OUR MISSION

To create an internationally recognized centre, distributed across BC, that is dedicated to research and knowledge exchange on substance use, harm reduction, and addiction.

OUR VALUES

- Collaborative relationships
- Independent research
- Ethics, social equity, and justice
- Reducing risk and increasing protection
- Harm reduction
- Informed public debate
CONTENTS

2  Message from the Chair
3  Message from the Director
4  Our People and Partners
6  Collaborating Centres
7  KEY RESULTS AREA 1
11  KEY RESULTS AREA 2
29  KEY RESULTS AREA 3
55  KEY RESULTS AREA 4
Message from Chair

For CARBC, the last year has been a mixture of significant financial constraints related to our endowment funding, substantial intellectual successes, and plans for sustained excellence in the years ahead.

Despite a challenging year because of the financial downturn which has affected Canada and the wider international economy, 2008/09 actually saw increased research income and output as well as enhanced contributions to graduate research training at UVic and also other campuses. This is a testament to the scholarship and initiative of the numerous faculty members, scientists, and graduate students associated with CARBC, as well as collaborating centres in BC, other parts of Canada, and internationally.

More specifically, CARBC faculty had over 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals in 2008, received over 600 citations in the Social Science Citation Index and achieved their greatest success with CIHR funding applications.

A major international conference was hosted by CARBC in Victoria with delegates from over 30 countries while Dan Reist, assistant director (knowledge exchange), was a Canadian representative at a formal United Nations meeting in Vienna which received reports on progress with the UN Beyond 2008 initiative analysis drugs. I am pleased to note the arrival of sociologists Drs. Cecilia Benoit and Mikael Jansson as new CARBC faculty members as well as Drs Gerald Thomas (Political Science) and Cheryl Cherpitel (Nursing – part time).

Finally, I am delighted to report that Dr. Tim Stockwell was reappointed as Director for a further five-year term, effective as of July 1, 2009, ensuring persistent vigour and skilful dedication to CARBC.

On behalf of the entire Advisory Board, I wish Tim, his staff, and colleagues continued success in conducting high quality research that increases understanding of substance use and addiction; that informs effective responses; and that contributes to the implementation of evidence-based graduate training, policy and practice.

Michael J. Prince, MPA, PhD  
Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy Chair
Message from the Director

There is perhaps nothing like a major financial crisis to test the resilience of an organization and to confirm its strengths, both internally and externally. Preparing for the prospect of core funding going from almost half $1 million per annum to zero as our CARBC endowment fund went dramatically “underwater” has been a dominant issue for me and the Centre this past year. I have certainly come to appreciate greatly the safety net that comes with being part of a well-established research-intensive University. After we made every effort to economize in 2008, UVic Vice-President of Research, Dr Howard Brunt, stepped in to underwrite core operations for the 2009/2010 year - for which we are all immensely grateful!

In addition, it has been a time to appreciate the additional resilience that comes with University faculty appointments connected with CARBC, which are mostly immune to this kind of financial threat as they are mostly separately funded and several benefit from security of tenure. In that regard, we have been incredibly fortunate to have been able to expand our faculty through three significant Scientist appointments. Dr Cecilia Benoit, who has a long and distinguished track record in the study of vulnerable populations including injecting drug users and high-risk youth, brought her research program over to CARBC along with enthusiasm to help build and establish the Centre’s capacity for research and graduate training. Dr Cheryl Cherpitel, whose major appointment remains with the Alcohol Research Group in Emeryville, California (a longtime CARBC collaborating Centre), has accepted a part-time Scientist appointment and an adjunct professorship with the School of Nursing at UVic. Anyone who googles “alcohol and injury” will immediately learn that Cheryl is by far the world’s leading authority on the subject and has, among many other credits, an impressive collaboration spanning more than 30 countries. Dr Gerald Thomas, who is based with Dan Reist in the Vancouver knowledge exchange unit, was accorded adjunct associate professor status at UVic in the Department of Political Science, recognizing his immense expertise and strong track record working on addiction policy issues, nationally and provincially. With such added strengths, coupled with a wonderful group of graduate students, research and support staff, I am confident that CARBC will continue to grow and prosper despite the present challenging environment.

I take this opportunity to thank our collaborators, funders and supporters - I wish you all the same good fortune in these difficult times.

Tim Stockwell, PhD
Director, CARBC
OUR PEOPLE AND PARTNERS

Faculty

Dr. Tim Stockwell
Director (Psychology)

Dr. Scott Macdonald
Assistant Director (Health Information Science)

Dr. John F. Anderson
Scientist (Community Medicine/Education)

Dr. Cecilia Benoit
Scientist (Sociology)

Dr. Cheryl Cherpitel
Scientist (Nursing)

Dr. Benedikt Fischer
Director of Illicit Drugs, Public Health and Policy Unit (till August 2008)

Dr. Michael Jansson
Scientist (Sociology)

Dr. Gerald Thomas
Senior Policy Analyst, Communication and Resource Unit (Political Science)

Staff (Victoria)

Ms. Angelle Brown
Secretary/Assistant to the Director (till May 2008)

Ms. Michelle Coghlan
Research Associate

Ms. Victoria Emberly
Research Assistant

Ms. Katharine Fisher
Research Associate (till August 2008)

Ms. Rita Fromholt
Administrator

Ms. Jude Gittins
Research Associate (till September 2008)

Mr. Andrew Ivsins
Research Assistant

Ms. Lorissa Martens
Research Associate

Ms. Basia Pakula
Research Associate (till July 2008)

Dr. Tessa Parkes
Research Consultant

Mr. Ajay Puri
Research Associate

Ms. Dawn Richardson
Research Assistant

Ms. Richa Sharma
Research Assistant (till July 2008)

Ms. Jen Theil
Secretary/Assistant to the Director

Ms. Sana Zehra
Workstudy Student

Mr. Jinhui Zhao
Data Analyst

Staff (Vancouver)

Mr. Dan Reist
Director of Communication and Resource Unit

Ms. Jennifer Bond
Administrator

Ms. Rielie Capler
Research Assistant

Mr. Laverne Douglas
IT Specialist

Dr. Tim Dyck
Research Associate

Ms. Nicole Pankratz
Publications Officer

Ms. Bette Reimer
Research Associate

Ms. Lu Ripley
Research Associate

Ms. Evelyn Souza
Information Officer

Ms. Cathy Spence
Assistant to Mr. Dan Reist

Site Directors

Dr. Cindy Hardy
University of Northern British Columbia, Psychology

Dr. Corinne Koehn
Acting Site Director
University of Northern British Columbia, July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009

Dr. Reid Webster
Thompson Rivers University, Psychology/Centre for Excellence in Addictions Research
**Advisory Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Micheal Prince, Chair</td>
<td>Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy, University of Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Howard Brunt</td>
<td>Vice President Research, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Elliot Goldner</td>
<td>Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Pat Griffin</td>
<td>Executive Director, Victoria Youth Empowerment Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Jocelyn Harder</td>
<td>Regional Addictions Advocacy Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Colin Jones</td>
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<td>Director, Addictive Behaviours Research Centre, University of Washington</td>
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**Research Fellows**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Gordon Barnes</td>
<td>Professor, School of Child and Youth Care, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Susan Boyd</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Studies in Policy and Practice, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jeffrey Brubacher</td>
<td>Emergency Physician and Researcher, Vancouver General Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jane Buxton</td>
<td>Physician Epidemiologist, BC Centre for Disease Control and Assistant Professor, Health Care and Epidemiology, University of BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Cameron Duff</td>
<td>Research Lead, Youth Addiction Services, Vancouver Coastal Health and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Health Care and Epidemiology, University of BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Clay Holroyd</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater</td>
<td>Director, Centre for Youth and Society, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. David Marsh</td>
<td>Clinical Associate Professor, Health Care &amp; Epidemiology, and Psychiatry, Providence Health Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Timothy Pelton</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Eric Roth</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Victoria</td>
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**Research Affiliates**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Robinder Bedi</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Psychology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. David Brown</td>
<td>Research Scientist and Senior Project Manager, Mental Health and Addictions Services, Provincial Health Services Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Dean Nicholson</td>
<td>Administrator/Counsellor, East Kootenay Addiction Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bernie Pauly</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria</td>
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**Graduate Students**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Kristina Brache</td>
<td>Department of Psychology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Connie Carter</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Michelle Coghlan</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Anna Maruyama</td>
<td>School of Health Information Sciences, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Kara Murray</td>
<td>Department of Psychology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Andrew Ivsins</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, University of Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Kate Vallance</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Warren Michelow</td>
<td>Department of Health Care and Epidemiology, University of BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Kate Vallance</td>
<td>Department of Sociology, University of Victoria</td>
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</table>
COLLABORATING CENTRES

British Columbia

Centre for Applied Research in Mental Health and Addiction, Simon Fraser University
Centre for Social Responsibility, Simon Fraser University
National Institute for Research in Sustainable Community Development, Kwantlen University College

Other Parts of Canada

Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, Ottawa
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Public Health and Regulatory Policy Division, Toronto

International

Addictive Behavior Research Centre, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Unit, Medical Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa
Alcohol Research Group, National Alcohol Research Centre, Berkeley, CA, USA
Prevention Research Centre, Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, Berkeley, CA, USA
National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Perth, W. A., Australia.

