



Mark your calendars!

The dates and location of the 4th Annual Mental Health Research Showcase have been confirmed for **November 19-21, 2008** at the Rimrock Resort Hotel in Banff, Alberta. Watch for more information on this exciting conference on the [Research Partnership Program website](#).

AMHB Summer Employment Research Program oversubscribed

Thank you to all those who submitted applications for ASERP 2008. The number of applications submitted this year was 27 per cent higher than 2007 and exceeded the number of subsidy grants available. Overall, applications received were strong and spanned across the [Mental Health Research Priority Themes](#). Letters outlining the results of this competition will be sent out in mid-March. Thank you for your continued interest!

Alberta Mental Health Research Partnership Program Website

Please visit the [Research Partnership Program website](#)! Suggestions and submissions (i.e., events, funding opportunities) are most welcome. Please email researchpartnership@amhb.ab.ca.

Post-secondary institutions share current activities and future plans in mental health research

Representatives from Athabasca University and the Universities of Calgary, Lethbridge, and Alberta met in Calgary on January 31st to present on current activities as well as future plans for research in the area of mental health.

There was recognition for the need to develop a critical mass of mental health researchers in order to facilitate and encourage collaboration and knowledge translation within both the academic settings and the Regional Health Authorities. The role for new technology to facilitate communication among researchers and service providers, increasing access to information and resources was recognized as an important mechanism to support collaboration and knowledge translation.

Contact information

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Mental Illness and Addictions Research Working Group update

Co-chaired by AMHB and AADAC, the Mental Illness and Addictions Research Working Group met for the first time in January. This group includes members from universities, Regional Health Authorities, as well as relevant community agencies, networks, research organizations, foundations, and government ministries. Work will soon begin on an environmental scan related to the points of crossover between mental illness and addictions research in Alberta. Thank you to those individuals who volunteered to sit on the sub-committee.

Mental illness and addictions a major concern in the workplace: Alberta construction industry

In an effort to develop a relationship with key stakeholders, members from the AMHB met with senior representatives from the Alberta construction industry. With the current economic boom, the construction industry is under great staffing pressures. By promoting positive mental health, industry strengthens its ability to recruit and retain a healthy workforce that is productive and safe.



The industry representatives learned about the Research Partnership Program and the AMHB, and expressed an interest in learning more about certain programs that can be implemented by their partner organizations (i.e., Men at Risk, Mental Health First Aid).

Next steps will include the development of a Steering Committee with industry partners and other stakeholders to determine ways that research can enhance workplace mental health.