

Better health. Better health care.

The O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary supports excellence in population health and health services research, realizing the benefits of such research by informing community, policy and health-practice stakeholders.

As an Institute, we share a vision of "better health and health care," reflecting our two priority research areas of improved population health and enhanced health systems performance.

The institute's success in brokering broader external relationships, with provincial and national interest groups, policy makers, research agencies, the media, philanthropists, and community stakeholders, further extends the reach and impact of our members' significant research outputs.



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Population Health and Prevention

Research Interest Group



Advocating and advancing population health research to reduce health inequities, prevent injury, disease and death, and facilitate action for better health policy.

The Population Health and Prevention Research Interest Group brings together more than 50 researchers from the O'Brien Institute for Public Health, and from faculties across the university, including Medicine, Nursing, Kinesiology, Social Work, Education and Arts. Many of our members work in research and policy capacities in organizations such as Alberta Health Services and its Strategic Clinical Networks, as well as an assortment of community-based health and social service agencies. Our aim is to connect researchers, practitioners, and policy makers to inform collective action on population health and prevention priority issues.

Improving the health of populations requires acknowledgement of a broad range of determinants, and action with upstream interventions that address root causes of health and illness. The Population Health and Prevention Research Interest Group brings together a diverse group of researchers working to facilitate action to reduce inequities, prevent injury, illness, disease and premature death, and promote individual and community health.

Our members organized Alberta's first cannabis forum that examined the public health implications of legalization, an event that has helped to inform provincial and federal policies. As part of a broader harm reduction strategy

to respond to the opioid crisis in Alberta, our members are an active voice in the discussions around harm reduction strategies such as supervised consumption sites.

Our mission

- Promote research, learning, and knowledge translation activities in population health, prevention, and public health practice.
- Serve as a venue for information sharing and coordination of O'Brien Institute action on population health issues.
- Contribute to public and policy advocacy efforts on the social determinants of health and health inequities.