CARBC 08/09 Revenue Summary

- Knowledge Exchange Contracts: $942,491 (39%)
- Research Contracts: $714,354 (30%)
- Grant Competitions: $265,746 (11%)
- Endowment: $493,942 (20%)

[Graph showing distribution]
To build research infrastructure and capacity across BC for the conduct of research that will increase understanding and support more effective responses to substance use.

HIGHLIGHTS

Our capacity to conduct research in the area of substance use and related harms was substantially boosted this year by the arrival of sociologists Drs. Cecilia Benoit and Mikael Jansson as new CARBC faculty members. They bring with them established and well funded research programs focusing on at risk youth and women, strong interdisciplinary research networks and a cohort of talented graduate students. Similarly, Dr. Cheryl Cherpitel’s part-time appointment as a Scientist and adjunct associate professor brings world class expertise in the study of alcohol-related injuries and their prevention to the province. We were also as a group more successful than in any previous year in attracting new funds from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Two of these successful bids were at least partly built on earlier success with a new emerging team grant focusing on patterns and consequences of combined substance use. Scott Macdonald and co-investigators were ranked first among 47 applications across Canada in a funding round for a project concerning combined use of alcohol and cocaine. Performance indicators summarized below indicate increased research income and contributions to graduate research training.
Patterns and Consequences of Cocaine and Alcohol Use for Treatment Clients

Cross-National Analysis of Alcohol and Injury
Cherpitel, C. (PI). National Institutes of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, $1,087,265 from August 2008 to July 2012

HerWay Home Program BC

HIV Point of Care Testing for People Who Use Injection Drugs in Victoria, BC
Roth, E. (PI),University of Victoria, Vice-President Research, $2,500 from April 2008 to March 2010

Is there a “low-risk” drinking level for youth? The harm associated with adolescent drinking patterns
Murray, K. (PI),Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, $17,500 from September 2008 to September 2009

Polysubstance Use: Psychosocial Functions of Combined Use of Alcohol and Psychostimulants
Brache, K. (PI), Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, $40,000 from September 2008 to August 2010

Preventing the Transition of At-Risk Youth into IDU
Buxton, J., Chambers, C., Taylor, D. & Saewyc, E . Vancouver Foundation, $80,000 from April 2008 to March 2009

The Implications of Adolescent Health and Health Risk Behaviors for Health in Early Adulthood: Sources of Continuities and Discontinuities in Developmental Trajectories Over 10 Years

Translating the Knowledge Gained from Healthy Youth in a Healthy Society

Women, Gender, and Addictions: Exploring Intersections with Trauma, Violence and Mental Health
Greaves, L. (PI), Johnson, J., Benoit, C., Pauly, B., Stockwell, T., Bottorff, J., Browne, A., Holroyd, C. et al.. Canadian Institutes of Health Research, $2,100,000 from January 2009 to December 2013

Street Youth’s Transitions to Adulthood
Commissioned research contracts won

**BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project: Phase II**
Stockwell, T. (PI). Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, $20,000 from April 2008 to March 2009

**BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project: Data Analysis**

**BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project: Phase II**
Stockwell, T. (PI). Northern Health Authority, $15,000 from April 2008 to March 2009

**“Sir Ringe” Program Evaluation**
Webster, R., (PI) & Stockwell, T. (Co-PI). Ministry of Health, $15,000 from April 2008 to March 2009

**Evaluation of the BC Methadone Maintenance Treatment Program**
Stockwell, T., & Parkes, T., Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, $25,000 from October 2008 to March 2009

**Recommended Protocols for Studying Illicit Drug Use & Health Risks in Marginalized Populations**
Fischer, B. (PI). Vancouver Island Health Authority, $24,500 from April 2008 to March 2009

**Kettil Bruun Society Annual Symposium on Epidemiological Research on Alcohol**

**I-Track Survey of People Who Use Injection Drugs**
Fife, M. (PI), & Roth, E. (Co-I). Vancouver Island Health Authority, $50,000 from April 2008 to May 2009

**Evaluation of the BC Methadone Maintenance Treatment Program**
Stockwell, T., & Parkes, T., Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, $45,000 from October 2008 to March 2009

Research infrastructure support

**BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Hub**

**BC Mental Health and Addictions Research Network - Co-Leader Support**

**Drug & Alcohol Review - Regional Editor for the Americas support**
Stockwell, T. (PI). Drug and Alcohol Review, $50,000 from July 2008 to July 2013
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2008-09</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Achieve increased funding for addictions research in BC.</td>
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<td>1.2</td>
<td>Increase funding applications for long-term research programs addressing research areas of high priority in BC.</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
<td>Achieve successful collaborations with researchers and community partners.</td>
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<td>1.4</td>
<td>Attract and retain high quality researchers from a broad range of disciplines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Attract high quality students from a broad range of disciplines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Provide training opportunities and programs for the development of additional research skills among CARBC staff, students and affiliates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>To provide mentorship to new and existing researchers across a range of community settings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>Improve access to data sets and platforms for addiction researchers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>Support provincial, national and international research capacity through editorial and peer review activities.</td>
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HIGHLIGHTS

As our research programs mature, a range of projects are underway or have been completed across each of six priority areas identified in our 2006-2010 Strategic Plan. These priorities include the monitoring of substance use patterns and related harms; the evaluation of prevention, treatment and regulatory strategies; the study of social and structural determinants of problematic substances, and the evaluation of knowledge exchange strategies. Our CIHR new emerging team grant to examine cross substance issues as well as the BC alcohol and other drug monitoring project have enabled us to establish a rich array of epidemiological datasets charting patterns of substance use and related harms across the province. We have built collaborations with treatment agencies, indigenous communities and government departments to evaluate a range of strategies including brief interventions in primary health care, the impact on public health and safety of privatising the liquor market and policies concerning the provision of methadone in BC. In addition, CARBC faculty engaged in studies exploring the role of social stigma as a barrier to receiving health care services for vulnerable populations. The majority of performance indicators for this area suggest increased research output from CARBC across a wide range of study areas.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 1
EDUCATIONAL, LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY STRATEGIES

CARBC PROJECTS

An analysis of non-response bias in national alcohol and drug surveys using the 2004 Canadian Addiction Survey

INVESTIGATORS: Zhao, J., Stockwell, T., & Macdonald, S. (Co-Is)
FUNDING BODY: CARBC

SUMMARY: A growing problem in telephone survey research is reduced response rates from a variety of causes such as respondent fatigue and increased use of cell phones. The 2004 Canadian Addiction Survey achieved a national response rate of 47%, while in BC the response rate was only 43%. This study examined the impact of this low response rate on levels of self-reported substance use. It was found that rates of substance use were higher in the 2004 CAS than the 2002 CCHS suggesting the low response rate may have provided a positive bias to levels of substance use reported. Late responders were significantly more likely to report alcohol, cannabis and some other drug use than early responders to the 2004 CAS suggesting negative effects of non-response bias. Corrections for this bias were made and new estimates of prevalence of substance use in Canada reported. The analysis has been completed, a paper was presented at the 34th annual symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society, Victoria, BC, June 2008 and is now in press with the journal Drug and Alcohol Review.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Completed.

Alcohol consumption in moderation

INVESTIGATORS: Fillmore, K. (Co-PI), Stockwell, T. (Co-PI), Kerr, W., Bostrom, A., & Chikritzhs, T.
FUNDING BODY: CARBC

BACKGROUND: A meta-analysis of published research on the relationship between the level of alcohol use and risk of premature death was conducted in order to examine what happened to the apparent health benefits of moderate alcohol consumption when different biases were eliminated from the studies. Additional information was sought from the original authors to access original results.

PROGRESS TO DATE: The first results, published in March 2006, received extensive international media coverage. Eight commentaries on this paper and one response were published in March 2007. A follow-up paper was published in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs, featuring estimates for numbers of deaths prevented and caused by different drinking patterns in Canada under different scenarios of cardiac protection as well as gender differences in this protection. An updated meta-analysis examining gender differences in health benefits and costs as a function of level of drinking was presented at the 2009 Kettil Bruun Society annual symposium.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 1
EDUCATIONAL, LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY STRATEGIES

BC alcohol and other drug monitoring project: Implementation phase II


BACKGROUND: CARBC was awarded a contract from PHSA and Health Canada to pilot a comprehensive alcohol and other drug epidemiological monitoring system for Canada. This is now being fully implemented in British Columbia and elements of the program are also being implemented in other Canadian provinces.


