

# 2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

---

**BC INJURY** research and prevention unit

*Reducing the societal and economic burden of injury in British Columbia*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the province-wide partnership between the BC Ministry of Health, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), Evidence to Innovation Research Theme at the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, and the Department of Pediatrics, The University of British Columbia (UBC) for their integral participation and contribution to the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU). Their ongoing involvement and support allows BCIRPU to continue to be a leader in the development of evidence-based prevention initiatives that build capacity in health authorities and that contributes to the improved health, well-being, and safety of British Columbians.

The BCIRPU offices are located on the traditional and unceded land of the Coast Salish peoples, including the **Sḵwxwú7mesh** (Squamish), **Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh** (Tseil-Waututh), and **xʷməθkʷəy̓əm** (Musqueam) Nations.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Front Cover: Alessandro Biascoli | AdobeStock

Back Cover: christopher | AdobeStock

Page 3: Shelina headshot | BCCHR

Graphic Design by Milica Radosavljevic and Sara Hasanine

|                                                                                     |                                                             |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----|
|    | Message from Director.....                                  | 3  |
|    | Top Stories of 2025/2026.....                               | 8  |
|    | Support Services.....                                       | 11 |
|    | Surveillance.....                                           | 18 |
|    | Research.....                                               | 21 |
|    | Knowledge Synthesis, Translation, and Public Education..... | 27 |
|  | Networks, Coalitions, and Partners.....                     | 36 |
|                                                                                     | Revenues & Expenditures.....                                | 39 |
|                                                                                     | Awards, Grants, Publications, and Conferences.....          | 40 |
|                                                                                     | Other Contributions.....                                    | 45 |
|                                                                                     | Organizational Structure.....                               | 46 |
|                                                                                     | Staff Photos.....                                           | 47 |
|                                                                                     | Affiliate Faculty.....                                      | 48 |



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

**Dr. Shelina Babul**

Over the past year, the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU) continued to work alongside government, health authorities, and our national and international partners to translate evidence into practical solutions that make British Columbia safer. This year, we continued to advance provincial priorities while responding to emerging areas of injury prevention. Our work in 2025/2026 reflects BCIRPU's commitment to providing data, evidence, leadership, and coordination needed to address injury prevention in the province.

Supporting the Province's three priorities for injury prevention remained a central focus of our work, and we continued to collaborate with the Government of BC and regional health authorities to strengthen fall prevention efforts. This includes supporting priorities identified within the BC Government's Age Forward Strategy.

We were honoured to contribute to the Child Death Review Unit's [report](#) examining youth and young adult deaths, helping inform provincial efforts to prevent suicide and self-harm among this population.

Road safety is an area where collaboration is pivotal to producing meaningful results. For the fifth consecutive year, BCIRPU helped coordinate the BC Vision Zero in Road Safety Grant Program. In 2025/2026, the Program invested nearly \$570,000 in 30 community-led initiatives, empowering communities across British Columbia to implement evidence-informed solutions that will have lasting impacts on road safety.

Accurate and reliable data remain the foundation for effective injury prevention, and this year, our surveillance team continued their work to

support the development of the Provincial Health Services Authority's Injury Data Mart within the Platform for Analytics and Data (PANDA). This resource will strengthen injury surveillance, research, and policy development across the province. We also continued our longstanding contribution to the Canadian Hospitals and Injury Reporting and Prevention Program through the collection and reporting of the BC Children's Hospital Emergency Department injury data.

We contributed to provincial and national discussions on product safety regulations, in response to Health Canada's call for feedback on the regulation of button battery products and packaging. Additionally, BCIRPU provided evidence and expertise to the health authorities and the public on the use of e-scooters and e-bikes, as there were growing concerns about safety. These issues reinforce the importance of quality and timely responses to emerging trends in injury prevention.

One of the highlights for me in particular this past year was seeing continued global growth of the Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT®). Through a partnership with Dr. Mauricio Garcia-Barrera at the University of Victoria, we successfully translated the entire CATT® platform, including all eight eLearning courses, into Spanish. Building on CATT®'s international success, work is now underway to launch Punjabi and Arabic versions in 2026/2027, further extending the program's reach to diverse communities around the world.

We expanded our involvement in the Strengthening Public Health Collaborative Action Plan (SPH-CAP), working with partners across sectors. SPH-CAP has already supported BCIRPU projects, including expansion of the Brain Waves program, and the development of culturally sensitive resources for Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome

BC, demonstrating the value of collaborative approaches to injury prevention.

With regards to research, BCIRPU published several manuscripts, including examining injuries among children and youth during the COVID-19 pandemic, physician and nurse perspectives on risky play, and exploring the intersection between socioeconomic conditions and risk for injury. BCIRPU's collaborations extended well beyond British Columbia, through partnerships with researchers across Canada and internationally, including colleagues in Lebanon.



Tommy | AdobeStock

This year also marked the retirement of Dr. Ian Pike, whose leadership has shaped BCIRPU and injury prevention in British Columbia for more than two decades. His influence and expertise have supported stronger policies and safer communities, and his work has been instrumental in mentoring a new generation of injury prevention leaders. While we miss his daily presence, he will continue to work on wrapping up existing grants and be involved with The Community Against Preventable Injuries.

As I reflect on the past year, I am continually inspired by the dedication, expertise and passion of the BCIRPU team. I am grateful to work alongside each and every one of them in our collective efforts to advance injury prevention.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our funders, partners, and supporters, as well as our colleagues and collaborators across public health and injury prevention communities in BC and beyond. Your continued trust, expertise, and commitment make this work possible and strengthen our collective efforts to prevent injuries and improve the health and safety of communities provincially and nationally.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shelina Babul', with a stylized, flowing script.

Dr. Shelina Babul, Director



## MESSAGE FROM THE BC CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL (BCCDC)

Dr. Jat Sandhu

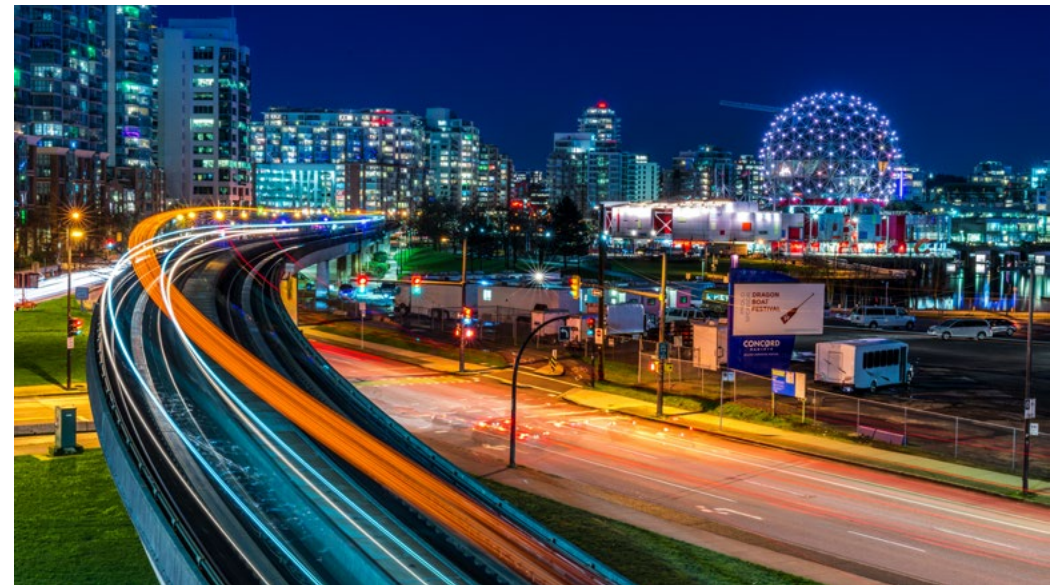
I am pleased to recognize the achievements of the team at the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU). Through their leadership in research, surveillance, policy, knowledge translation and public education, BCIRPU continues to play a vital role in advancing injury prevention across British Columbia.

