



BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services provides specialized health care services to individuals across BC with complex needs – including severe and persistent mental health and substance use issues.

How we serve individuals, families and communities in BC:

We work with regional health authorities, community partners, and government to ensure the delivery of consistent, safe, quality care across the province. We lead knowledge exchange, health promotion and health literacy across the continuum.

- ➔ The Burnaby Centre for Mental Health & Addiction is a specialized 94-bed inpatient treatment program for adults with severe and complex concurrent substance use and mental health concerns. A 105-bed purpose-built treatment centre to replace the Burnaby Centre will open on the Riverview lands in late 2020.
- ➔ Since assuming responsibility for health care in provincial correctional centres in 2017, Correctional Health Services has focused on trauma-informed and recovery-oriented care and establishing continuity of care between corrections and the community. The number of visits for primary care and mental-health counselling has increased, and virtual health has expanded also. Access to opioid agonist therapy has been expanded through eliminating waiting lists and dedicated opioid agonist clinics.
- ➔ Forensic Psychiatric Services BC provides court-related forensic psychiatric assessment, treatment and community case management to adults with mental health disorders who are in conflict with the law. They also provide advice for people found not criminally responsible or unfit to stand trial to the BC Review Board. The six Forensic Regional Clinics provide community-based services to adults, including court ordered assessments, a provincial sex offender program, and specialized treatment. To support the safe reintegration of individuals into the community, there are specialized housing programs in place across the province. The largest is the Community Transitional Care Program in the Lower Mainland.
- ➔ The Heartwood Centre for Women is the only tertiary unit in BC for adult women with complex substance use and mental health issues and significant histories of trauma. Located in Vancouver, Heartwood has 28 beds that are accessible to females (including transgendered women) from across the province.
- ➔ Ashnola at The Crossing, located near Keremeos and operated by Pacific Community Resources Society, is a 22-bed residential substance use treatment program for youth and young adults. The Rehabilitation and Recovery Program, operated by Coast Mental Health, has 40 beds to support individuals with severe and complex concurrent disorders.
- ➔ Other contracted services include 30 provincial substance use treatment beds to respond to the opioid crisis and the BC Psychosis Program, operated by Vancouver Coastal Health.



3,504

admissions to BCMHSUS programs overall

777

people received specialized substance use treatment services



2,528

admissions to Forensic Regional Clinics

18,000

individuals expected to receive evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally safe health care through Correctional Health Services annually

2017/18

BCMHSUS leads system-wide improvements through its work in developing standards and guidelines, health promotion and illness prevention, research and academic teaching, knowledge exchange and translation, and virtual health programs and strategies.

Response to the Office of the Auditor General Report

BCMHSUS leads the work to bring the regional health authorities and the First Nations Health Authority together to address the 10 recommendations in the report on Access to Adult Tertiary Mental Health and Substance Use Services. The report focuses on how B.C.'s health system manages access to the highest level of care available for adults with mental health and/or substance use issues. The response to the recommendations will result in improved services for individuals with the most complex mental health needs.

BC Partners – Leading Mental Health and Substance Use Health Literacy & Promotion

BC Partners is a coalition of seven non-profit agencies working to help people prevent and manage mental health and substance use problems and live healthier lives. BCMHSUS leads the coalition and contracts with partner organizations to

provide evidence-based health promotion and literacy events, materials and support.

Virtual Health

BCMHSUS is leading the development of virtual health services and online tools and resources for adults with complex needs. Bounce Back™, an online and telephone-based coaching program operated by the Canadian Mental Health Association – BC Division and funded by BCMHSUS, teaches effective skills to help individuals (aged 15+) overcome symptoms of mild to moderate depression or anxiety, and improve their mental health.

Provincial Crisis Line Network

BCMHSUS supports the work of the Crisis Line Association of BC to enhance access to 24-hour crisis, information, referral and emotional support services across BC.

Research and Education

BCMHSUS is committed to building capacity for research, knowledge exchange and academic teaching. We work closely with our academic partners to conduct research across all BCMHSUS services. The BC Mental Health and Substance Use Research Institute links research priorities to clinical, health promotion/prevention, and educational/training activities for both BCMHSUS and mental health and substance use services at BC Children's Hospital.

BCMHSUS researchers developed the Short Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability (START) that makes it easier for

physicians, nurses and other care staff to assess patients for their risk of violent behaviour towards themselves and others. The START has been incorporated into clinical practice and research programs in 15 countries and is one of the most useful violence risk assessment tools in the world.

BCMHSUS supports student placements and internships in many clinical programs, including medicine, nursing, social work, pharmacy, psychology, recreation therapy, vocational rehabilitation, drug and alcohol counselling, and clinical nutrition.

\$3.34M

in upgrades underway for the Forensic Psychiatric Hospital

2017/18



\$101M

committed for the centre for mental health and addiction redevelopment project on the Riverview lands



BCMHSUS Administration

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**BC MENTAL HEALTH
& SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES**
Provincial Health Services Authority