PROGRESS TO DATE: Full implementation of the monitoring system is underway involving multiple data collection components and regular reports on the project website: www.AODmonitoring.ca.

Cross-substance patterns of use, consequences and policy responses


BACKGROUND: Much of the literature that informs current understandings of psychoactive substance use and addictive behaviour, and which shapes policy responses, is based on studies that focus on a single substance type or problem outcome. This project will examine the patterns of multiple substance use, its adverse outcomes, longitudinal analysis of relationships between different substances in youth and young adults, and the population impacts of patterns of multiple substance use in BC. The multidisciplinary team will focus on three main issues: (i) transitions between different patterns of use and different classes of substances used during adolescence and young adulthood, (ii) patterns of substance use that increase the risk of Emergency Department presentations for injury or overdose, and (iii) multiple substance use and risk behaviours among street drug users.

FUNDING BODY: Canadian Institutes of Health Research (New Emerging Team Grant)

PROGRESS TO DATE: 18 research projects undertaken to date, 7 peer-reviewed publications in press or published, 2 major new grants won, 5 graduate scholarships and 14 conference presentations all facilitated or funded directly from this grant.
Patterns and consequences of cocaine and alcohol use for treatment clients

**INVESTIGATORS:** Macdonald, S. (PI), Borges, G., Callaghan, R., Roth, E., Salmon, A., Stockwell, T., & Wells, S. (Co-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** Research has shown that treatment populations frequently use alcohol and cocaine simultaneously (i.e., on the same occasion) and concurrently (i.e., on separate occasions). The aims of this study are twofold: 1) to describe the patterns, functions and contexts of alcohol and cocaine use among treatment clients and 2) to identify acute and long-term differences among the three groups defined by their primary use of alcohol alone, cocaine alone or simultaneous use of cocaine and alcohol. Gender and sex differences will be examined among these aforementioned dimensions. Groups of treatment clients who primarily use cocaine alone (n=200), alcohol alone (n=200) or cocaine and alcohol simultaneously (n=200) will complete a self-administered questionnaire.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Initial data collection has begun at the Bellwood Institute in Toronto, Ontario and the proposal is currently under review by the Niagara Health System for proposed data collection in New Port treatment Centre. Negotiations are underway with treatment agencies in British Columbia as additional sites for data collection.

**INVESTIGATORS:** Macdonald, S. (PI), Borges, G., Callaghan, R., Roth, E., Salmon, A., Stockwell, T., & Wells, S. (Co-Is)

**FUNDING BODY:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research

The Age of Initiation of Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana as Predictors of Simultaneous Polysubstance Use

**INVESTIGATORS:** Murray, K., Brache, K., Stockwell, T., Jansson, M., & Barnes, G. (Co-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** Psychology graduate students (KM and KB) undertook an analysis of the Victoria Healthy Youth Survey, longitudinal study of Victoria youth initially aged 12 to 17 years. The third wave of the study was analyzed which included 560 young people aged 17 to 24 years to explore the significance of the age at which they initiated use of different legal and illegal substances as predictors of hazardous and simultaneous substance use patterns.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** A paper has been submitted to the International Journal of Drug Policy.

**INVESTIGATORS:** Murray, K., Brache, K., Stockwell, T., Jansson, M., & Barnes, G. (Co-Is)

**FUNDING BODY:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Alcohol, drug use and injury in the emergency department

**INVESTIGATORS:** Cherpitel, C. J. (PI), Brubacher, J., Stenstrom, R., & Grafstein, E. (Co-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** This is a study of alcohol and other drug use and injury in two emergency rooms in Vancouver, BC funded through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research New Emerging Team grant.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Protocols and instruments have been developed, ethics clearance has been obtained, interviewers have been trained and data collection has begun at two hospitals in Vancouver.
Is there a “low-risk” drinking level for youth? The harm associated with adolescent drinking patterns

**INVESTIGATORS:** Murray, K. (Masters thesis), Stockwell, T. (Supervisor)

**BACKGROUND:** Significant proportions of Canadian youth are consuming alcohol above the current low-risk drinking guidelines for adults, and are at significant risk of harm. However, little is known about the harms experienced by youth consuming alcohol within the low-risk drinking guidelines. The objective of this study is to contribute to discussions about how great the risk of harm is for youth at different drinking levels, specifically at low frequency and quantity levels, relative to abstainers. Is there a threshold of risk for harm?

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Masters thesis submitted and paper presented at an international conference.

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**CARBC AFFILIATED PROJECTS**

**Cross-national analysis of alcohol and injury**

**INVESTIGATORS:** Cherpitel, C. (PI)

**BACKGROUND:** The study consists of a cross-national analysis of emergency rooms from 25 countries for analysis of alcohol and injury.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Data are being merged from ER studies covering 38 ER sites across 18 countries for continuing analysis of the Emergency Room Collaborative Alcohol Analysis Project and the WHO Collaborative Study on Alcohol and Injury (ERCAAP/WHO) merged data set.

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**The CEDAR project: Exploring HIV and hepatitis C vulnerabilities among young aboriginal drug users in three Canadian cities**


**BACKGROUND:** Multi-centre prospective cohort study of drug using aboriginal youth in British Columbia including risk factors for acquisition of blood-borne infections.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Data collection is ongoing.
Examining the Effects of Alcohol Misuse on the Neuropsychological and Neuropathological Outcome from Traumatic Brain Injury: A Longitudinal Study


BACKGROUND: Patients who are intoxicated at time of traumatic brain injury have a worse prognosis than those who are sober. It is unknown whether this is due to the adverse neurological consequences of lifetime alcohol consumption or due to deleterious acute effects of alcohol intoxication such as coagulopathy or hypotension.

PROGRESS TO DATE: This is a planned 5 year longitudinal study designed to determine why patients who are intoxicated at the time of a brain injury have a worse outcome than those who are not intoxicated. We are studying the relative contributions of acute intoxication versus lifetime alcohol consumption. We have funding for one year and have applied (decision pending) for additional funding.

Proportion Of Injured Drivers Who Engage In Future Impaired Driving Activities After Presenting To A Tertiary Care Emergency Department


BACKGROUND: This study is part of an ongoing research programme at Vancouver General Hospital exploring the impact of alcohol and other substance use on road trauma. In this particular component persons attending the emergency department for treatment following and alcohol impaired road injury followed up to determine the likelihood of engaging impaired driving in the future.

PROGRESS TO DATE: The manuscript has been submitted for publication (decision pending). Data analysis has also been completed for a sister project looking at the future driving behaviours of impaired passengers treated in the ED for injuries.

Driving Under the Influence of Drugs


BACKGROUND: Alcohol impairment has been convincingly demonstrated to increase the risk of car crashes. Marijuana use is known to adversely affect the skills required for safe driving but the role of marijuana intoxication in causing motor vehicle crashes is less well demonstrated. This planned project will further define the contribution of marijuana and other drug use to car crashes causing injury.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Pilot data has been collected on 56 injured drivers and will be presented in abstract from at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians. We are applying for additional grant funding to continue the project.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 2
EDUCATIONAL, LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY STRATEGIES

CARBC PROJECTS

Patterns of alcohol consumption in Canada and implications for policy

**INVESTIGATORS:** Stockwell, T. (PI), Zhao, J., Thomas, G., & Sturge, J. (Co-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** This project is a further examination of the 2004 Canadian Addiction Survey with a view to examining the extent to which ‘risky’ alcohol consumption in Canada is concentrated in just a few heavy drinkers or is spread across much of the drinking population. Risk of consumption was assessed against various Canadian and international low-risk drinking guidelines. The purpose was to question whether alcohol policies to reduce harm should target high-risk individuals or the entire population of drinkers.

**SUMMARY:** The analysis has been completed and a paper has been published in the journal Addiction Research and Theory.

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Health and CARBC Endowment

Price and tax incentives for consumers to choose lower alcohol content beverages

**INVESTIGATORS:** Stockwell, T. (PI), Segal, D., Zhao, J., Macdonald, S., & Pakula, B. (Co-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** Price, alcohol content and alcohol sales data was obtained from the BC Liquor Distribution Branch in order to estimate typical market share and retail prices for different alcohol content drinks. In many instances these data show that higher alcohol content varieties (e.g. beer and coolers) have lower prices than do low alcohol content drinks.

**SUMMARY:** A statistical bulletin was released in December 2007 at a public seminar in Victoria and an article published in peer-reviewed journal International Journal of Drug Policy in 2008.

