

# Rural Continuing Medical Education (RCME) Community Program

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Rural Coordination  
Centre of BC



## Community Implementation

The RCME team has officially implemented 88 of the 104 eligible RSA communities into the new program.

Once implemented, communities are accessing new funding as well as being supported to create and develop locally driven models of community education.

To connect with the RCME Team [RCME@RCCbc.ca](mailto:RCME@RCCbc.ca)

## SPIFI : Physician Learning Project - Cortes island

Dr. Jenna Creaser, Family Medicine Specialist and RCME Physician Lead for Cortes Island initiated the development of a provincial CME project on the topic of emerging psychedelic therapies and complementary techniques that could support patients coping with mental health conditions as a result of physical health challenges or with experiences involving trauma. The project titled: Physician Learning Project (PLP) on Psychedelics and Complementary Techniques: A Virtual Series is accredited as a group learning activity qualifying for both MOC Section 1 and Mainpro+ Group Learning credits.

The virtual series is comprised of 7 sessions with topics that explore the emerging use of psychedelic medicine and complementary therapies in mental health and wellness, with the potential of incorporating the use of these therapies within regulatory frameworks.

Interest in the series has been widespread and to date three sessions have successfully been delivered to over 100 participants—physicians, NPs, nurses, midwives, residents and other interested allied health care practitioners—across all of BC's health authorities. Feedback to date has been very positive with one participant noting: "I am interested in all the future topics that you have arranged" and another requesting: "please keep these sessions coming!"

Recordings of the sessions are available for viewing on the [RCME - SPIFI Educational Series](#) webpage.

The project has been sponsored by the Campbell River & District of Family Practice and RCCbc, RCME Community Program. It is partially funded through the RCME Community Program's Specialist, [Sub-speciality, Indigenous and Funding for Innovation \(SPIFI\)](#) grant which supports eligible groups of physicians living and working in RSA communities to plan, develop and deliver innovative and emerging community rural continuing medical education. SPIFI also enables groups of physician to form networks that are not based on geography so they may collaborate, create and participate in innovative education opportunities.

For more information, please contact [Antoinette Picone](#), RCME Liaison

## 2020-21 Annual Report

The RCME Community Program, which was launched in 2019, aims to address physicians' collective learning needs.

The program has seen great successes over the last year which are featured here in the [2020-21 Annual Report](#).

## Rural Skills Upgrade Program

REAP's Rural Skills Upgrade Program provides funding for upfront skill enhancement training to physicians who are new or returning to rural practice or members of [Locums for Rural BC](#) looking to prepare for the challenges of rural practice in BC.

Training may be obtained prior to commencing work in an RSA Community or prior to providing service to Locums for Rural BC. Training opportunities available under this program are flexible in timing and may be up to 20 days in length per fiscal year and are usually in the form of one-on-one preceptorships.

For more information please visit [the Rural Skills Upgrade Program](#) or email Hillary Kovach at [REAP.Physicians@ubc.ca](mailto:REAP.Physicians@ubc.ca).



# Community Corner

## Northern Region - Prince George

In a new collaboration, the Northern Emergency Education Program (NoEEP) and Prince George RCME hosted a new workshop that was extremely well received by participants: The Ultrasound Guided Emergency Procedures workshop. This course offered instruction on common and not-so-common emergency procedures including paracentesis, thoracentesis, central venous access, pericardiocentesis, lumbar puncture and regional nerve blocks. There were live models on which participants could practice landmarking with point-of-care ultrasound, and task trainers of varying fidelity which offered tactile practice using the equipment.

The workshop received rave reviews, with participants highlighting several aspects as helpful to their learning: the 2-to-1 student to instructor ratio, ample time at stations, as well as skilled and knowledgeable instructors. The workshop was so popular that organizers are gearing up to offer a second workshop in the fall, and hopefully to continue it on a biannual basis.

-Dr. Christina Boucher , Prince George



## Interior Region- Big White

Even though it was a difficult year, Dr. M. Figurski in Big White managed to host in a lot of local CME with the medical team which consists of clinic staff, ski patrol, fire department and local ambulance service.

For one of the events, the medical staff went to a climbing gym for a presentation and hands-on training session to improve their proficiency at difficult extractions.

Two sessions were held on Wilderness Education and Safety Skills while in the field. These consisted of a presentation, hands-on-learning, and questions and answers, with the entire inter-professional team in attendance.

The RCME Community Program funds really helped forge trust and friendship among the medical staff. This has translated in improved performance and mutual support at work.

- Dr. Mike Figurski, Big White



For more information on RCME:

[Email](#)  
[Website](#)