

The Social Medicine Network: Promoting Social Accountability Among Healthcare Workers and Trainees

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Introduction

The Social Medicine Network is an interdisciplinary group of healthcare professionals, trainees and community-based organizations that work to enhance understanding of the broad range of social factors that affect health and well-being, and to foster health from multidimensional perspectives.

Founded on principles of social justice and human dignity, we work to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequities in our communities. As a community of practice, we facilitate opportunities for healthcare, advocacy, research, education and community-engaged initiatives.

Purpose

Our vision is to be more effective in responding to the social determinants of health and to help mitigate the disparities that act as barriers to health. We work to promote social accountability among healthcare workers by establishing a network uniting individuals and organizations passionate about health and human dignity.

The Website

- Browse initiatives organized by category of interest
- Information on community engagement, advocacy, research, clinical elective and other learning opportunities
- To unite healthcare workers with similar passions and provide a portal in which they can discuss, debate and advocate for health societies and foster social accountability
- Search for and share information for upcoming events
- Blog function to share experiences and discuss topics that you are passionate about

Social Medicine Network

The Social Medicine Network framework has been implemented successfully in British Columbia (see screenshots below). We plan to model the Social Medicine Network website in Ontario after this.

» Home » Join the Discussion!

Join the Discussion!

All Blog Categories Search

All Recent posts
Aboriginal Health Blog
Addictions Health Blog
Environmental and Occupational Health Blog
New Comer Health Blog
Prison Health Blog
Health and Under-housing Blog
Health Education and Advocacy Blog

[Volunteering opportunity at the Vancouver Native Health youth clinic for VFMP MD 17's and 18's](#)
Author: nicollec
Posted on: September 7, 2014
CHIU (Community Health Initiative by University Students) is recruiting a cohort of volunteers to work at the Vancouver Native Health (VNH) clinic for the upcoming October to May period. (<http://www.vnhs.net/>; address: 449 East Hastings Street). As a volunteer, you will be part of an interdisciplinary team providing care to youth and Aboriginal patients in the [...]

[Community Health Centers in BC](#)
Author: Social Medicine BC
Posted on: April 14, 2014
Recently Community Health Centres have been in the news. Vancouver Coastal Health has said that it is consolidating three of its community health centers into one center. As quoted in an article by Vancouver Sun, "...the goal is to move patients with lower needs into the care of family physicians. Those with high needs will [get] centralized [...]"

[Confronting what makes us sick](#)
Author: Ryan Meili
Posted on: November 29, 2013
I attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) as a representative of Canadian Doctors for Medicare last year. The meeting was not at all what I'd expected. The CMA, as a professional association representing doctors, has often been seen — fairly or unfairly — as working primarily for the interests of the physicians it represents with patients [...]

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Examples of Categories of Interest:

- Health, Human Rights and Liberation Medicine
- Access to Healthcare Services
- Aboriginal Health
- Mental/Emotional Health
- Addictions Medicine
- Newcomer Health
- Prison Medicine
- Health and Underhousing
- Health Education and Advocacy
- Food Security
- Cultural Safety
- Health of Sex Trade Workers
- Health Technology
- LGBT Health
- Maternal and Child Health
- Environmental and Occupational Health

Intended Outcomes

1. To promote and facilitate engagement in activities addressing the social determinants of health
2. To promote partnership and mentorship across all sectors of the healthcare community
3. To unite healthcare workers with similar passions and provide a portal for them to discuss, debate, and advocate for health societies and foster social accountability

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