**FUNDING BODY:** CARBC Endowment

The public health impact of the partial privatization of British Columbia’s government alcohol retail monopoly, 2001-2007

**INVESTIGATORS:** Stockwell, T. (PI), Zhao, J., Macdonald, S., Gruenewald, P., & Holder, H. (CO-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** British Columbia’s government retail alcohol monopoly has been gradually privatized in recent years with a -6.3% change in monopoly stores and a 44.8% increase in private liquor stores. Over the same period per capita alcohol sales per person aged 15 and over increased from 7.72 litres to 8.23 L (+6.6%). Two hypotheses were tested regarding the observed increase in alcohol sales in BC: (i) this was due to an increase in density of liquor outlets (ii) this was due to an increasing proportion of stores being private. The BC Liquor Distribution Branch provided data on litres of ethanol sold through different types of outlets in 28 regions of the province by beverage type. Multilevel regression analyses have been conducted to test this hypothesis.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** A paper was presented at the 34th annual symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society, Victoria, BC which in a revised form and utilizing more detailed local area data has been accepted for publication in the journal Addiction. A second paper looking at the impact of changes in consumption on alcohol caused mortality is in preparation.

**FUNDING BODY:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research and CARBC (Endowment)
RESEARCH PRIORITY 2
EDUCATIONAL, LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY STRATEGIES

CARBC AFFILIATED PROJECTS

Cannabis use control policy reform: Beyond stale

INVESTIGATORS: Room, R. (PI), Fischer, B., Hall, W., Lenton, S., Reuter, P. (Co-Is)

BACKGROUND: This comprehensive study by a group of authors from Australia, Canada and the US – aimed for presentation at the UNGASS 2009 – will examine: cannabis use epidemiology around the world; health effects of cannabis use; existing cannabis control policy reform models and their impact on use and harms; options for reform of the international drug control treaties with respect to cannabis use. The report will conclude with a set of recommendations for cannabis use control reform options around the world with the aim of cannabis control policy primarily guided by a framework of public health, good public policy and human rights.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Completed.

Media, methamphetamine and marijuana grow-op project

INVESTIGATORS: Boyd, S. (PI)

BACKGROUND: The project examines national, provincial, and local print media, policy initiatives, and criminal and civil responses over a 12 year period in relation to discourses about methamphetamine and marijuana grow-ops.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Currently gathering and correlating the data over a 12 year period using Nvivo. One article is under review for publication.

Quality of service assessment of Health Canada's Marihuana Medical Access Division

INVESTIGATORS: Lucas, P. & Hathaway, A. (Co-Is)

BACKGROUND: Consisting of an online survey coupled with 25 semi-structured interviews of federally-authorized medical cannabis patients, this is the first attempt to solicit feedback on Canada’s federal medical cannabis program from end-users.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Data gathering for this project is complete.

Current trends and behaviours relating to alcohol use on college campuses

INVESTIGATORS: Webster, R., Bastaja, K., & Sugden, C. (Co-Is)

BACKGROUND: The focus of this study was to examine university students’ patterns of alcohol use and misuse. A questionnaire examining students’ alcohol consumption as well as their attitudes and beliefs towards, and perceived norms about, drinking, was administered to students currently attending Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Complete.
CARBC PROJECTS

“Sir Ringe” program evaluation

**INVESTIGATORS:** Webster, R., (PI) & Stockwell, T. (Co-PI)

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Health and Interior Health Authority

**BACKGROUND:** The “Sir Ringe” program is designed to teach children and youth about “good” needles and “bad” needles. It was developed through the Interior Health Authority and has been piloted in Kamloops and several other small communities in BC. Dr. Reid Webster, CARBC site director with Thompson Rivers University, has worked with the Interior Health Authority and the Ministry of Health to develop the objectives and goals of the project. Program will be delivered and evaluated during 2009 in two comparable communities: Vernon and Salmon Arm

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** The evaluation protocol has been prepared and submitted for ethics approval.

CARBC AFFILIATED PROJECTS

A transdisciplinary approach to understanding and modeling injection drug risk behaviour in Victoria, BC

**INVESTIGATORS:** Roth, E., Exner, H. (Co-PIs), Cowen, L., Ma, J. & van den Driessche, P. (Co-Is)

**FUNDING BODY:** Vancouver Foundation

**BACKGROUND:** Research Question: Why do people who use injection drugs still share injection equipment even though they are enrolled in a long-standing needle exchange program?

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Conducted survey of 105 clients of AIDS Vancouver Island’s Needle Exchange Program, coded data, submitted one paper to Journal of Harm Reduction.

Changes in the use of pharmaceutical opiates in chronic pain sufferers newly-registered with a community-based medical cannabis dispensary

**INVESTIGATORS:** Lucas, P. (Masters thesis)

**BACKGROUND:** This research is a pre-test and post-test study of the changes in licit and illicit substance use patterns in new members of the Vancouver Island Compassion Society, with a focus on the use of pharmaceutical opiates. Consisting of an extensive substance use and chronic pain survey designed by Philippe Lucas, this is an examination of the changes in use of pharmaceutical opiates and other substances following registration with a medical cannabis dispensary.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Data gathering for this project is complete. Thesis writing is underway.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 3
COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Doing time: A time for incarcerated women to develop an action health strategy

**INVESTIGATORS:** Martin, R., Janssen, P. (Co-PIs), & Buxton, J. A. (Co-I).

**BACKGROUND:** To determine women’s ability to meet their health and social needs during the year following release from prison and the success of their reintegration into the community, interviewing women on release and at 3 month intervals.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Survey tool developed, enrollment ongoing.

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Perceptions of health effects and social implications of cannabis use among therapeutic and recreational cannabis consumers

**INVESTIGATORS:** Balneaves, L., Bottorff, J., Buxton, J., Brazier, A., Long, B., & Olliffe, J. (Co-Is)

**BACKGROUND:** Research to understand therapeutic cannabis use and develop recommendations for best practices related to: a) supporting consumers in making informed decisions about their use of therapeutic cannabis and b) communicating the health and social implications of therapeutic cannabis use.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Qualitative interviews completed and analyzed.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 4
TREATMENT SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMS

CARBC PROJECTS

Crack use in Vancouver Island communities

INVESTIGATORS: Fischer, B. (PI), Rehm, J., & Firestone-Cruz, M. (Co-Is)
FUNDING BODY: Vancouver Island Health Authority & Ministry of Health

BACKGROUND: Crack use is a highly common form of illicit drug use among street drug users in BC and elsewhere, yet little is known about their specific drug use, health and intervention needs characteristics, especially outside larger urban areas. This project explored these features among street-involved crack users in study outside the VIHA region.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Data collection in VIHA region municipalities has been completed.

Evaluation of the BC methadone maintenance treatment program

INVESTIGATORS: Parkes, T. (PI), & Stockwell, T. (Co-PI)
FUNDING BODY: Ministry of Health

BACKGROUND: The Ministry of Health has asked CARBC to evaluate the BC Methadone Maintenance Program (MMTP) and report back key findings and recommendations for improvement. The purpose and objectives of the evaluation were to examine MMTP systems and identify factors related to treatment access, retention, quality, effectiveness and inequalities, investigate the fiscal issues and accountabilities related to the MMTP, and summarize findings and make recommendations for improvement. The evaluation was conducted throughout 2008 and resulted in a comprehensive report for the Ministry of Health submitted in May 2009. A qualitative approach to gathering views from a wide range of stakeholders across the province, including methadone clients and consumers, was utilised.

PROGRESS TO DATE: The report is being edited by Dan Reist and combined with a report from a UBC health research group presenting a quantitative analysis of Pharmanet data.

CARBC AFFILIATED PROJECTS

Hepatitis C treatment study in preparation for illicit drug users in community clinics in Vancouver and Victoria

INVESTIGATORS: Conway, B. (PI), & Fischer, B. (Co-I)
FUNDING BODY: Canadian Institutes for Health Research

BACKGROUND: Illicit drug users are by far the largest risk population for Hepatitis C infection, yet they are rarely considered for treatment. This trial will operationalize different Hep C treatment models for the target population in Vancouver and Victoria clinic sites, and focus on factors influencing treatment uptake and outcomes.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Completed
Alcohol risk assessment and identification (ARAI) update

INVESTIGATORS: Brown, D., & Anderson, J.F. (Co-PIs)

BACKGROUND: Dr. Brown has been asked by the CFPC and the CCSA to upgrade this package, both in form and content. He is assisted by Dr. John F. Anderson. The project will take place over the next 12 months, and will be guided by an expert advisory panel that includes several physicians from across Canada. Minimal alcohol screening facilitates the identification and appropriate treatment of both at-risk and probable dependent cases, including referral to specialized care. Primary care brief intervention has been demonstrated to be efficacious and cost-effective in reducing non-dependent harmful drinking and associated health adversities. This project is an important step toward expanding the practice of screening and brief intervention by Canadian family physicians.

PROGRESS TO DATE: The literature on potential screening tools and questions is being reviewed and other organizations with expertise are being identified in Canada and internationally. Questions for a telephone survey of expert informants are being finalized.

