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CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN INTEGRATED CARE

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2026

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

After several months of grant applications, we are pleased to share some exciting news about new funding supporting our work. Most notably, we have been awarded **\$400,000 over four years through ResearchNB's Priority Sector Development Fund** to establish a **provincial practice-based research and learning network (PBRLN)**. This investment represents an important step forward in strengthening collaboration, research capacity, and health system impact across New Brunswick.



We are also thankful to the **Jarislowsky Foundation** for its generous **\$500,000 contribution to an endowment** that will help ensure the long-term sustainability of this network. Together, these investments provide a strong foundation for meaningful and lasting impact. More details about the NB PBRLN are provided below.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that we will soon be welcoming a **Health System Impact Postdoctoral Fellow**. We extend our sincere thanks to CIHR and ResearchNB for supporting this important role through a **\$155,000 award over two years**. Further information will be shared in our next issue. Our team continues to grow, with several new positions now being posted. Please see below for more information.

We are sincerely thankful to the **Jarislowsky Foundation**, **ResearchNB**, and **CIHR** for their continued support and partnership.

OPEN COMPETITIONS

Patient Partner

The Centre for Research in Integrated Care (CRIC) is looking for patient partners to join their Patient Advisory Council. Working with CRIC's Advisory Board, the Patient Advisory Council will oversee CRIC's work, guiding and informing decision-making, providing advice on research projects, as well as contributing to the development of research priorities and directions.

[More information on the opportunity can be found here.](#)

Closing date: TODAY, March 16th, 2026

Research Assistant

CRIC is also looking for a [research assistant](#) to join our team! The research assistant will contribute to all stages of the research process, including supporting grant applications, conducting systematic and scoping reviews, supporting program implementation, contributing to the evaluation of models of care, collecting qualitative and quantitative data, participating in data analysis, and assisting with knowledge translation activities.

[More information on the opportunity can be found here.](#)

Closing date: March 25th, 2026

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

The rise of **practice-based research and learning networks** (PBRLNs) across Canada and internationally reflects growing recognition of the need for primary care reform that prioritizes collaborative approaches to care and research. PBRLNs connect **primary care providers, researchers, patient partners**, and **decision-makers** within structured networks that support a learning health system model. By embedding research into practice, these networks drive innovation and enable continuous, evidence-informed improvement.

PBRLNs have demonstrated their ability to improve patient outcomes, foster a culture of learning, and advance health system transformation. The Government of New Brunswick's (GNB) recent major investments in primary care have opened a policy window to help the province lead nationally by pioneering a network that will facilitate integrating primary care data with administrative datasets at a provincial scale.

Leveraging relationships with diverse interest-holders that CRIC has nurtured since its 2018 inception, 15 clinics will initially be recruited for the network. In collaboration with **DataNB**, **GNB's Department of Health**, the **Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network (CPCSSN)**, the **New Brunswick Medical Society (NBMS)**, and **NB's two regional health authorities**, this PBRLN will undertake evaluations and quality improvement initiatives that respond to emerging needs in primary care. The network is designed for province-wide growth and equipped to carry out research in real-world environments that support rapid implementation and continuous improvement.



[More information can be found here.](#)

EVENTS SPOTLIGHT

QUEST – March 24 at 3pm, virtual.

Join Norma J Rabbitskin, RN, BN (Health Director & Knowledge Keeper, Big River First Nation) and Vivian R Ramsden, RN, PhD (Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Saskatchewan) for an inspiring and practical presentation exploring how Big River First Nation and academic partners have meaningfully collaborated through **Nation-led qualitative approaches**, learning together to support community-driven research. **Register now!**

BRIC NS Primary Care Research Day – May 4, Halifax.

The theme of Primary Care Research Day 2026 is **From Clicks to Care: Strengthening the Digital Foundations of Primary Care**, which will explore innovative approaches, challenges, and future directions for e-health systems in primary care.

Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) Conference – May 25-28, Ottawa.

The Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) is a multidisciplinary association dedicated to improving health and health care by advancing the quality, relevance, and application of research on health services and health policy. As the largest and most diverse association of its kind in Canada, CAHSPR provides members with unique opportunities for networking, research collaboration, and career advancement.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

MacNeill, L., Luke, A., Jarrett, P., Faig, K., & Doucet, S. (2025). [Piloting patient navigation for dementia: A mixed-methods study in primary care](#). Canadian Journal on Aging / La Revue Canadienne Du Vieillissement, 45(1), 58-69.

MacNeill, A.L., MacNeill, L., Luke, A., & Doucet, S. (2025). [Exploring health professionals' views on the depiction of conversational agents as health professionals: A qualitative descriptive study](#). Frontiers in Digital Health, 7, 1590514.

Splane, J., Doucet, S., Rothfus, M., Lavergne, R., & Martin-Misener, R. (2025). [Mapping the provision of care by nurse practitioners in virtual health care clinics: a scoping review protocol](#). JBI Evidence Synthesis, 23(12), 2506–2513.

Jackson, P., Bell, S., Luke, A., & Doucet, S. (2025). [Bringing health research to life: Readers theatre as an innovative knowledge translation strategy](#). Arts & Health, 18(1), 61-67.

Asher, K. E., Somerville, M., Ball, L., Hickson, M., Dombrowski, S. U., Luke, A., & Doucet, S. (2025). [Effectiveness of general practitioner-delivered nutrition care on dietary and health outcomes in adults with chronic conditions: a systematic review](#). BMJ Open, 15(8).



Centre for Research
in Integrated Care



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