 2020 **Location:** Nelson, B.C.

Health inequities are all around us. One way to start addressing these inequities is to start talking about them. Jointly hosted by the Interior Health Research Department and the Rural Health Research Network of BC, this [conference](#) will explore strategies for genuine engagement and create dialogue about the implications of research findings. Recognizing that inequities are systemic manifestations of unfair distribution of power and privilege, this theme will also explore issues of decolonization and reconciliation. Register [here](#).

Last Reminder: Feedback on Housing Supply & Affordability in BC

Since the availability and affordability of housing is critical to good health, it is important for the public to provide input to our provincial government on these matters. The Government of BC has formed an Expert Panel on the Future of Housing Supply & Affordability to explore solutions to ensure there are affordable homes available for purchase or rent in BC's largest cities. Organizations and private citizens have an opportunity to submit their feedback up **until April 3, 2020 at 4pm**. Find out more information on how to submit your feedback [here](#).

Advancing Healthy Public Policy

Five Examples of Intersectoral Action for Health at the Local and Regional Level in Canada

This document describes five Canadian experiences of intersectoral action for health linked to local and regional governments. The main objective of this text is to provide examples for institutions who might wish to draw inspiration from these previous collaborative experiences. It is intended equally for local and regional health organizations and for local policy makers and non-governmental organizations. [Take a look at it here!](#) From the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy.

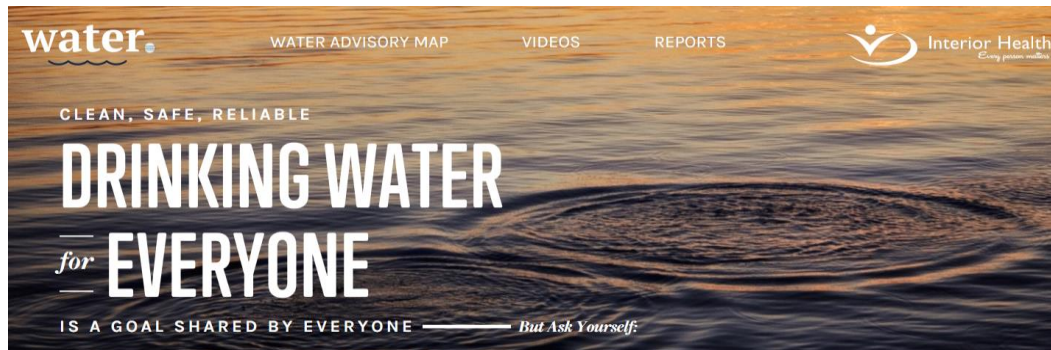
2019 BC Adolescent Health Survey – Regional Reports

Like we shared in January, the [BC Adolescent Health Survey](#) is used to gather information about young people's physical and emotional health, and about factors that can influence health during adolescence or in later life. Survey results are used extensively by schools, communities, government agencies, health professionals and by youth themselves in planning and evaluating programs and services. In addition to the provincial report, regional reports have also been created. A new report for the [Okanagan](#) has now been added to complement regional reports for [Thompson Cariboo Shuswap](#), [Kootenay Boundary](#) and [East Kootenay](#).

Drinking Water for Everyone – IH Website Reminder

Interior Health has a special website dedicated to understanding and learning about clean, safe, and reliable [drinking water for everyone!](#) How much do you really know about where your

drinking water comes from? Who treats it, delivers it to your home, and ensures that it is safe? Do you know the state of the drinking water systems in our region?



Funding News

Last Reminder: PlanH Healthy Communities Fund: Social Connectedness & Healthy Community Engagement

The PlanH Healthy Communities Fund, administered by BC Healthy Communities, is offering 20 grants for the 2020-2021 year across two funding streams: Social Connectedness and Healthy Community Engagement.



The [Social Connectedness](#) funding stream offers 15 grants of \$5,000 each, as well as support from BC Healthy Communities staff, for projects that foster relationship building among community members and create long-lasting social networks.

The [Healthy Community Engagement](#) stream offers five grants of \$15,000 each, as well as support from BC Healthy Communities staff, for in-depth, equitable community engagement initiatives that prioritize meaningful input from all community members.

The deadline for applications is **April 6, 2020**.

You can also contact us at healthycommunities@interiorhealth.ca to talk more about these opportunities.

BC Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC) - Sustainable Development Goals Funding Program

In 2015, Canada committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which set 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to eliminate poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity by the year 2030. The BCCIC has launched the Sustainable Development Goals Funding program to:

- building awareness of the 2030 Agenda
- increase partnerships and networks



- advance research
- further Canada's implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis for up to \$100,000 for projects that are up to 12 months in duration. Check out the opportunity [here](#).

Housing Needs Report Funding Program

[The Housing Needs Report program](#) is now receiving applications. This program is structured to reflect the local government planning areas that are required to complete housing needs reports, in accordance with provincial legislation. **The application deadline is May 1, 2020.** Based on the funding currently available, this may be the final intake for this program.

The links between health and housing are clear. Talk to us if you would like help with accessing population health data, collecting health evidence related to housing, organizing community engagements, or facilitating dialogue sessions!



Nutrition Month

March is Nutrition Month and this year, Canadian dietitians are talking about how healthy eating is about so much [More Than Food!](#) Dietitians are encouraging Canadians to consider not only what they eat, but how they eat too. Cooking and eating together provides opportunities to connect with one another and explore different cultural and traditional foods.



Sincerely,

Your Healthy Communities Team

healthycommunities@interiorhealth.ca

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