A comparison of the effects of smoked whole-plant cannabis of different THC concentrations in non-treatment naive patients with chronic pain – The Vancouver Island Compassion Society

INVESTIGATORS: Lucas, P. (PI)

BACKGROUND: This research is an ongoing examination of the effects of smoked cannabis on chronic pain.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Funded by the Marijuana Policy Project, this protocol has passed human ethics review and is awaiting final approval by Health Canada.

An evaluation of long-term medical outcomes following discontinuation of methadone maintenance treatment

INVESTIGATORS: Anis, A. (PI), Marsh, D., Fischer, B., Schechter, M., MacNab, Y. & Nosyk, B. (Co-Is)

BACKGROUND: Health economics evaluation of methadone maintenance treatment in British Columbia using data linkages among administrative health data sets including Pharmanet.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Data collection has been completed and analyses are on-going. One paper is accepted for publication and two more are in preparation.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 4
TREATMENT SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMS

Brief intervention in the ER in Poland

INVESTIGATORS: Cherpitel, C. J. (PI)

BACKGROUND: This is a brief intervention study for hazardous drinking in the emergency room in Sosnowiec, Poland.

FUNDING BODY: National Institutes of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

PROGRESS TO DATE: Analysis of three-month follow-up has been completed and the data for 12-month follow-up has just been acquired and is being cleaned. To date, two papers have been accepted for publication.

Disseminating behavioural interventions to primary care: Depression and hazardous alcohol use

INVESTIGATORS: Anderson, JF. (PI), Goldner, E., Bilsker, D., & Samra, J. (Co-Is)

BACKGROUND: This project investigated the feasibility of recruiting family physicians to screen patients for depression and hazardous alcohol use.

FUNDING BODY: Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

PROGRESS TO DATE: Completed.

Mental health and addiction services and policy investigative team


BACKGROUND: This project focuses on knowledge translation linking planning and delivery of mental health and addiction services across British Columbia with evidence-based best practice.

FUNDING BODY: Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

PROGRESS TO DATE: Project is on-going. CARBC provides input from the perspective of health service delivery to research initiatives implemented by CARMHA.

North American opiate medication initiative (NAOMI): Multi-Centre randomized controlled trial of heroin-assisted therapy for treatment refractory injection opiate users


BACKGROUND: Randomized clinical trial comparing injectable opioid agonist treatment to optimized methadone maintenance treatment for long term treatment refractory heroin dependant patients.

FUNDING BODY: Canadian Institutes of Health Research

PROGRESS TO DATE: Clinical trial has been completed. Data analysis is ongoing. Two papers have been accepted for publication and four more are in preparation.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 5
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND CONTEXTS OF SUBSTANCE USE

CARBC PROJECTS

Factors related to traffic collisions, violence and injury risk among cannabis and cocaine clients

**INVESTIGATORS:** Macdonald, S. (PI), Mann, R., Chipman, M., Erickson, P., & Hathaway, A. (Co-Is)

**FUNDING BODY:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research

**SUMMARY:** The objective of this research is to determine whether variables within three groups of factors (drug factors, such as patterns and amount of use, acute and chronic pharmacological actions of the drugs; set factors, such as sleep problems, aggression and risk-taking; and setting factors, such as the situations in which drug use occurs) are related to elevated risks of collisions, violence and accidental injury. The sample of over 1,000 clients in treatment for a problem of cocaine or cannabis abuse and a control group of tobacco cessation and problem gambling clients completed a self-administered questionnaire. Data is currently being analyzed and several papers are being prepared for publication.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Completed.

Alcohol and cocaine simultaneous polysubstance use: A qualitative investigation

**INVESTIGATORS:** Brache, K., Stockwell, T., & Macdonald, S.

**FUNDING BODY:** IMPART Training Fellowship and Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

**BACKGROUND:** This project is a qualitative investigation into the patterns, contexts, functions, harms, and risk taking behaviors associated with the simultaneous use of alcohol and cocaine. This Masters project investigates whether the age of initiation of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana each predict simultaneous polysubstance use.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Masters thesis submitted and paper presented at international conference.

An examination of drug use patterns among high-risk illicit substance users in Victoria, BC

**INVESTIGATORS:** Ivsins, A. (Masters thesis)

**FUNDING BODY:** MITACS

**BACKGROUND:** The sharing of crack pipes is common among users of crack cocaine and is associated with unique negative health harms and costs. This study is exploring social, contextual and environmental factors that mediate and influence crack pipe sharing among illicit substance users on Vancouver Island, BC.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Data collection is currently in progress. Anticipated completion of thesis in November 2009.
RESEARCH PRIORITY 5
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND CONTEXTS OF SUBSTANCE USE

CARBC AFFILIATED PROJECTS

Drug normalization and stigma: Canada’s experience with cannabis and tobacco

INVESTIGATORS: Erickson, P. (PI), Asbridge, M., Brochu, S., Cousineau, M., Duff, C., Hathaway, A., Marsh, D. & Poulin, C.

BACKGROUND: Multi-modal qualitative and quantitative cross-sectional evaluation of the impact of cannabis and tobacco use on socially stable individuals aged 25-50 with a focus on public policy and perception of social acceptance.

FUNDING BODY: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

PROGRESS TO DATE: Data collection has been completed and analyses are ongoing. A book chapter has been accepted for publication and other papers are being planned.

Risky business: Experiences of street youth

INVESTIGATORS: Benoit, C., & Jansson, M. (Co-PIs)

FUNDING BODY: Canadian Institutes of Health Research

BACKGROUND: This project funded by three separate sources focuses on the risky behaviours, health and well-being of street involved youth as they transition to adulthood. By following these vulnerable youth over time, we aim to better understand the impact of disadvantages in early childhood and subsequent life transitions on current substance use patterns, as well as long term health and well-being as they reconnect (or not) with major societal institutions such as schools, join the workforce and begin a family.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Individuals interviewed in-person repeatedly over time, following them into early adulthood. Interviewed by trained interviewers in downtown office using closed & open-ended questions. Currently n=136 in first wave, n=50 in fifth wave. Just begun sixth wave and at the same time has begun to interview a new panel of street-involved youth ages 16-17. The team has presented a number of conference papers based on preliminary data gathered for the project and also published papers in peer-review journals. Other presentations and papers are in preparation.
Risky business: Experiences of street youth

INVESTIGATORS: Jansson, M. (PI), Benoit, C., Hallgrimsdottir, H., & Roth, E. (Co-Is)

BACKGROUND: This project, funded by three separate sources, focuses on the risky behaviours and health and well-being of street-involved youth as they transition to adulthood. By following these vulnerable youth over time, we aim to better understand the impact of disadvantages in early childhood and subsequent life transitions on current substance use patterns, as well as long term health and well-being as they reconnect (or not) with major societal institutions such as schools and the workforce. Community partners include VYES, CAFC, PEERS, VNFC. The study population is youth aged 14-19, when they enter the study. Inclusion criteria are: low level of attachment to parent or guardian; low level of attachment to education system; low level of attachment to formal economy; high level of attachment to informal (street) economy. Recruitment strategies include: close connection with community partners; posters; key informants and peer-recruitment using respondent-drive sampling technique. Methods include: closed ended and open ended questions, and body mapping.

PROGRESS TO DATE: The sixth wave of his longitudinal study is underway as are interviews with a new panel of street-involved youth ages 16-17. The team has presented a number of conference papers based on preliminary data gathered for the project and also published papers in peer-review journals. Other presentations and papers are in preparation.

The impact of stigma on marginalized populations’ work, health and access to services and work, health and health care access in the U.S. and Canada


BACKGROUND: These interrelated studies aim at furthering knowledge of the impact of social factors and stigma on the health of sex workers compared to other low-prestige workers.

PROGRESS TO DATE: The international research team has completed interviews with just under 600 participants from Victoria, BC, and Sacramento, California, at four points in time. One paper under preparation examines substance use among a heterogeneous sample of sex workers, hairstylists and food and beverage servers with the aim of finding out whether sex workers as an occupational group have higher rates of substance use compared to other frontline service workers and, secondly, which social factors are linked to substance use among participants across the three occupations. Data collection completed. Data entry and cleaning in final stage.

Vancouver inter-disciplinary collaboration of injection drug use researchers


BACKGROUND: This project coordinates combined analyses from several ongoing cohort studies of injection drug users.

PROGRESS TO DATE: Several papers are in preparation.
**BACKGROUND:** This phenomenological study explored young women’s experiences of resisting invitations to use illicit drugs. Resisting drug invitations was an experience that embodied striving to be authentic, protecting one’s future, guarding one’s health and sanity, sustaining valued relationships, and enjoying life as it presented itself without drugs.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Complete

**INVESTIGATORS:** Koehn, C. (PI) & O’Neil, L. (Co-I)

**FUNDING BODY:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

**BACKGROUND:** Led by Gitxsan Child and Family Services, this project consisted of planning and community consultation regarding services and housing for families affected by fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Complete

**INVESTIGATORS:** Green, M., & Hardy, C. (Co-PIs)

**FUNDING BODY:** Victoria Foundation

**BACKGROUND:** The $7M Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Action Fund administered by the Victoria Foundation provided grants to 22 demonstration projects with the goal of preventing and improving care for FASD-affected children and youth and their families.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Project-level evaluations are underway.

