



An updated treatment option for alcohol use disorder is transforming lives...



... it can also transform community.

Building Alcohol Use Disorder Supportive Communities Program

GRANT OPPORTUNITY

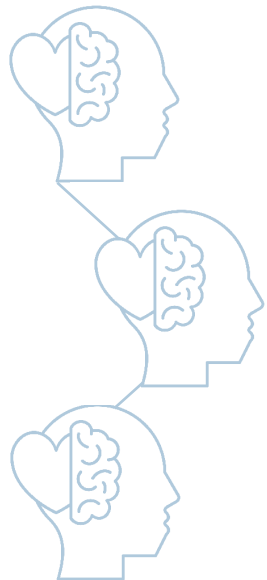


Rethinking Alcoholism

The science is clear. Alcohol Use Disorder, aka alcoholism, is not a moral failing or a sign of weakness. It is, in fact, a health condition. In some individuals, the presence of alcohol in the brain changes its function, and creates intense cravings, a compulsion to drink and a lack of control – even if that means negative consequences such as losing personal, family and work connections.

The good news is that as we understand how alcohol affects the brain, we also understand how to treat it -- making a full recovery from alcoholism possible for just about everyone.

Updated treatment options offered in primary care can transform lives and can help almost everyone fully recover from cravings for alcohol.



Rethinking Treatment

If a person is struggling to overcome cravings, they can visit their primary care office. There, they may be screened for the disorder, and have a conversation about treatment options with their provider.

If it's a fit, the individual may be prescribed one of several safe, effective and proven medications, usually for a short period of time, in order to:

- reduce or extinguish cravings and withdrawal symptoms.
- give people the choice to stop drinking, or simply reduce the amount they drink.
- provide stability for seeking important complementary care, programs, services and supports.

Alcohol Use Disorder can be mild, moderate or severe, and medications are not always required to help a person recover. However, for people who are struggling, this option can be a game changer, and help free them from cravings so that the work of healing and recovery can take place.

But, don't just take it from us! Updated care for alcoholism is endorsed by the BC Centre on Substance Use, the Canadian Centre on Substance Use, the Mayo Clinic and many more institutions. In fact, Canada has just released national AUD care guidelines for use in primary care, which advocate for universal screening, medication-assisted treatment for alcohol cravings and for complementary psycho-social and community supports.

Receive a grant to bring hope and reduce the impacts of alcohol use disorder in your community.



Alcoholism is a root cause of social issues in communities.

But it no longer has to be.

Just ask Barbra-May...

Before discovering medication-assisted treatment for alcohol use disorder, Barbra-May was homeless. Her son had been apprehended by social services, she had no job and her car was falling apart.

No matter how much Barbra-May wanted to change, she just couldn't get a handle on her cravings and compulsion to drink. She landed in hospital with psychosis, and **was prescribed a medication to eliminate her cravings for alcohol.**

Fast-forward a few months, and Barbra May is free from cravings. She has a condo, a working car, a full-time job and is with her son 4 days-a-week. She also has the stability to regularly attend counselling and follow-up on peer and community supports.

Success required treatment and support to attend counselling, and seek services such as housing assistance and connections to culture. In short, **she needed treatment and a supportive community!**

Receive a \$12,000+ grant to deliver a program in your community that addresses the issue of alcohol use disorder.

Program Overview

In a nutshell, this grant will cover your delivery of a pre-designed program that brings awareness to the issue of alcohol use disorder in your community. How? Over the course of one year, spread the word by hosting four community activities.

The Canadian Alcohol Use Disorder Society will provide initial program orientation, and will provide support and guidance throughout the delivery of the program.

The Community Foundation will help set up and administer the grant and funding process.

Your organization will host a community workshop, and 3 additional activities of your choice.



When more people understand alcohol use disorder as a treatable health condition, all sorts of good things happen.

Individuals who are struggling feel supported to:

- seek care that controls their cravings
- retain work opportunities, find housing, and seek supports
- reconnect with family, culture and community

This reconnection translates into healthier communities, and more successful complementary community actions that aim to reduce alcohol-related harms.



“The burden of negative health outcomes related to alcohol cannot solely lie in the hands of the health care sector. Only a collective effort across sectors can prevent poor health outcomes from alcohol.”

– Dr. Silvina Mema,

Medical Health Officer Report: Alcohol and Health in BC's Interior Region, 2020

Program

By working with us to tailor and deliver the following program, your organization will have the opportunity to learn, to create change and to join a network of communities that understand alcohol use disorder as a health condition, that support people to access treatment options, and that work to create a healthier drinking culture.

Getting Organized

Complete Grant Documentation

Review and discuss overall expectations of the grant opportunity.

Attend an Orientation Session

Learn about alcohol use disorder and treatment options available in your community.

Review the program details including activities, timeline, budgeting, guides, resources and supports.

Talk about your community's needs and priorities.

Share and discuss how you will administer the program within your organization.

Hear from a community that has already completed the program.

Hosting Activities

Leaders Workshop and Community Conversation

Coordinate this flagship event and invite a cross-section of community leaders such as town council, justice, police, education, industry employers, health and community service providers.

