



# Calgary and Area Regional Collaborative Service Delivery e-Newsletter

## Hip, Hip, Hooray! Summer is Almost Here!

As we all make a final push toward the end of the school year and much needed summer holidays, Calgary and Area RCSD would like to recognize all of the school staff, community supports, service providers, families, and everyone else who supported and worked to meet the needs of children and youth this past year. Ensuring a child's success, health, security and resilience takes all of us working together across typical sector and organizational boundaries – the partners of Calgary and Area RCSD understand that this kind of collaboration can be challenging. However, your combined efforts are pivotal in helping children and youth reach their full potential. The final rewards of collaboration, better outcomes for children, youth, and their families, greatly outweigh the many challenges along the way. We look forward to another exciting year of advancing our work together in September. In the meantime, be sure to celebrate this year's successes and enjoy leisure time with your families and friends this summer.

Our last ask of you is to take 5 minutes to complete our [eNewsletter survey](#). This survey helps us improve how we share upcoming learning opportunities, the latest reports and research, and RCSD news and announcements with you. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.



## Upcoming Opportunities

### **People with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Their Families: What Services Do They Truly Need?**

#### **Webinar**

**June 7, 2017 9:00 – 10:00 am**

This webinar will discuss the landscape of perceived service need in autism in Canada and address the gaps in navigation support for clinicians to community resources. The webinar will look at the top service priorities of individuals with autism across the lifespan and demographic, clinical and systemic factors that predict an individual getting their priority service needs met. The concepts around service need and the implications of this work will be discussed.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

### **Pathway Through Mental Health Care: The Complete and Comprehensive School Approach**

#### **Webinar**

**June 14, 2017 9:00 – 10:00 am**

Approximately 70% of mental illnesses can be diagnosed before age 25, which makes adolescence a critical time for mental health promotion, and the prevention, early identification, and effective treatment of mental disorders. Many teenagers with mental health care needs are falling through the cracks of existing systems and waiting too long for treatment. It's essential we find new ways of identifying these youth and helping them rapidly access effective treatment early. It is also essential that we not create demand for mental health care for young people who do not need it.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

### **Augmentative and Alternative Communication Summer Camp**

#### **Camp**

**July 28 – 30, 2017**

A camp for children aged 6-19 years old who use speech generating communication devices. Augmentative and Alternative Communication Camp in Alberta is a 3-day overnight camp specializing in increasing the communication abilities and socialization skills of children and teens who are augmentative communication users. Camp activities include games, arts and crafts, music, drama, and more!

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

## **National Forum on Infant, Child, and Youth Mental Health**

### **Conference**

**October 4 – 6, 2017 University of Calgary**

The Child Welfare League of Canada (CWLC) and Alberta Children's Services presents this conference as a unique opportunity to network and exchange ideas as a means to design and develop implementable solutions to address child and youth mental health.

Click [here](#) for more information and click [here](#) for the Application form for Presenters.

## **Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres (CAPHC) 2017 Annual Conference**

### **Conference**

**October 22 – 24, 2017 Montreal, QC**

The theme of this year's conference is: "Engaging Children, Youth, and Family: Are We Ready to Move Beyond Good Intentions?" The conference is now accepting abstract submissions for presentation.

Click [here](#) for more information.

## **Reports and Research**

### **Wood's Homes Community –based Reach Chair for Children's Mental Health**

This new role will work directly with social workers, therapists, and other clinicians on mental health treatment evaluating interventions and program outcomes as bridge between practice and research.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

### **Autism and Health: A Special Report by Autism Speaks. Advances in Understanding and Treating the Health Conditions that Frequently Accompany Autism**

This special report looks at both the physical and mental conditions that accompany Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) such as seizures, sleep disturbances, eating and feeding challenges, anxiety, depression, and bipolar disorder. These issues can extend across the life span. They also contribute to an alarming rate of premature death among those with autism. Of the studies examining this troubling issue, the most recent found the average life span of someone with autism to be half that of the general population – an average of 36 versus 72 years.

Click [here](#) for the full report.

### **Comparison of Physical Health Conditions among Adolescents Aged 12 to 17 with and without Major Depressive Episode**

Sarra L. Hedden, Gary Blau, Rachel Lipari, Lisa Rubenstein, Valerie L. Forman-Hoffman, and Cristie Glasheen.

The purpose of this report is to examine the association between major depressive episode, self-rated overall health, and selected health conditions including asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, obesity, and diabetes. These findings may inform future research in whether treating depression and physical health conditions have an effect on the other.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

### **Working Together to Support Mental Health in Alberta Schools: Alberta Education**

This resource is an invitation for schools and their partners to reflect on current practices, leverage current initiatives and consider how the promotion of mental health can be more effectively embedded in school and system policies, practices and services. The goal of this resource is to bring together the learning from this work, as well as the latest Canadian research, and help build a shared understanding of how schools, community partners and government can better work together to support mental health.

Click [here](#) for the full report.

**Child Maltreatment: The Protective Effect of Neighbourhood Social Cohesion**

Research Watch highlights this article which analyzes the protective role of communities for children. Click [here](#) for the summary.

**Integrated Early Childhood Development Services**

There are many benefits to integrating and coordinating early childhood development services for families and young children in a coherent way. The Encyclopedia on Early Childhood Development has collected a list of texts for further reading.

Click [here](#) for the resource list.

Please take a moment to forward this eNewsletter to your colleagues and encourage them to sign up at: <http://www.CalgaryandAreaRCSD.ca/news-and-events/newsletter-signup/>. We send out an eNewsletter once a month between September and June with reviewed information relevant to everyone who works together for children and youth.