

## BULLETIN

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DATE: December 21, 2017

# HSA partners with BC Centre on Substance Use to support social work research fellowship in addiction care

Health Sciences Association of BC (HSABC) has partnered with the British Columbia Centre on Substance Use (BCCSU) to offer a research fellowship in addiction social work. As the leading union in providing multidisciplinary care services for British Columbians living with mental health and substance use challenges, HSA is committed to the professional development of health science professionals working in the field.

"The response to British Columbia's substance use crisis must come on many fronts," said HSA President Val Avery.

"This partnership with the BC Centre on Substance Use supports social workers, who are critical members of the multidisciplinary care team, to lead research on the clinical approaches to addictions care," she said.

The HSA-funded position in the BCCSU Addiction Social Work Fellowship adds to the number of positions being offered by this exciting and innovative interdisciplinary training program for health care providers working in the field of mental health and substance use.

### Background:

The BCCSU Addiction Social Work Fellowship was established in 2016, and is the first Addiction Social Work Fellowship in North America. Previously the St. Paul's GoldCorp Addiction Medicine Program, founded in 2013 by Dr. Evan Wood, the fellowship program currently includes nine positions in medicine, four positions in nursing, four positions in social work, and four positions in research. The program strives for excellence in interdisciplinary clinical training, scholarship, research, and advocacy preparing Fellows to work clinically in the field of addictions and take leadership roles in academic and/or research settings.

### Overview:

This is a paid professional development opportunity beginning on July 1, 2018 and may be completed over six months (full-time until December 31, 2018) or one year (part-time until June 30, 2019). The fellowship encourages learning experiences in a variety of settings including inpatient, outpatient, withdrawal

management, recovery oriented systems of care, concurrent disorders, specific populations (e.g. women, youth, First Nations, HIV), innovative practice, harm reduction, and research. The program also encourages didactic learning experiences through a two-week academic block, journal clubs, research and presentation skills development, leadership, clinical and research skills workshops, and lectures with interdisciplinary trainees (e.g., medicine, social work, allied health).

**Eligibility:**

Fellows must hold a minimum of a Master of Social Work degree and be registered and in good standing with the British Columbia College of Social Work.

**Application Deadline:**

The deadline for applications for the HSA-funded position in the BCCSU Addiction Social Work Fellowship is January 31, 2018. More information and full application details are available on the BCCSU website at [bccsu.ca](http://bccsu.ca), under the “training” tab.