In 2025/2026, BCIRPU's data team updated the Injury Data Online Tool (iDOT©) and responded to injury surveillance requests from Health Authority partners using data from the PHSA Platform for Analytics & Data. To supplement the *Cost of Injury Report*, BCIRPU's data team developed the [Cost of Injury Dashboard](#), an interactive version of the report that presents injury cost estimates in 2025 dollars, adjusted for inflation. BCIRPU further supported this work by leading communications and promotional activities to increase awareness and use of the Dashboard and other surveillance tools. Together, these initiatives strengthen our understanding of how, why, and when serious injuries occur, and help inform evidence-based prevention strategies.

BCIRPU's leadership is highly valued by staff within the regional health authorities, First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), and the Government of British Columbia. In partnership with Megan Oakey, Manager for Injury Prevention at BCCDC, and the BCCDC Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Leads embedded within the regional health authorities, BCIRPU has continued to advance the province's three priority areas for injury prevention: road safety, falls in older adults, and youth suicide and self-harm.

This year also marked the fourth year of the BC Vision Zero in Road Safety Grant Program. BCIRPU provides leadership and administrative support for this important initiative, which directly invests in improvements to road infrastructure, build local capacity, and protect vulnerable road users. The program continues to demonstrate the value of empowering communities to develop and implement locally driven solutions that contribute to safer roads across British Columbia.

Dr. Jat Sandhu  
Chief Strategy Officer  
BC Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority



DanielAvram | AdobeStock

# BCIRPU AT A GLANCE

## Our Vision

To be a leader in the production and transfer of injury prevention knowledge and the integration of evidence-based injury prevention practices in the daily lives of those at risk, those who care for them, and those with a mandate for public health and safety in British Columbia.

## Our Mission

To reduce the societal and economic burden of injury among all age groups in British Columbia through research, surveillance, education and knowledge transfer, public information and the support of evidence-based, effective prevention measures.

## Background

BCIRPU is located at BC Children's Hospital and is a core research program within the Evidence to Innovation theme at the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. To reduce the social and economic burden of injury in BC, the Unit was established as a strategic entity, supporting the development of policies and programs through research, surveillance, and the translation of evidence and knowledge to researchers, policy makers, practitioners, and the public. BCIRPU leaders are members of the faculty at the University of British Columbia, and train and mentor future health care professionals, researchers, policy makers, and injury prevention practitioners.

## Our Role

To serve as a provincial hub to provide research-based leadership and coordination to stakeholders in order to reduce the societal and economic burden of injury among all age groups in British Columbia.

Key objectives include:

- Reducing the social and economic burden of injury in BC
- Leading research and knowledge development
- Improving surveillance
- Guiding evidence-based prevention
- Supporting professionals and practitioners
- Providing awareness, education, and public information

## Strategic Pillars

- Surveillance
- Research
- Knowledge Synthesis and Translation
- Public Information

## Funding & Support

BCIRPU operates as a province-wide partnership between the BC Centre for Disease Control at Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), Evidence to Innovation Research theme at BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, and the Department of Pediatrics, The University of British Columbia. BCIRPU is supported by core funding from PHSA, competes for peer-reviewed research grants and contracts, and also receives non-competitive contracts.

# STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS

## Surveillance

Understanding trends and patterns is an important first step in reducing the burden of injury. Injury surveillance is the ongoing collection, analysis, interpretation, and timely dissemination of injury data. Government, health authorities, and other stakeholders require data to inform their decisions to develop and implement effective injury prevention initiatives. The BCIRPU maintains a comprehensive, up-to-date, and standardized surveillance system through its Injury Data Online Tool (iDOT©) to support these efforts.

## Research

High-quality research is crucial for the development of evidence-based injury prevention policy and programming. With expertise in injury prevention, epidemiology, health promotion and education, psychology, kinesiology, preventive medicine, and public health, BCIRPU provides applied injury research and knowledge development leadership and support to government, health authorities, PHSA Population & Public Health, researchers, and other stakeholders. Our collaborations with provincial, national, and international researchers and stakeholders support injury prevention research across age groups, mechanisms of injury, socioeconomic status, and among Indigenous communities.

## Knowledge Synthesis & Translation

BCIRPU monitors the best injury research and prevention practices in BC, Canada, and around the world. The Unit completes in-depth analyses of current interventions in order to identify those with proven success. This knowledge is compiled and communicated to government, health authorities, PHSA, and other stakeholders. Examples include research evidence reviews, evaluations, syntheses of injury indicators—both general and specific to the provincial injury prevention priorities—and health authority-specific reports.



The BCIRPU team

## Public Information

Improving knowledge and changing attitudes and behaviours can lead to the reduction of disability and death from preventable injuries. BCIRPU currently utilizes traditional digital tools and media to convey injury prevention information to the general public. This is achieved through the Unit's strategic alliance with the Community Against Preventable Injuries in the delivery of a province-wide injury prevention social marketing program, as well as core programs including the Concussion Awareness Training Tool, Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome BC, Finding Balance BC, and Outsideplay.ca.



## TOP STORIES OF 2025-2026

Here's what we were talking about this past year.



Dr. Pike's Farewell Party

### Dr. Ian Pike's Retirement

On June 30, 2025, we gathered to wish Dr. Ian Pike a happy retirement! Dr. Pike has improved public safety in BC, and shaped injury prevention policy, implementation, and practice. Throughout his career Dr. Pike's work produced 136 publications, 58 reports and 133 presentations and his passion, vision, collaborative efforts and advocacy shining through it all. Dr. Pike served as the Director for 20 years, contributing to provincial, national, and global injury prevention initiatives.

Learn more about Dr. Pike's career on [our website](#).

### Vision Zero Grants

The recipients of Year 5 Vision Zero funding were announced on April 23, 2025. Vision Zero funding is awarded to local groups to support projects that increase road safety. 50 new projects were selected and awarded grants, 15 of which were for First Nations communities in BC. Projects include: installation of crosswalks and sidewalks, traffic calming and speed reduction measures and more.

View summaries of funded projects at [visionzerobc.ca](https://visionzerobc.ca).



## TOP STORIES OF 2025-2026

Here's what we were talking about this past year.

### Enhancing Concussion Care in Colombia

In Spring of 2025, Dr. Shelina Babul travelled to Medellín alongside Dr. Mauricio Garcia-Barrera from the University of Victoria to deliver workshops aimed at improving concussion care and education in Colombia. Drs. Babul and Garcia-Barrera delivered a three-hour workshop on concussion, followed by an introduction to the Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT©) for Medical Professionals. In attendance were individuals from graduate training programs across several health-related fields and medical schools. During this time, they also connected with several researchers and graduate students to discuss research and opportunities for collaboration.

"CATT© was built for a global context. How we diagnose, treat, and manage concussions should not be different across the globe," said Dr. Babul.