**INVESTIGATORS:** George, A., Hardy, C., & Clark, E. (Co-Is)

**FUNDING BODY:** Victoria Foundation

**BACKGROUND:** This project is an evaluation of the school-based intervention being conducted by the Provincial Outreach Program for FASD (POPFASD). Special education teachers with expertise teaching children with FASD are mentoring classroom teachers regarding modifications to environments, instruction, and curriculum for supporting children with FASD.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Data collection was completed in the 2008/2009 academic year, and the coming year will be devoted to analysis and dissemination of the evaluation findings.
### TABLE 2: Performance Indicators for Key Result Area 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2008-09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Conduct research on the patterns, distribution, determinants and consequences of substance use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Conduct research that is valued by stakeholders as being of high quality, timely and relevant to public policy and practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Identify key strategic research opportunities that will inform policy and practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Conduct research on province-wide monitoring of alcohol, tobacco, gambling and other drug use patterns and related harms, the impact of educational, legislative and regulatory strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harms, development and evaluation of more effective community prevention programs, development and evaluation of more effective treatment systems and programs, investigation of the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use, and research and evaluation of effectiveness of knowledge translation and exchange activities and strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Develop and maintain significant collaborative projects with other researchers and research centres in British Columbia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>Develop and maintain research projects that engage researchers from several relevant disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Develop and maintain significant collaborative projects with other researchers and research centres in North America.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>Improve access to data sets and platforms for addiction researchers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Detailed in Priority Area #3
HIGHLIGHTS

An undoubted highlight of our efforts at research dissemination was the hosting of two major international conferences: 1) an official North American consultation commissioned by the United Nations in relation to the "Beyond 2008" UN policy on drugs; 2) the 2008 annual symposium of the international Kettil Bruun Society For Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol. Dan Reist subsequently was a Canadian representative at a UN conference in Vienna at which reports were received from more global regions and discussed. At the Kettil Bruun symposium, over 170 papers were presented by delegates from more than 30 countries. A specific highlight that engaged both the Victoria and Vancouver offices was the production of a report on behalf of BC provincial health officer, Dr. Perry Kendall, to raise awareness of the public health dimensions of alcohol consumption in BC and promote evidence-based strategies to reduce alcohol-related harm. A new website was launched to disseminate on a continuous basis, data on patterns of substance use and related harms among young people, the general population and also high risk populations (www.AODmonitoring.ca). Early data on the project are summarized in the fourth CARBC statistical bulletin which incorporated analyses of the contents of police drug seizures, rates of drug-related mortality and hospitalization and ease of access to different drug types.
Deaths from substance use in BC reported in the AOD Monitoring Project

Number of Deaths in 2006 Attributable to Alcohol per 100,000 People for the 5 Health Authorities in British Columbia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Authority</th>
<th>Deaths Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>&gt; 12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior</td>
<td>9.0 - 12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>6.0 - 9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Island</td>
<td>3.0 - 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Coastal</td>
<td>≤ 3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Deaths in 2006 Attributable to Illicit Drugs per 100,000 People for the 5 Health Authorities in British Columbia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Authority</th>
<th>Deaths Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>&gt; 12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior</td>
<td>9.0 - 12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>6.0 - 9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Island</td>
<td>3.0 - 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Coastal</td>
<td>≤ 3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Successful applications for knowledge exchange funding

**Beyond 2008 - Vienna.** Reist, D. (PI). Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, $5,000 from June 2008 to July 2008


**Rethinking Treatment.** Reist, D. (PI), Thomas, G. & Dyck, T. Vancouver Foundation, $50,500 from August 2008 to August 2008

Commissioned knowledge exchange contracts won

**BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information.** Thomas, G. (PI), Dyck, T., Reist, D., Bodner, N. & Capler, R. BC Mental Health and Addiction Services, $243,750 from April 2008 to March 2009

**Beyond 2008 - Vienna.** Reist, D. (PI). Open Society Institute, $11,448 from June 2008 to September 2008


**Prevention of Problematic Substance Use.** Reist, D. (PI), Dyck, T., Thomas, G., Reimer, B., Souza, E. & Capler, R. Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, $200,000 from April 2008 to March 2009
COMPLETED PROJECTS

Beyond 2008

**BACKGROUND:** In January 2008, CARBC hosted a North American consultation as part of the Beyond 2008 NGO Forum reviewing progress on international drug problems since the 1998 UN General Assembly Special Session on illicit drugs. Following that consultation, CARBC continued to support Canadian NGO stay connected to the process and to participate in the world forum in Vienna in July 2008.

**SUMMARY:** CARBC (Dan Reist) was one of several Canadian representatives in Vienna, and the Centre assisted other Canadian representatives with travel costs. Two briefing papers on issues related to current drug policy debates were developed following the forum and submissions were made to representative of the Canadian government involved in the drug policy file and to the head of the Canadian mission in Vienna.

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reist, D. (PI)

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport and Open Society Institute

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National Awards for Excellence

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reist, D. (PI), Thomas, G., Reimer, B., & Dyck, T. (Co-Is)

**FUNDING BODY:** Kaiser Foundation

**BACKGROUND:** The National Awards for Excellence Program is a project of the Kaiser Foundation that recognizes the tremendous work of individuals and organizations throughout Canada that are promoting both physical and mental health by reducing the harm resulting from substance use. CARBC provides general advice regarding the nomination process and facilitates and coordinates the adjudication process.

**SUMMARY:** CARBC assisted in clarifying the nomination process and the category criteria. We then recruited 14 adjudicators from 8 provinces to rate the nominations using a rating scale we developed from the criteria set by the Foundation. We processed a total of 57 nomination within 7 categories. This involves ensuring reasonably consistent presentation, sending each nomination to at least two adjudicators and collating the scores. CARBC compiled a report for the Foundation that included briefs on the top two or three candidates in each category. Final award decisions are made by the Foundation.
Provincial Health Officer’s alcohol report

**BACKGROUND:** BC’s Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Perry Kendall, issued a report on the public health consequences of alcohol use in BC in 2002. The report highlighted concerns in relation to possible deregulation of the alcohol market in BC. Data collected from the BC AOD monitoring project, plus a separate project assessing the impact of the partial privatization of the government alcohol monopoly in BC, have been incorporated with a range of other data in a new report assessing progress six years further on. A number of evidence-based policy options are canvassed in the report which would if implemented reduce the negative public health and safety impacts of alcohol in BC.

**SUMMARY:** The revised report was published in December 2008.

**CURRENT PROJECTS**

**Alcohol screening and education**

**INVESTIGATORS:** Dyck, T. (PI), & Reist, D.

**FUNDING BODY:** BC Mental Health and Addiction Services and Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

**BACKGROUND:** This project seeks to provide the public with pertinent educational materials on alcohol-related issues, particularly in regard to low-risk drinking guidelines, and promotes opportunities for short screening and brief intervention in order to thereby encourage healthier patterns of consumption. CARBC has done extensive research on the patterns of alcohol use in BC, the related risks and harms, and the evidence related to effective strategies for intervention. The Centre has developed a set of low-risk drinking guidelines for BC, screening tools (paper-based and online), and related public education tools.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** CARBC continued to work with the “Beyond the Blues” screening project (BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information). This year materials (both printed and online) were enhanced based on feedback from previous events and ongoing research. Efforts to engage more addiction service agencies and professionals in collaborating with their mental health partners in support of this initiative has begun to reap rewards. This year more sites participated in alcohol screening with more than double the number of individuals screened. In particular there was an increase in participation at post-secondary campuses and high schools. We maintained our online screening site at www.alcoholreality.ca where people can fill out the screening questionnaire and are provided with tailored feedback. We have also initiated positive discussions with other partners. Alcohol education also features in three other projects (see Resources for BC Schools, Campus Project and Helping Communities below).
BC Partners Network Support

**INVESTIGATORS:** Thomas, G., (PI), & Reist, D.

**FUNDING BODY:** BC Mental Health and Addiction Services

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC has been a long-time member of BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information. Through this network, CARBC promotes health literacy related to substance use and addiction.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** CARBC plays an active role in the network to plan, implement and evaluate health promotion activities in the province. In particular, CARBC provides the network with expertise in policy analysis, access to the research community and understanding related to substance use. CARBC promotes the work of the network through its own website as well as regularly referring researchers and others to BC Partners products as appropriate.

