

PHARR Centre Wraps Up Project on Tackling Dementia Stigma On Social Media

The PHARR Centre is celebrating the completion of its research project, funded by MSHR and the Alzheimer Society of BC and Yukon, focused on addressing dementia-related stigma on social media. A highlight of the project was a community-based workshop on May 14, 2025, which brought together more than 75 attendees for poster presentations, panel discussions, and interactive learning.



Participants at the workshop

Participants also took part in a world cafe workshop and engaged with a graphic design artist to generate community-driven ideas for challenging stigma online. The project has led to meaningful outcomes, including new partnerships, a report showcasing key findings, a graphic-designed poster synthesizing results, a YouTube video, and journal articles in press. For more information, please visit, <https://pharr.trubox.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2712/2026/02/V.2-PHARR-Workshop-Final-Report-2025-FINAL-21Feb26.pdf>.

PHARR Centre Welcomes Dr. Nancy Edwards for Insightful Knowledge Exchange

On Friday, March 13, 2026 the PHARR Centre had the privilege of hosting Dr. Nancy Edwards, a leading expert in healthy aging, falls prevention, primary health care, and global community health. With a distinguished career that included serving as Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health, Dr. Edwards has led major population health research initiatives that have shaped policy and practice in Canada and beyond. During her visit, she shared valuable insights based on her extensive experience in knowledge mobilization and aging in place research, offering strategies to translate study findings into real-world impact.



Meeting with Dr. Nancy Edwards

The session provided student RAs with a unique opportunity to ask questions, exchange ideas, and gain guidance on shaping future health research in Canada. Her visit sparked lively discussion, inspiring attendees to think creatively about how research can drive meaningful change in communities. The PHARR Centre looks forward to building on these insights to strengthen the connection between research and practice.

Connect on
Social Media

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 PHARR Centre

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Connecting Rural Health Research Across Continents

The PHARR Centre is pleased to welcome Dr. Rachael Hudson-Gill from the Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health to Thompson Rivers University at the PHARR Centre in NPH Room 245 at 1:00 PM on May 7. Traveling from Lincolnshire, Dr. Hudson-Gill brings valuable insight into the evolving landscape of rural and coastal health. Her visit will spark engaging conversations around shared challenges, emerging opportunities, and the unique realities of delivering care in rural communities, both in the UK and here in Canada.



Upcoming Memory Café Summit to Explore Rural Dementia Care Priorities

Working in collaboration with community partners, the PHARR Centre is proud to host the Memory Café Summit on June 11, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hal Rogers Centre in Kamloops. This engaging event will explore the care priorities of rural people living with dementia, bringing together community members, caregivers, professionals, and advocates. The summit will also feature keynote speaker Christine Aiken, a national dementia advocate and author who lives with dementia, whose work inspires change and raises awareness through powerful lived experience.

Attendees can look forward to interactive workshops, guest speakers, and table conversations designed to share ideas and practical perspectives. The event will also include poster presentations and activities provided by local organizations. A complimentary luncheon will be provided. Registration is required by May 30, 2026, please email jbacsu@tru.ca to reserve your spot.



Hal Rogers Centre in Kamloops

PHARR Centre Researchers to Present at SHARP 2026 in Saskatoon

Dr. Bacsu and PHARR Research Assistant Kate Nanson have the exciting opportunity to present at the Safety and Health in Agricultural and Rural Populations (SHARP) 2026 international symposium, taking place June 16–18, 2026, in Saskatoon. Dr. Bacsu will showcase PHARR Centre research on rural aging and dementia, focusing on reducing stigma and intergenerational strategies to address it.

Kate Nanson will present her work on wildfire impacts and rural aging, offering insights into how environmental and community factors affect older adults. SHARP 2026, hosted by the Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health at the University of Saskatchewan, will feature keynote speakers, workshops, poster sessions, networking events, and guided tours focused on advancing health and safety for rural and agricultural populations.

Contact Us

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