As a result of this collaboration, the CATT© resources and websites were translated into Spanish.

Read more about Dr. Babul's trip on the [BCIRPU website](#).

### Dr. Shelina Babul Receives UBC Award

BCIRPU Director, Dr. Shelina Babul received the 2025 Global Citizenship Award from Alumni UBC for her international work on concussion education and prevention.

The Global Citizenship Award is given to a UBC alum in recognition of community or voluntary service that has gained international recognition and made a global difference.

Dr. Babul was formally recognized at the Alumni UBC Achievement Award Ceremony on November 6, 2025. Congratulations!



Dr. Babul with UBC President Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon  
| Photo courtesy of Alumni UBC



## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Here's what we were talking about this past year.

In 2025/2026, BCIRPU provided the public with injury prevention information through the news media. Some examples include:

### Drowning prevention and water safety

In July 2025, Dr. Babul was featured in more than ten stories promoting drowning prevention and water safety. This included a [TV segment](#) on Global News.

### Are e-bikes safe?

Micromobility has seen a rise in popularity as e-bikes and e-scooters have become more accessible. In August 2025, [Dr. Babul shared safety tips](#) around e-bikes with the Squamish Chief.

### "Shrink it and pink it": Women's running shoes

In November 2025, Dr. Allison Ezzat's study exploring how running shoes are not optimized for women was featured on the [Global News segment, "Consumer Matters,"](#) hosted by reporter Anne Drewa. The study was led by Dr. Chris Napier, Director of the [Run Lab at Simon Fraser University](#), and the project attracted the interest of international media.



41

Media stories

### Preventing falls among older adults

BC Seniors' Fall Prevention Awareness Week took place from November 3-9. Dr. Shelina Babul and BC Emergency Health Services paramedic and Public Information Officer Brian Twaites spoke to the media about fall prevention to news outlets, including [Trail Times](#), [Indo-Canadian Voice](#), and [Global News](#).

### Dispelling concussion myths

Dr. Babul discussed concussion myths and facts on an episode of the TELUS Talks podcast, hosted by Tamara Taggart. In the episode, Dr. Babul covered gradual recovery, delayed symptoms, and what parents, coaches, and teachers need to know to prevent persisting symptoms and long-term consequences. The podcast can be found on [YouTube](#).



helivideo | AdobeStock



## SUPPORT SERVICES

### Supporting injury prevention professionals

#### A Provincial Hub

BCIRPU serves as a hub, providing leadership and coordination for injury prevention initiatives throughout BC. BCIRPU is directly aligned to support the needs of the BC Ministry of Health Service Plan, *British Columbia's Population and Public Health Framework*, the BC Injury Prevention Committee, as well as the regional health authorities, First Nations Health Authority, BC Centre for Disease Control, and other interest holders. BCIRPU provides ongoing support to the health authorities, and co-chairs and provides secretariat for the BC Injury Prevention Committee and the BC Injury Prevention Alliance (BCIPA). This support enables cost-effective, evidence-based, and targeted injury prevention policies, strategies, and interventions.

#### Provincial Injury Prevention Priorities

In 2025/2026, the BC Injury Prevention Committee (BCIPC), BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), and the BCCDC/regional health authority Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Leads continued to advance British Columbia's three provincial injury prevention priorities:

- Community-dwelling seniors falls and fall-related injury prevention
- Transport-related injury prevention
- Youth suicide and self-harm prevention

These provincial priorities, established by the BCIPC in 2017, under the leadership of Megan Oakey, Manager for Injury Prevention at the BCCDC, and a member of BCIRPU, continue to guide coordinated injury prevention efforts across the province.

During 2025/2026, collaborative work progressed on initiatives to prevent falls among older adults and reduce transport-related injuries. Significant progress was also made in implementing the provincial action plan for youth suicide and self-harm prevention, which was developed following an extensive year-long prioritization process. Initial implementation has focused on means restriction, particularly around the restriction to over-the-counter medications.

In addition to these provincial priorities, BCIRPU and its partners contributed to prevention initiatives addressing several other important causes of injury, including drownings, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) injuries, sexual violence, alcohol-related injuries, and button battery ingestion.



otmman | AdobeStock



### Button Battery Injury Prevention

Button batteries present a serious risk of injury when swallowed or inserted into a child's ear or nose. BCIRPU is a member of a national Button Battery Safety working group bringing together pediatricians, injury prevention professionals, Health Canada, and the BC Drug and Poison Information Centre.

In 2025/2026, the working group continued to advance collaborative planning and strategic discussions to strengthen public education initiatives, inform advocacy priorities, and increase awareness of button battery safety across Canada.

Building on the successful public education campaign launched in 2024/2025, BCIRPU supported the refresh of campaign materials, including redesigned social media images and updated digital billboards, which were distributed to the regional health authority injury prevention leads for promotion.

In January 2026, Health Canada held a public consultation on the assessment on the risks and danger posed by button and coin batteries and related products under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA). The consultation sought feedback as to whether these products should move from Table 2 to Table 3 of the General Prohibitions, which would require that products containing button batteries to have a secure compartment and must be opened with a tool, and that all button and coin batteries sold in Canada would need to be in child-resistant packaging (e.g., blister packs). The working group coordinated input from partner organizations and submitted a collective response to the consultation, helping to inform the regulatory review and advance efforts to strengthen button battery safety protections in Canada.



Pixel-Shot | AdobeStock

To further raise public awareness, Health Canada designated June 12 as Button Battery Awareness Day, encouraging partners and the public to share safety information and resources on the safe use, storage, and disposal of button batteries and support efforts to prevent injuries.

The BCIRPU also contributed to the development and publication of a peer-reviewed manuscript examining button battery ingestion cases using Canadian and British Columbia poison centre data. [The study](#) provides important insights into the characteristics and circumstances of button battery exposures, supporting ongoing prevention efforts, and informing public health strategies to reduce related injuries.

Looking ahead, BCIRPU will continue to find opportunities to disseminate research findings to academic audiences, while working with national partners to expand public awareness and support ongoing prevention efforts.



### Seniors' Fall Prevention

The BCIRPU continues to support the BC Falls Community of Practice (BCFCP), whose mandate is to foster collaboration, reduce duplication of efforts, and work towards the standardization of falls prevention resources across British Columbia. Under the leadership of the Ministry's Healthy Living and Health Promotion Branch and the Seniors Services Division, a BCFCP subcommittee completed on the development of a suite of evidence-based open-access falls prevention resources, including:

- Staying Independent Checklist (screening tool)
- Strength and Balance for Life (STABL) exercises including instructional videos for sitting, standing, and moving
- Home Safety Checklist

Designed for publicly-funded home support workers, caregivers, and older adults, these resources are available in multiple languages, including Simplified Chinese, Farsi, French, Korean,



rido | AdobeStock

Punjabi, Spanish, and Vietnamese, helping to improve access to evidence-based falls prevention information across diverse communities. They are available at [HealthLink BC](https://healthlinkbc.ca).

The BC Falls and Fall-related Injury Prevention Course for Community and Home Health was reviewed by members of the Falls Community of Practice. Feedback will be incorporated into the final course materials, which will be available on the LearningHub for Health Authority staff.