Campus Project

**INVESTIGATORS:** Dyck, T. (PI), Reist, D., & Reimer, B.

**FUNDING BODY:** BC Mental Health and Addiction Services and Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

**BACKGROUND:** This project works with partners on post-secondary campuses to plan and implement effective strategies for reducing harm related to alcohol and other drugs. We participate in the “Campus Project" of BC Partners and engage in other campus-related activities linked to that project in a loose-coupled way.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** CARBC has developed and made available to campus partners a promising practices guide, “Alcohol on Campus – Programs and Policies: Review and Recommendations” (most recently revised July 2008). We are developing a strategic planning process in conjunction with partners at Thompson Rivers University, University of Victoria, Capilano University, and Langara College. Other schools are engaged more generally through the BC Partners’ project.

Community-based mental health and addiction research collaboration with Aboriginal communities

**INVESTIGATORS:** Anderson, J. F. (PI)

**FUNDING BODY:** Centre for Applied Research in Mental Health and Addiction

**BACKGROUND:** The objective for this project is to establish a community-based mental health and addiction research collaboration with an Aboriginal community. Through meetings and discussions with Aboriginal community leaders, the intent is to establish a list of community-focused research priorities for addressing the impact of hazardous alcohol use (i.e., binge drinking) on alcohol-related mental and physical health outcomes including suicide, motor vehicle accidents, accidental poisonings, falls and fire-related mortality and morbidity, and liver cirrhosis.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Researchers have traveled to Chehalis, BC to establish a community action research collaboration with the Chehalis Indian Band.
Events & Networking

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reimer, B. (PI), Reist, D., Thomas, G., Dyck, T., & Capler, R.

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC provides support to communities and agencies throughout BC to help them address substance use issues by hosting knowledge exchange events and participating in various networks.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Funding under this project has allowed CARBC to participate in planning two regional events, participate in two national/international symposia, host several public lectures in Victoria and Vancouver, lead a webinar, provide community presentations, conference papers and displays at various events. It also supports active participation in Keeping the Door Open, BC Addictions Network, BC Health Literacy Network and the National Advisory Group on Youth Substance Abuse Prevention. Other networking activities are funded under other projects.

Helping Communities

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reist, D. (PI), Thomas, G., Dyck, T., Reimer, B., Capler, R., & Ripley, L.

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, Vancouver Foundation and Union of British Columbia Municipalities

**BACKGROUND:** Communities are struggling to understand and respond to substance use in a context where the nature and treatment of substance use problems is poorly understood. As a result many well-intentioned initiatives do not reflect the best available evidence. This project involved delivering a symposium in Vancouver in collaboration with Keeping the Door Open: Dialogues on Drug Use and developing tools and materials that are accessible and useful to community stakeholders throughout the province. In particular it involved developing a web-based resource to help communities access information and tools.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** The symposium was held, and CARBC made a video record of the event. From there, we began conceptual work and consultation with community partners on articulating the kind of resources that may help community based groups understand and respond to substance use. A special section has been developed in our website dedicated to “Helping Communities.” The site supports BC communities in taking effective action to address the harms related to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. It was created to provide access to quality information, research-based knowledge, and experiences of others, as well as practical tools for planning, implementing and evaluating actions within a comprehensive community health approach.
Here to Help

**INVESTIGATORS:** Thomas, G. (PI), Pankratz, N., Reist, D., Dyck, T., Reimer, B., Capler, R., & Souza, E.

**FUNDING BODY:** BC Mental Health and Addiction Services

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC is working with the Canadian Mental Health Association-BC Division on a project to develop a comprehensive series of public education materials related to substance use and mental health. These resources are made available on www.heretohelp.bc.ca as well as from the www.carbc.ca.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** CARBC committed to creating or updating 35 HTH information products. To date, 29 have been completed. These products are part of the general information base provided through the Here to Help website. The website is designed to assist people looking for general information to easily locate these products. The product design has been developed to communicate a friendly approach but also balance that with a sense of credibility. We have a professional writer on contract who edits documents after they are prepared by researchers so as to achieve desired reading level. The documents are also posted in the CARBC website. This expands the availability of the documents.

Resources for BC Schools

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reist, D. (PI), Bodner, N., & Capler, R.

**FUNDING BODY:** BC Mental Health and Addiction Services, Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport and Ministry of Education

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC is developing policy and classroom resources for BC schools that promote a comprehensive school health approach. Classroom resources (iMinds) promote health literacy related to behaviour, substance use and mental wellness. The materials have a solid theoretical foundation that draws on a constructivist approach to education and seeks to enhance social and emotional competence.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** This year CARBC revised the Grade 6 iMinds module that was piloted last year and developed and began piloting modules for Grades 7 and 8. Draft modules for Grades 9 and 10 have been developed and will be ready for pilot testing in the fall of 2009. Each module includes multiple lesson plans, a teacher’s guide, various teaching aids and an evaluation form. iMinds employs participatory learning methods which allow students to play a meaningful and active role in the learning process. Recognizing that classroom programs are not likely to be effective in isolation, CARBC also developed four knowledge kits (policy, education, services and partnerships) related to addressing substance use in schools.
SILINK Resource Centre

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reist, D. (PI), & Souza, E.

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC has been developing an information resource centre to give service providers, policy makers and the public in BC access to quality information to promote good practice. The resource centre includes a web-based collection as well as capacity (though limited) at CARBC to respond to inquiries from individuals seeking information.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** CARBC has incorporated the collection into its main website at www.carbc.ca. The collection continues to be updated with approximately 300 new resources added and over 100 outdated resources removed during 2008/2009. A new feature, presenting available statistical data in a way that is highly accessible and useful to the website’s audiences, was introduced last year and has been expanded this year. These statistical presentations are designed to link seamlessly with the more technical data in the AOD Monitoring Project site www.AODMonitoring.ca.

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Tobacco Resource Centre

**INVESTIGATORS:** Bond, J., Spence, C., & Reist, D.

**FUNDING BODY:** Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC distributes health promotion products related to tobacco on behalf of the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport. A catalogue of these materials is available at www.carbc.ca where products can be downloaded or ordered online.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Edit: During 2008-2009, CARBC filled 825 orders for a total of 225,637 products. During that period 26 new products were added to product line.

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Visions Journal

**INVESTIGATORS:** Reist, D. (PI), Pankratz, N., Thomas, G., Dyck, T., & Capler, R.

**FUNDING BODY:** BC Mental Health and Addiction Services

**BACKGROUND:** CARBC contributes to the production of the Visions journal, a BC Partners project, by participating on the editorial advisory group and by providing at least one article to most issues. The Centre also seeks to increase the profile of the journal within the substance use community.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:** Staff from CARBC contributed three articles to the journal this year and helped identify appropriate contributors for several others. The articles contributed were “The BC Campus: Where futures begin? Or a site for risky substance use?” (Tim Dyck and Nicole Pankratz, Spring 2008), “Making the Most out of Making Your School Smoke Free” (Gerald Thomas, Winter 2009) and “Rethinking Drug Education” (Dan Reist, Spring 2009).
CARBC SPONSORED CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Annual symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society For Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol, June 1-6 2008, Victoria, BC. Dr. Scott Macdonald (Chair). An international conference attended by 200 delegates from over 30 countries.

Alcohol and injury: Emergency room studies in an international perspective. Dr. Cheryl Cherpitel, November 17, 2008, Victoria, BC.

Chehalis Indian Band/CARBC research collaboration. Dr. John Anderson, December 3, 2008, Victoria, BC.

Community Resilience as a Response to Harmful Substance Use. Dr. Anthony Hutchinson, March 24, 2009, Vancouver, BC.

Concurrent diagnosis of substance use and mental illness in vulnerable youth. Dr. John Crawford, January 26, 2009, Victoria, BC.

Preventing violence in and around late-night drinking venues: A review of the international evidence. Dr. Tim Stockwell, February 23, 2009, Vancouver, BC.

Rethinking Treatment. Dialogue event sponsored by CARBC and Keeping the Door Open. March 31-April 1, 2008, Vancouver, BC.

Up-to-date: alcohol and other drug use and related harms in BC. Half day symposium convened by CARBC, The SFU Harbor Centre, May 6, 2008, Vancouver, BC.

Western Canadian Youth and Family Addictions Conference. Dr. Tim Dyck, Dan Reist, January 28-30, 2009, Vancouver, BC.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles and book reviews


**Books & reports**


**Book chapters**


**CARBC publications**


**Invited presentations**


Other conference and seminar presentations


Fyfe, T., Hampe, T., Hardy, C., MacLeod, M., Bentham, D., & Mogus, M. (May 2008). Knowledge to action working group: Supporting partnerships. Poster presented at the BCRHRN Inaugural Conference, Prince George BC.


Hardy, C. & Williams, B. (March 2009). Ayookhl ga nit’titsxwim ah hao’naktlh gabiswit. Workshop presented at UBC Interprofessional Continuing Education 3rd International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Victoria BC.