In the morning, the Canadian AUD Society will provide education about alcohol use disorder.

In the afternoon, help facilitate a community conversation where the various sectors can talk about opportunities, barriers, and change ideas for supporting people in their community who suffer from alcohol use disorder.

Formalize an Action Group and Choose Your Next Activities

Invite interested attendees from the workshop to your organization's Action Group.

Attendees may wish to help plan, to host or simply volunteer at your chosen activities.

Set meeting times and logistics for the year ahead.

As a group, review the needs and priorities generated at the workshop.

Then choose three matching activities from our guide, or get support to design your own activities.

Host 3 or more Community AUD Awareness Activities

Plan and host three activities.

Wrap-Up

Document your Activities

Using a template, provide opportunities for guests at each activity to give feedback.

For final reporting, complete a story and photo sharing form.

Complete grant expense report.

Share your Experiences with a New Community

As a final step, we ask that you share your experiences with a new community that is just starting with the program.

Optional

Continue Hosting Activities

If your organization or members of your Action Group wish to host more activities after the program is complete, we are more than happy to see how we can help establish continuity that benefits your organization and community.

Details to Consider

Organization Eligibility Criteria

The organization:

- Is a registered charity, a non-profit or a social enterprise.
- Works in community, preferably with some experience assisting people directly or indirectly impacted by alcohol use disorder.
- Demonstrates collaboration and has the ability to bring together community leaders and service providers.

Grant Information

Usually administered by the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen or your local Community Foundation.

Your organization is eligible to receive:

- \$12,000 to deliver the program
- An additional \$1800 for administration and set up costs

Timeframe

The program is to be completed in one calendar year with the following main events to be scheduled:

- Orientation Session
- Leaders Workshop and Community Conversation Event
- Three Additional Activities of the Organization's Choice

Partnerships

We can't do this work alone!

The Canadian AUD Society is all about collaboration and facilitating a grassroots approach to reducing AUD in communities. To do this work, we are fortunate to have support from many individuals and organizations, including the BC Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the BC Ministry of Health.

We are also grateful for the support of the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen, which is deeply committed to our cause, and helps facilitate the granting process and connections within the Community Foundation network.



"We are dedicated to this work because we have seen how alcohol use disorder is a root cause of social issues within communities, and also how supporting better understandings and treatment options can make such a huge difference to so many."

– Aaron McRann, Executive Director, Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen

Our Commitment to Inclusivity, Diverse Perspectives and Healing Practices

HOPE

KNOWLEDGE

COMPASSION

ACCESSIBILITY

IMPACT

We gratefully acknowledge that our society's homebase is located on the beautiful and traditional territory of the syilx people. We are grateful for their stewardship of the land and waters since time immemorial.

We are committed to ensuring that our engagement practices are respectful and inclusive of local Indigenous perspectives, and to ensure that our work complements cultural supports and traditional healing practices.



Canadian Alcohol Use Disorder Society



We aim to bring hope and transform lives by improving how people understand and treat Alcohol Use Disorder.



Community Engagement Program Development

We work to create change and provide hope to clinicians, people with lived and living experience and, of course to community.

We began our community engagement work as a pilot project in Princeton, BC. We are so grateful for this community’s input, enthusiasm and continuing desire to build a community more supportive of those with alcohol use disorder.

We couldn’t have developed this program without the support of Interior Health and Princeton’s prescribing community. In addition, we’d like to acknowledge the Princeton Community Health Table and their leadership champions.

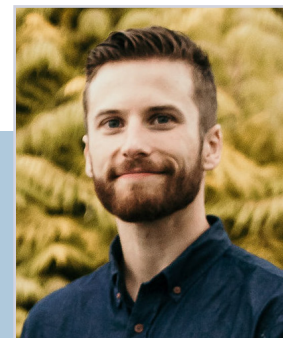
We were delighted to partner with a research group headed by Dr. Tom Barker, professor at the University of Alberta to help with facilitation and to guide the theoretical components of this community engagement project. Contributors to this work included Lorraine Byerley, professor at Algonquin College, and students Laura Vilchis at the University of Alberta and Stefan Kurbatfinski and Karen Fulton both studying at the University of Calgary.

With such broad support, we have been able to incorporate latest communications and engagement theory to advance knowledge and create culture change, and spread our model to other BC communities.

Through engaging your community, we look forward to sharing new knowledge and learning from you!

“I am confident that with ongoing support from community leaders, we will ensure everyone interested in taking steps toward reducing their alcohol consumption can have access to the tools and resources available.”

– Dr. Andrew Ashley, Princeton BC



Join the network of communities that support understanding alcohol use disorder as a treatable health condition.

Discover how you can be a part of the change!

By taking part in this program to help others understand alcohol use disorder as a treatable health condition, communities can:

- Support people within their personal and professional lives
- Increase the number of people recovering from alcoholism
- Reduce the burden of social issues on community
- Foster a healthier drinking culture

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Ministry of
Mental Health
and Addictions

 **COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
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