Building on this course, BCIRPU also completed the development of a series of educational videos to support older adults, families, friends, and caregivers in reducing the risk of falls and fall-related injuries. The videos are available on the Finding Balance [YouTube page](#), and cover the following topics:

- How friends and family can support fall prevention
- Strategies to prevent frailty, falls, and fall-related injuries
- Understanding normal age-related changes and addressing ageism

To support implementation of the *BC Fall Prevention, Risk Assessment and Management Guideline for Older Adults: Falls: Predictable and Preventable*, BCIRPU hosted a highly subscribed webinar promoting the UBC Continuing Medical Education (CME) course developed for BC physicians. The webinar increased awareness on the guideline and encouraged uptake of evidence-based falls prevention practices in primary care.

Additional BCIRPU fall prevention activities in 2025/2026 included providing input into the implementation of *Age Forward: British Columbia's 50+ Health Strategy and 3-Year Action Plan*, supporting provincial efforts to strengthen health aging and reduce fall-related injuries among older adults.



### Road Safety

Vision Zero—zero serious injuries, disabilities, and deaths on our roads—is the guiding principle for road safety across the province. The Vision Zero in Road Safety Grant Program, administered through the BCIRPU, is funded by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Transportation and Transit, with additional contributions from some of the regional health authorities. The BCCDC and regional Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Leads play a key role in supporting communities through the grant application process, including regional adjudication, monitoring ongoing projects, and supporting project evaluation efforts.

A comprehensive evaluation of the first four years of the Vision Zero program is underway, examining program implementation, outcomes, and impact. The final evaluation and impact report will be completed in the next fiscal year and will help inform the future direction of the program.

In April 2025, the grant program funded 50 new road safety projects across 50 communities, including 15 First Nations communities. The funded initiatives focused on infrastructure improvements, such as building or upgrading existing crosswalks and implementing traffic calming measures on roads to reduce vehicle speeds. The program also supported numerous non-infrastructure projects, including e-bike programs, driver training, and other active transportation programs. The total value of these funded projects was over \$1.8 million in investments, including \$794,991 in Vision Zero funding and an additional \$1,006,621 in partner and community contributions.

The fifth iteration of the Vision Zero Program launched in September 2025. To strengthen project quality and support applications, a road safety engineer was contracted to provide technical consultations with select applicants. Applications were



unai | AdobeStock

adjudicated between December 2025 and March 2026. Successful projects will be announced in April 2026. Additional information about the program is available at [visionzerobc.ca](https://visionzerobc.ca).

BCIRPU also continued to advance several road safety research initiatives during 2025/2026, including:

- *Automated Speed Enforcement and 30 km/h Speed Limits:*  
A manuscript examining the factors influencing public support for automated speed enforcement and 30 km/h speed limits was completed following analysis of a provincial survey commissioned by the BCIPC. The manuscript has been submitted and is currently under peer review.
- *Cycling Passing Distance Study:*  
Work continued on a collaborative project with UBC Engineering and Monash University to measure the lateral passing distance between motor vehicles and cyclists across a range of roadway configurations. Following the resolution of several technical challenges, the project team anticipates beginning data collection in 2026.



### Youth Suicide and Self-Harm

The BCIPC continues to advance work on the provincial priority on youth suicide and self-harm prevention through its Youth Suicide and Self-Harm Means Restriction working group. Using a rigorous consensus-building process, the working group identified priority actions for public health at both the provincial and regional levels to reduce access to common means of self-harm. Regional efforts will focus on interventions such as improving safety at high-risk locations through fencing and barriers, and strengthening firearm safety initiatives. Provincial efforts will focus on exploring the restriction of access to over-the-counter and availability of prescription medications. This is in response to the increasing number of medication-related self-harm hospitalizations among female youth and young adults.

### BCCDC/Regional Health Authority Support

The BCCDC/regional health authority Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Leads are dedicated positions within the public health programs of each regional health authority. They provide local and regional injury prevention leadership and capacity required for strategic planning, work plan and policy development, program implementation and evaluation, and research.

These positions operate within a hub and spoke model, whereby direct supervision is provided by BCCDC, while regional leaders provide direction and supervision for local and regional efforts. Staff members are embedded in various regional public health teams, such as population health or environmental health. The Leads also work as a team across the regions, including with a small number of existing regional injury prevention positions, to draw on the various expertise of team members and provide efficiencies such as sharing and co-developing resources or co-leading initiatives.



Alessandro Biascoli | AdobeStock

### The Case for Injury Prevention

A team was assembled to work on evidence syntheses to support the work of the BCCDC/ regional health authority Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Leads. This year, two evidence syntheses were developed on the topics of ATV safety and effective municipal policy for older adult falls prevention.



## SUPPORT SERVICES

The Leads are also members of the BCIRPU team, increasing the injury prevention capacity within each regional health authority. Through the BCIRPU, Leads gain access to a wider network of injury prevention professionals, as well as support for requests related to: data and surveillance; research proposals and evidence reviews; evaluation; emerging topics in injury; communications and knowledge translation; and other injury prevention-related topics.

### Partnership With the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)

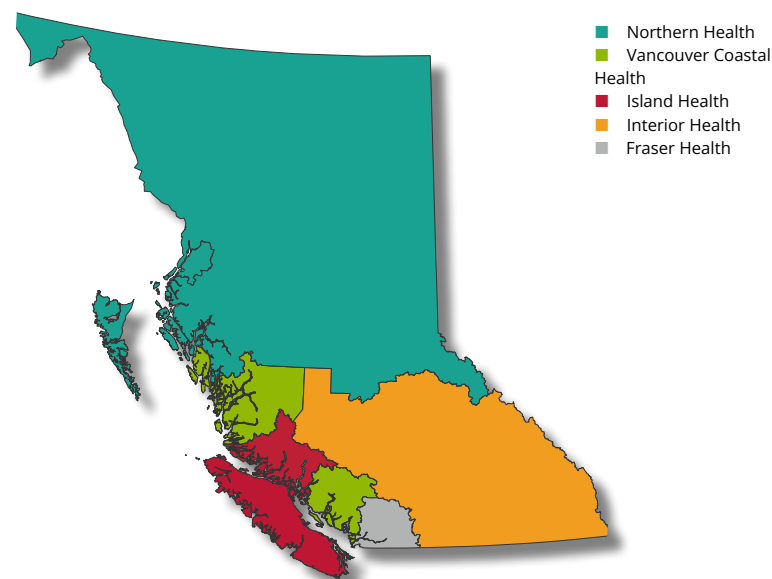
First Nations Injury Surveillance in BC is a partnership between the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), BCIRPU, and PHSA. With mentorship from BCIRPU, FNHA is exploring the various injury datasets for trends and patterns of injury deaths and hospitalizations among First Nations peoples. Comparisons are being made between First Nations people living on or near community versus off reserve, as well as between First Nations people and other BC residents.

BCIRPU assists BC's health authorities and other partners with:

- Injury prevention program planning, development, implementation, and evaluation
- Coordination and facilitation of injury surveillance
- Identification of key trends, issues, and evidence-based best practices
- Expert training in injury and falls prevention
- Research design, methods, and analysis
- Research literature searches and syntheses
- Grant application development and review

### Strengthening Public Health Through Collaboration

The BCIRPU has joined the Strengthening Public Health Collaborative Action Plan led by the Public Health Association of BC. The team has received funding for two projects, one to support the work of Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome BC (see page 32) and the second to expand deliver of the Brain Waves program (page 34). These projects aim to eliminate preventable health disparities within BC and make health promotion more accessible for all.