Hardy, C., Kelly, K., & Voaklander, D. (June 2008). Role of rural versus urban location in access to professional mental health care. Poster presented at the 69th Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association, Halifax, NS.

Hardy, C., Kelly, K., & Voaklander, D. (May 2008). Differences in mental health services utilization between rural and urban areas. Poster presented at the BCRHRN Inaugural Conference, Prince George BC.


**Reist, D.** (2009, January). Rethinking Drug Education. Presentation at the Western Canadian Youth and Family Addictions Conference, Vancouver, BC.


### TABLE 3: Performance Indicators for Key Results Area 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2008-09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1</strong> Disseminate research findings to policy makers, practitioners, public health professionals, other researchers, community interest groups and the general public.</td>
<td>14 BC and national policy committee memberships (11 in 2007-08; 8 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 reviews of evidence for effectiveness for different types of intervention and policy (14 in 2007-08; 14 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29 new resources developed by CARBC and made available online and in print (28 in 2007-08;13 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.2</strong> Publish research findings in articles in peer-reviewed journals.</td>
<td>101 articles published by CARBC researchers in peer reviewed journals (43 in 2007-08; 35 in 2005-06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.3</strong> Publish research findings in book chapters, books, research monographs and technical reports.</td>
<td>3 books (2 in 2007-08), 11 book chapters (7 in 2007-08), 1 bulletin (1 in 2007-08), and 1 technical and other reports published by CARBC researchers (6 in 2007-08; 11 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.4</strong> Achieve a high academic impact for BC addictions related research so that it is well-known, frequently requested and often cited.</td>
<td>609 citations in peer reviewed journals in 2008 of research on substance use issues by CARBC faculty (317 in 2007; 353 in 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.5</strong> Provide balanced, factual information on drug-related harms and prevention approaches through a variety of knowledge exchange strategies including media releases and the internet.</td>
<td>61 articles in the print media (343 in 2007-08; 407 in 2006-07), 9 on-line (21 in 2007-08; 35 in 2006-07), and 21 interviews used by the electronic media (140 in 2007-08; 26 in 2006-07).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 newsletter (2 in 2007-08; 2 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 articles from CARBC in magazines, newsletters, websites, and unrefereed journals (18 in 2007-08; 14 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2156 orders for information products were responded to by the CARBC resource centre (3616 in 2007-08; 5651 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,405 unique visitors to our online resource centre (up 3%) making over 11,000 visits (up 15%) and staying an average of just over 5 minutes per visit (an increase of 39% over last year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.6</strong> Conduct seminars, lectures and occasional conferences on the state of knowledge and its application to policy, practice and the research agenda.</td>
<td>8 public research seminars (5 in 2007-08; 10 in 2006-07), 0 national symposia convened or co-convened by CARBC (1 in 2006-07; 1 in 2005-06) and 1 international symposium (1 in 2006-07; 0 in 2005-06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21* invitations to CARBC researchers were accepted to present at conferences and symposia (36* in 2007-08; 32 in 2006-07) of which 8 were held in BC (19 in 2007-08; 12 in 2006-07), 4 were national (10 in 2007-08; 12 in 2006-07) and 9 were international (16 in 2007-08; 10 in 2006-07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>88* papers accepted for conference presentations from CARBC researchers and students (25 in 2007-08; 21 in 2006-07) of which 42 were held in BC (7 in 2007-08; 6 in 2006-07), 18 were national (9 in 2007-08; 6 in 2006-07), and 13 were international (8 in 2007-08; 11 in 2006-07) conferences.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NB International meetings held in BC counted in each category.
### OBJECTIVE

**3.7** Contribute to teaching programs on substance use and addictions for undergraduate and graduate courses/ programs.

**3.8** Cultivate communities of practice that disseminate knowledge among policy makers, practitioners, public health professionals, researchers, community interest groups and the general public in order to increase awareness of drug related harms and effective prevention strategies.

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2008-09

- **6** courses in which addictions issues were taught by CARBC members at UVic (5 in 2007-08; 4 in 2006–07)
- **5** courses in which addictions issues were taught by CARBC members at other campuses (1 in 2007–08; 6 in 2006–07)

CARBC personnel are represented on the following **14** networks active in BC (10 in 2007-08; 8 in 2006–07) which link researchers, policy makers, practitioners, and members of the wider community with the aim of disseminating knowledge on substance use and addiction:

- BC Mental Health & Addiction Research Network
- BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information
- BC Addictions Network
- Health Improvement Project Committee
- UBC Undergraduate Medicine Community Service Learning Option
- Provincial Academic Detailing Network (PHSA)
- BC Health Literacy Network
- Keeping the Door Open
- BC AOD Monitoring Project Group
- CARBC Program Committee
- BC Women’s Health Research Network
- IMPART
- CIHR NET Grant on Cross-Substance Studies
- BC Centre for Disease Control group concerned with injecting drug use and infectious diseases
- Vancouver CCENDU
## MEDIA COVERAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Story/Topic</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>TV</th>
<th>Radio</th>
<th>On-line</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol - Other (health risks)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol policy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug policy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug testing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harm reduction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Opioids &amp; prescription drugs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policing (incl. late night drinking)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervised injection sites</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen substance use</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol &amp; Other Drug trends</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>71</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>111</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIGHLIGHTS

Conducting research which has immediate relevance to local decision-makers and practitioners is a core part of the CARBC mission. Once more converging lines of research on alcohol-related harm, drink prices and alcoholic beverage strength led to a submission made jointly with the BC Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Perry Kendall, to the Ministry of Finance and also the BC Select Committee on Finance and Government Services to adopt a policy of taxing alcohol according to alcohol content. Along with the alcohol policy recommendations contained in a major report prepared by CARBC for Dr. Kendall on alcohol in public health was the recommendation to raise minimum prices on spirits and wine. This recommendation, which was independently supported by Canadian distillers representatives, may have contributed to this policy being adopted in March 2009. CARBC faculty continue to be actively engaged in a number of BC and national policy forums.
COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Anderson, J.  Advisory Committee on Opioid Dependence, College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC

Anderson, J.  Addictive Diseases Committee, BC Medical Association

Fischer, B.  Member, Scientific Institutional Advisory Board, Institute for Neuroscience, Mental Health and Addictions (INMHA), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Dyck, T.  Healthy Minds/Healthy Campuses Provincial Steering Committee

Fischer, B.  Member, Scientific Committee, Canadian Mental Health Commission

Macdonald, S.  BC Workplace Mental Health and Addictions Scientific Committee

Reist, D.  BC Addictions Network (co-chair)

Reist, D.  BC Health Literacy Network

Reist, D.  Canadian Drug Policy Consortium

Reist, D.  Kaiser Foundation, Board of Directors

Reist, D.  Keeping the Door Open: Dialogues on Drug Use

Stockwell, T. Co-chair with Dr. Bill Honer (UBC) of BC Mental Health and Addictions Research Network, Network Planning and Advisory Committee.


Stockwell, T.  Member of National Alcohol Strategy Working Group. National policy committee formed jointly by Health Canada, CECA and CCSA.

Stockwell, T.  Member of Canadian Executive Council on Addictions.

Thomas, G.  BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information
### TABLE 4: Performance Indicators for Key Result Area 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2008-09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1</strong> Plan the evaluation of new public health and safety measures designed to minimise harms from substance use and/or gambling prior to their implementation.</td>
<td>2 relevant CARBC studies include: continued development of epidemiological monitoring data sets (i) for BC (ii) nationally with Health Canada (5 in 07/08; 7 in 06/07; 3 in 05/06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.2</strong> Work in partnership with policy makers and practitioners in the planning, execution and dissemination of some applied research projects</td>
<td>14 projects involved policy makers and/or practitioners in planning, execution and/or dissemination (17 in 07/08; 24 in 06/07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.3</strong> Increase the probability of research findings from CARBC, its partners and other related sources being applied to policy and practice development at national, provincial and local community levels.</td>
<td>CARBC has contributed towards <strong>10</strong> significant policy proposals (7 in 07/08; 5 in 06/07; 2 in 05/06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.4</strong> Provide regular briefings and submissions to government and parliamentary inquiries, policy advisors and relevant provincial and national committees on emerging issues in the prevention of drug-related harms.</td>
<td>10 invitations received to make submissions to policy forums, select committees, or other such bodies (6 in 06/07; 5 in 05/06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.5</strong> Compete for commissioned research opportunities with the potential to make direct contributions to the development of new policies, programs and service delivery systems</td>
<td>8 successful submissions in response to requests of CARBC members for commissioned work in relevant areas (8 in 07/08; 8 in 06/07; 11 in 05/06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>11</strong> commissioned projects undertaken and completed (7 in 07/08; 8 in 06/07; 8 in 05/06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1.72</strong> m successfully secured for commissioned research and knowledge exchange activities ($1.55 million in 06/07; $1.63m in 05/06)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>