## Other Injury Prevention Resources

### Active & Safe Central

Active & Safe Central provides evidence-based injury prevention information to children, youth, and adults who engage in or facilitate sports and recreational activities. Visit [activesafe.ca](https://activesafe.ca).

### Concussion Awareness Training Tool

The Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT®) is a series of online educational modules and resources with the goal of promoting concussion recognition, diagnosis, treatment, and management. CATT® provides medical professionals, coaches, parents, teachers, youth, athletes, working adults and their employers, and those who support survivors of intimate partner violence with the latest evidence-based information on concussion. Visit [cattonline.com](https://cattonline.com).



### Costofinjury.ca

Cost of Injury provides data detailing the human costs of injury, including deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits, as well as the economic costs of injury on the health care system and society. Interactive charts and graphs illustrate the burden of injury in BC and Atlantic Canada. Work is underway to include the Cost of Injury in Ontario. Visit [costofinjury.ca](https://costofinjury.ca).

### Dontshake.ca

Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome BC (PSBSBC) is a provincial program based out of the BCIRPU. The aim of the program is the reduction of Traumatic Head Injury Due to Child Maltreatment/ Shaken Baby Syndrome (THI-CM/SBS) through a universal prevention program education for parents. Visit [dontshake.ca](https://dontshake.ca).



surangaw | AdobeStock



# SURVEILLANCE

## Understanding injury trends and patterns

### Injury Surveillance Data

Injury surveillance using linked data is a critical requirement, and its development is supported by the BCIRPU, BCCDC, regional epidemiology leads and medical health officers.

The Injury Data Mart was originally developed in the Provincial Health Services Authority's PANDA platform, currently using BC Vital Statistics (deaths), Discharge Abstract Database (hospitalizations), National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (emergency department visits), and Client Roster (denominators) datasets, with expansion to other datasets anticipated. The injury data mart is currently consolidated into the Non Communicable Disease and Injury Data Mart. Data from this mart will be used to support: the update of the relevant Injury Data Online Tools (iDOT©) and visualizations; requests from the health authorities; and data visualizations.

### BCIRPU Injury Surveillance System

The BCIRPU Surveillance System plays a critical role in monitoring, analyzing, and reporting injury-related data in BC. It supports informed decision-making by the BC Ministry of Health, PHSA/BCCDC, the BC Injury Prevention Committee, the BC Injury Prevention Alliance, and regional health authorities to improve public health outcomes and reduce the burden of injury across the province. Some of the roles include:

- Managing the interactive Injury Data Online Tool (iDOT©): a direct interface with the surveillance data for users to produce customized tables, charts, and maps.
- Managing the interactive injury visualizations: a dashboard with surveillance data for users to obtain an at-a-glance overview of provincial injury data, helping users quickly identify high-risk populations, common causes of injury, and regional variations.
- Monitoring emerging trends and identifying knowledge gaps in evidence, and best practices: conducting ongoing collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of high-quality injury statistics and information.
- Maintaining comprehensive, integrated injury data through partnerships: collaboration with various agencies and organizations through formal data-sharing agreements. These partnerships allow for the integration of diverse data sources, enhancing the accuracy and scope of injury surveillance and prevention efforts in BC.

### Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP)

CHIRPP is a national injury and poisoning surveillance system that collects and analyzes data on injuries to people who are seen at the emergency rooms of 11 pediatric hospitals (and one children's outpatient clinic within a general hospital) and 9 general hospitals in Canada. Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the BC Children's Hospital CHIRPP program is operated by BCIRPU, informing child and youth injury prevention policy and programs.





## SURVEILLANCE

### BCIRPU's Injury Data Online Tools include:

- Hospitalizations including sports-related injuries (MoH DAD, 2001/02-2023/24)
- Deaths (BC Vital Statistics, 2001-2022) *\*data undercounted from 2020-2022*
- Police-attended road-related injuries and deaths (ICBC, 2002-2024)
- Emergency department visits to BC Children's Hospital (CHIRPP, 2007-2021)
- Work-related insurance injury claims (WorkSafeBC, 2001-2023)
- Emergency department visits to Lower Mainland Hospitals (NACRS, 2013/14-2023/24)

New data online tools are incorporated as new data become available. A data lag still exists between BC Coroners Service and BC Vital Statistics Agency data sets, due to ongoing investigations by the BC Coroners Service. As a result, recent death counts are underreported.



**9** iDOT Data Visualizations available

### Injury Data Online Tool (iDOT©)

[iDOT©](#) is an easy-to-use, menu-driven online system making data available to injury prevention practitioners and professionals, as well as the public. Pull-down menus provide options to create a customized view of injury-related deaths and injuries. Information is available as counts, rates per 100,000 population, and age-adjusted rates.

Longitudinal and cross-sectional views can be made, broken down by parameters such as age, sex, region, and cause or type of injury. Injury data visualizations are available on iDOT©, providing visual overviews of injury trends and patterns in BC.

[Visualizations](#) are available for concussion-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits, as well as for the Children and Youth Serious Injury Indicator.

#### iDOT© TOOLS



INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS



INJURY-RELATED DEATHS



TRAFFIC ACCIDENT SYSTEM



SPORTS-RELATED INJURY



CHIRPP BCCH ED VISITS



WORK-RELATED INJURY CLAIMS



# SURVEILLANCE

## Injury Surveillance Working Group

The Injury Surveillance Working Group is a collaboration between BCIRPU and the BCCDC health authority observatory epidemiologists. Through access to injury data within the non-communicable disease and injury data mart, the group works to establish consistent methods for defining and reporting injuries in BC. Issues and concerns regarding various injury data are discussed and explored with members of this group.



Injury Data 101 factsheets

## “Data & Surveillance” Webpage

A number of resources around data usage and interpretation are available on the [Data and Surveillance](http://www.injuryresearch.bc.ca/data) page of the BCIRPU website. These resources include the Injury Data Online Tool (iDOT©), data visualizations, information sheets, and more.

Our Injury Data 101 series includes the following factsheets: *What is an injury?*, *How do we describe the burden of an injury?*, *How do we present the burden of injury?*, *Where do we get injury data?*, *How do we monitor injury?*, and *How are provincial injury data collected?*

A section for Frequently Asked Questions about data is available to address specific data questions such as, “Why don’t you have the most recent data?”, “Why can’t I just have the raw data tables?”

Quick Charts are also available: *Leading causes of injury-related hospitalizations (2023/2024)* and *Leading causes of hospitalizations (2021/22)*.



## RESEARCH

Guiding evidence-based prevention

### Research and Knowledge Development

BCIRPU contributes to the injury prevention evidence base by pursuing research opportunities through peer-reviewed grants and contracts. Projects aligning with the BCIRPU's core deliverables are undertaken with provincial, national, and international research partners, collaborators, and other interest holders.

 Articles Published: **20**

 Conference Abstracts **18**

 **~60%**  
of revenue  
from grants  
and contracts\*  
3-year average

### Cannabis Poisonings Among Children and Youth at BCCH: impact of the national cannabis legislation

BCIRPU researchers examined trends in cannabis-related pediatric emergency department visits at BC Children's Hospital from 2016 to 2021—before, during, and immediately after cannabis was legalized in Canada. The study found a 48% increase in emergency department visits immediately following legalization, with the overall number of cases remaining higher after legalization than before. Intentional cannabis use was most common among youth aged 14–16 years, while unintentional exposure to edible cannabis products was most common among younger children. The findings highlight the need for strengthened prevention measures, public education, and ongoing surveillance to reduce cannabis-related exposures and harms among children and youth, particularly those involving edible products.

The manuscript is scheduled to be published in April 2026 in the journal *Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada: Research, Policy and Practice*. A media release and accompanying infographic will be developed to help promote the study findings and cannabis poisoning prevention.

### Surveillance in High School to Reduce Concussions and Consequences of Concussions in Canadian Youth (funded by National Football League)

The SHRed Concussions research study is a national platform for high school concussion surveillance to reduce the risk of youth sport-related concussions and their consequences. This work will establish and validate injury surveillance in high schools, integrating a variety of tools to detect concussion, predict recovery, and inform prevention and management best practice and policy.

Funded by the National Football League and led by Dr. Carolyn Emery at the University of Calgary, SHRed Concussions is a collaboration of investigators



from across Canada. In Vancouver, SHRed is led by Drs. Shelina Babul and Ian Pike. In 2024-2025, recruitment focused specifically on female high school rugby players, with 40 additional athletes enrolling in the study. In 2025-2026, the team conducted data cleaning and analysis. For more information, visit the [BCIRPU website](#).

## Firearm-related Injuries and Deaths in BC

This study examined factors contributing to the deprivation profile of firearm-related injuries and deaths, including demographic trends, intent and outcomes, geographic and socioeconomic disparities. Intentional self-harm accounted for 46.4% of injuries, following with assaults that make up 29.2% of injuries and unintentional injuries at 19.1% of cases. Researchers found that the burden of firearm injuries in BC is driven primarily by suicide, especially among older men in rural and remote areas. Socioeconomic deprivation is associated with higher injury rates, highlighting the need for targeted interventions.

This study highlights the importance of system-level changes focusing on suicide prevention, poverty reduction, and promoting employment and education to address root causes of injury and death. This study [was published](#) in June 2025.

## Identifying Trends and Patterns of Home Injuries

This study examined the relationship between neighbourhood deprivation and unintentional injuries occurring at home leading to hospitalizations in BC between 2015 and 2019. [The first publication](#) from this study demonstrated that for three dimensions of the Canadian Index of Multiple Deprivation (situational vulnerability, economic dependency, and residential instability), unintentional home injury rates were higher in areas with higher deprivation, while the inverse was observed for ethno-cultural diversity.

The second manuscript, [published in January 2026](#), focuses on the geospatial hotspots of unintentional home injuries in BC.

## Emergency Room Doctors and Nurses, Parenting Practices, Occupational Experiences, and Child Safety Perspectives

Led by BCIRPU Research Associate Dr. Michelle Bauer, this project involves understanding the experiences and perspectives of physicians and nurses who work in emergency departments to identify how various exposures to severe and/or fatal child injuries shape their child safety practices at home.

Findings from this work have provided insight into how severe injuries resulting from drownings, window falls, motor vehicle crashes, and animal bites can cause practitioners to be more vigilant towards child safety threats and intervene in potentially dangerous activities around the home, and near water and roads. Traumatic injuries and death where children experience great pain, or families express grief, can be remembered by practitioners long after exposure and impact their perceptions of risk-taking and parenting decision-making.

Dr. Bauer received a BCCHR postdoctoral fellowship award to conduct this project. This project resulted in three peer-reviewed publications and six conference presentations. Read more about this project on the [BCIRPU website](#).

## Examining E-scooter Injuries Among Children and Youth

Electric kick scooters (e-scooters) are battery-powered motorized devices with two to four wheels and include a platform for standing and handlebars for steering. In 2021, The BC Ministry



of Transportation and Transit (MoTT) established regulations for participating communities to pilot these micromobility devices in 2021. In April 2024, MoTT renewed the pilot program for an additional four years. To support the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of e-scooter safety, the BCIRPU provides MoTT with annual e-scooter-related injuries captured through the Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP) at BC Children's Hospital. This surveillance will continue through 2028 and will help to inform e-scooter safety initiatives in BC.

The BCIRPU will submit their Year 2 report to MoTT in early summer 2026. This report will provide an overview of e-scooter-related injuries among children and youth under 17-years-of-age and will provide demographics to help get a better understanding of variables, including who is being injured, and how and where injuries are occurring, in order to inform opportunities to strengthen prevention efforts.



aerogondo | AdobeStock

## Youth Suicide and Self-Harm by Medications in BC: The role of means restriction

This article, published in the [BC Medical Journal](#) in November 2025, examines the role of medication-related means restriction in preventing youth suicide and self-harm in British Columbia. Using hospitalization data and BC drug and poison centre records for youth aged 10–24 years, this paper showed that intentional poisoning is the leading cause of self-harm hospitalizations, particularly among females. The article highlighted that restricting access to lethal means can reduce suicide and self-harm without leading to substitution with other methods. Drawing on international examples, such as the success in the United Kingdom and Australia to reduce acetaminophen package sizes, the authors suggest that measures including policies limiting access to large quantities of high-risk medications, safer prescribing practices, and medication storage and disposal education, could help reduce medication-related self-harm among youth.

## “Shrink It and Pink It”: Women’s Running Shoes Don’t Fit

BCIRPU Implementation Scientist and Research Affiliate Dr. Allison Ezzat was senior author on a study that conducted focus groups with 21 women, who identified as competitive and non-competitive runners. Results highlighted the inequities that women face when it comes to running shoes; specifically, that women’s footwear is often just an adapted version of men’s footwear.

“Across so many areas of sport and exercise in general, the research has all been done on men and boys. We just extrapolate it to women and girls and assume it is going to be the same,” said Dr. Ezzat. In fact, sex and gender differences in biomechanics, anatomy, and social constructs should be considered when



designing shoes. When considering their ideal shoe, participants said that they prefer a wider toe box, narrower heel, better cushioning, a comfortable fit. They also consider the shoe's impact on injury risk. This study [was published](#) in *BMJ Open Sport and Exercise Medicine* in October 2025 and gained local and international media attention.

## Estimating the Financial Burden of Pediatric Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury in British Columbia

Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) injury rates have been increasing by up to 4% each year among the pediatric population. The ACL is a key stabilizing ligament of the knee. Those who sustain an ACL injury experience significant pain, psychological distress, and reduced participation in sports. In the longer term, individuals with ACL injury have a significantly increased risk of developing the painful joint disease known as post-traumatic osteoarthritis. Dr. Ezzat and Kinesiologist Mitchell Rankin are co-leading a study to develop a costing model for pediatric ACL injury, with the goals of quantifying the direct financial burden of pediatric ACL injury and strengthen advocacy efforts for the use of injury prevention programs in sport. Data analysis is nearly complete and the manuscript is in-progress to be submitted for publication in late 2026.



Research Awards:

3



Conference Proceedings:

20

Mr. Rankin presented on this topic at the BCCHR Evidence to Innovation Research Day in the Fall of 2025.

## Interviewing the Implementers to Improve Injury Prevention in Girls' Soccer

Researchers Drs. Ezzat and Bauer are undertaking a study to ask sports medicine experts about injury prevention in girls' community soccer. The first component of the project involved semi-structured interviews with 17 physiotherapists from geographically diverse locations around British Columbia. Results indicated that respondents had a holistic view of injury prevention, and highlighted the need for a multi-pronged approach that acknowledges contextual factors (e.g., competition level, coach skill level) on adoption of injury prevention activities. The second component of the project involves interviews with injury prevention academic experts from around the world. 15 interviews and analysis have been completed.

The physiotherapist component of the project was presented at the SportKongres conference in Denmark in January 2026. The academic experts component of this project will be presented at the ENRICH conference in Banff, Alberta in May 2026. This project is funded by a Women's Health Research Institute Catalyst Grant. Both components will be submitted for publication later in 2026.

## Using Concept Mapping to Understand Facilitators to Injury Prevention Program Implementation Among Girls' Soccer

Dr. Ezzat is leading a study that uses a concept mapping approach to understand what promotes the uptake of injury prevention programming among community girls' soccer clubs. Workshops



were conducted with players from five girls' community soccer teams in North Vancouver and Victoria. Coaches, parents, and club leaders participated in brainstorming and sorting/rating tasks online. The Community Advisory Board was critical in data interpretation. Data analysis has been completed and this work will be presented in an oral presentation at World Congress of Sport Physiotherapy in Switzerland in Dec 2026. This project is made possible by the Partnership Recognition and Exploration Fund from UBC Community Engagement.

### **Co-Designing Injury Prevention Interventions in Girls' Community Soccer**

Girls are twice as likely to experience ACL tears, and after sustaining these injuries, girls have worse outcomes and lower return to sport/physical activity, compared to boys/men. Like most injuries, many ACL injuries are preventable, with regular use of exercise-based injury prevention programs.

Dr. Ezzat is leading a team that includes members of the BCIRPU, UBC, University of Victoria, La Trobe University (Australia), and Lund University (Sweden). The goal of this project is to co-produce, implement, and evaluate an injury prevention intervention for girls' community soccer teams in BC with players, leadership, coaches, and parents. This research is guided by the seven-step generalizable framework for creating an intervention which focuses on end-user engagement and integrated knowledge translation.

Co-design workshops will take place in 2026 with community members from 5 soccer teams to determine key intervention components and strategies to support uptake. This project is funded by a BCCHR Evidence to Innovation Seed Grant.

### **Refugees, Lebanese Children's and Health Care Workers' Safety and Injury Experiences**

Over the past four years, a collaboration between Dr. Bauer and Dr. Samar Al-Hajj's team at The Middle-Eastern and North African Program for Advanced Injury Research and The American University of Beirut is examining how and why refugee and displaced children are injured as a result of armed conflict in Lebanon, and what can be done about it. This project has resulted in three published articles in peer-reviewed journals. The project is evolving to examine the perspectives of health care workers and families during times of air raids and weaponized tool use. Findings have been presented at four conferences. Learn more about this project on the [BCIRPU website](#).

### **Immigrant Mothers' Experiences With Child Soothing in Vancouver, Canada: "I just want to be a good mom"**

Soothing a crying baby can be overwhelming and frustrating for any parent. For parents who are new to Canada, these feelings can be even greater. Many immigrant mothers experience feelings of isolation, guilt, and difficulty navigating motherhood while adjusting to a new place and navigating cultural differences. Researchers at Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome BC and the BCIRPU spoke with 23 immigrant mothers of young children aged 0-5 years to better understand the feelings and cultural pressures they experience upon coming to Canada.

Through focus groups conducted at family gathering spaces, mothers connected with one another and were provided a space to explore normal negative feelings, additional factors that can exasperate these feelings, and strategies for coping. Findings suggest that there is a need to include the lived experience of



newcomer and immigrant parents in soothing and parenting resources given to families. Read more on this study in the journal [Child: Care, Health, and Development](#).

## Occupational Injury Among Firefighters in Canada

Firefighters have high rates of occupational injury and death. BCIRPU researchers, including Dr. Ian Pike and Research Affiliate members Mr. Len Garis and Dr. Samar Al-Hajj, analyzed Canadian and BC injury and death-related claims, as well as time-loss claims, over a 15-year period.

Despite training and safety precautions, firefighters experience a high risk of injury from fire and physical and chemical hazards, in addition to the long-term effects of smoke inhalation and psychological effects due to the nature of the work. Having a long career as a firefighter is associated with an increased incidence and mortality rate of cancer.

This study [was published](#) in December 2025.



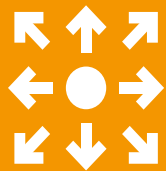
Petra Richli | AdobeStock

## Trends in Hospitalizations Resulting From Violent Injuries Among Children and Youth in British Columbia During the COVID-19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, stay-at-home measures were put in place to minimize the spread of the virus. Drs. Pike, Babul and colleagues in Ontario, hypothesized that heightened levels of stress and anxiety during this time would lead to an increase of violence-related injuries for children and youth in BC. Violence-related injury hospitalizations were studied between April 2015 and March 2022. Researchers found that prior to the pandemic, there was a decreasing trend in violence-related hospitalizations; however, during the pandemic, there was seemingly no correlated impact of stay-at-home measures on violence-related hospitalizations for children and youth aged 0-19.

They also compared the difference in the impact of COVID-19 restrictions in British Columbia and Ontario. During the pandemic, Ontario experienced an immediate 29% reduction in hospitalizations, followed by a return to pre-pandemic levels by 2022. The immediate reduction seen in Ontario was attributed to a general public avoidance of hospitals due to fears of the COVID-19 virus as opposed to a true reduction in violence-related injuries. This difference in avoidance behaviour was hypothesized to be due to pandemic policies being enacted on the whole province of British Columbia, compared with the more regional applications in Ontario.

This study shed light on the importance of improving data collection and surveillance to better inform safety messages and policies, particularly during an emergency event such a pandemic. This study [was published](#) in the journal *Child Protection and Practice* in March 2026.



# KNOWLEDGE SYNTHESIS, TRANSLATION, AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Improving injury awareness and knowledge

## Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

BCIRPU staff are committed to continued learning about incorporating equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) into the workplace—research, daily office and human resources practices, as well as contributing towards Truth and Reconciliation.

In 2025/2026, the BCIRPU staff worked on the action plan stemming from the previously completed the UBC Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Self Assessment Tool. Staff meeting EDI presentations included trauma-informed practice and building relationships, and universal design and disabilities. Staff members attended the 2025 Faculty of Medicine REDI Symposium, and three workshops were held linking previous BCIRPU reflections to the UBC Indigenous Strategic Plan. Resources were added to the digital staff EDI folder, and books were added to the library, which now has approximately two dozen books.

## Active & Safe Central

[Active & Safe Central](#) provides evidence-based injury prevention information to children, youth, and adults who engage in or facilitate sports and recreational activities. The umbrella review to gather the latest injury statistics, risk factors, and prevention information for all 51 sports and recreational activities was been completed in June 2025 and the website has been updated.

Florella Peng (summer student) and Allison Ezzat conducted a co-design project to obtain feedback on the website from sport community members. Twenty people participated in think-aloud qualitative interviews while interacting with the platform in real time, and completed three validated quantitative questionnaires.



cody | AdobeStock

This project will be presented at the Canadian Academy of Sport and Exercise Medicine Conference (April 2026) and will be submitted for publication in late 2026, with results informing further updates to the website.

In 2025/2026, [activesafe.ca](#) had 20,029 visits from 18,088 users. There was a total of 60,344 pageviews. The most visited sports pages were: dance, rugby, wrestling, volleyball, wakeboarding, soccer, baseball, ice hockey, badminton, and dodgeball. Users visited from all over the world. Interesting search terms that were used to arrive at the website included: “safe=active”, “stay safe”, “are sports healthy”, “injury definition”, “safety soccer”, and “how to choose a sport”.



## Concussion Awareness Training Tool

The online [Concussion Awareness Training Tool \(CATT®\)](#) provides evidence-based eLearning modules and resources to eight target audiences: medical professionals, coaches, parents and caregivers, school professionals, athletes, youth, workers and workplaces, and intimate partner violence responders. Information is provided on the recognition, response, treatment, and management of concussion. In addition to French, the CATT® eLearning modules have been translated into Spanish, with translations into Arabic and Punjabi to be available later in 2026.

Work commenced on the update of CATT® for Intimate Partner Violence Responders in partnership with Supporting Survivors of Abuse and Brain Injury through Research (SOAR). This course will be launched later in 2026, with three submodules for targeted audiences to be developed in 2026/2027.

Two student-led CATT® projects are underway: 1) a medical student in Nova Scotia is working to recruit high school football players to evaluate CATT® for Youth; 2) a FLEX medical student in Prince George is assessing concussion experiences in delivering and receiving care.

In 2025/2026, CATT®  
was accessed by

**153,000+**

people worldwide



## Invictus Games 2025

CATT® for Medical Professionals and related materials were incorporated into the Medical Volunteer Operations Guide, and CATT® was included in the November Newsletter.

The CATT® team collaborated with BC Soccer to promote concussion awareness via social media relating to the 2026 FIFA World Cup in Vancouver. Materials and concussion messaging were promoted at the 2026 BC Winter Games and in Northern Health via the Healthy Schools newsletter. A rinkboard promoting CATT® was installed at the arena where SFU's Hockey team plays.

CATT® continues to be the most popular website of the BCIRPU assets, with 173,580 visits in 2025/2026 from all over the world—an average of 14,465 per month. There were over 2.3 million pageviews, most of which come from users navigating through the eLearning courses. Most users visit CATT® to take concussion training; other popular pages included the SCAT5 tool (38,466 views) and the Resources page (36,552 views).

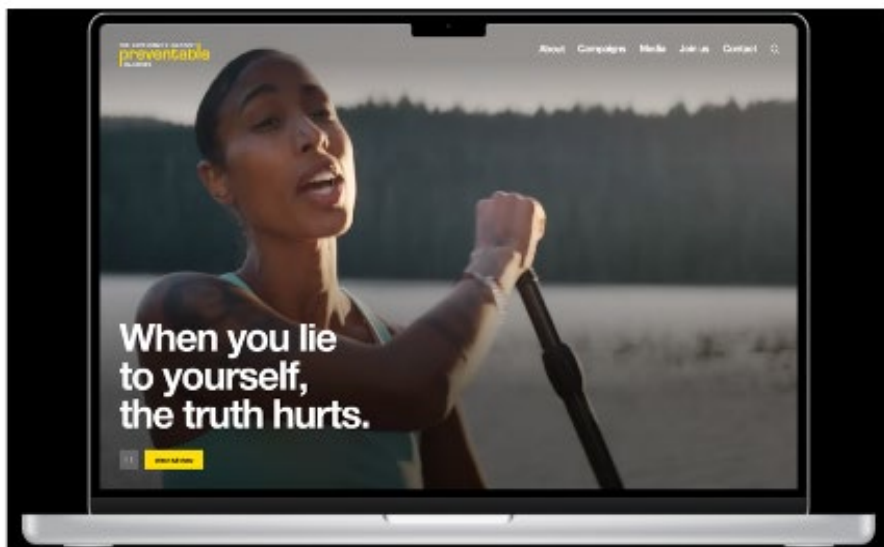


The CATT® homepage in Spanish



## The Community Against Preventable Injuries (Preventable)

In February 2026, Preventable launched their new campaign, “The Truth Hurts.” The campaign challenges people’s belief that injuries won’t happen to them, and directly challenges the lies that people tell themselves when they choose to ignore safety precautions. The ads end on a serious note with the tagline: “When you lie to yourself, the truth hurts.” Three 30-second ads were created, each focusing on a different injury scenario: “Paddler” focuses on lifejacket use/drowning prevention, “Roofer” outlines safe ladder use, and “Driver” highlights the dangers of distracted driving. The ads were filmed in the Lower Mainland and recruited local actors and Canadian companies for production and post-production. The campaign concepts were focus tested to ensure they were well-understood, elicited self-reflection, and did not come across as judgmental.



The updated [preventable.ca](https://preventable.ca) website



An image from the new Preventable campaign, “The Truth Hurts”

Social and digital ads invite the public to play “2 Truths and a Lie”—to spot the lie among a series of statements. The campaign can be seen on a variety of platforms, including Amazon Prime, YouTube, Meta (Facebook and Instagram), TikTok, Snapchat, and Twitch. The ads will play in all Cineplex theatres in BC during the summer months. The website, [preventable.ca](https://preventable.ca), was redesigned to better highlight current and past campaigns.

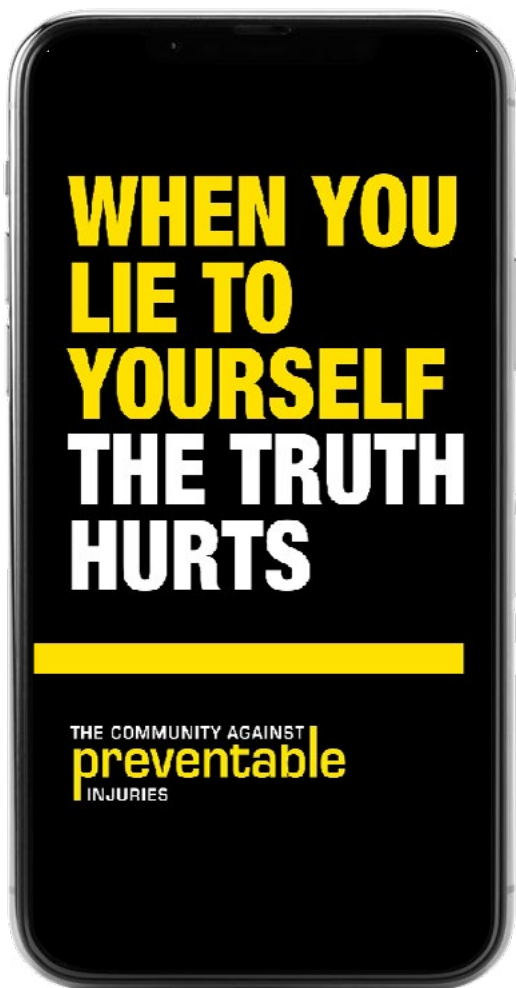
Supplementary content is being planned and will be delivered on organic social media, and through earned media opportunities and partnerships with other organizations.

As part of their strategic partnership with Preventable, the BCIRPU will support the evaluation of the campaign, providing feedback on the survey instrument and interpretation of data. This survey, conducted between one and three times a year since 2009 with a



representative sample of the population, monitors sentiment and recall of the campaign, as well as tracks attitudes, beliefs, and self-reported behaviour towards preventable injuries.

View the campaign at [preventable.ca](https://preventable.ca) and on [Preventable's YouTube channel](#).



Preventable social media campaign



Smoke Alarm | Adobestock

## FireSafe: Ignite Awareness, Extinguish Fires!

For this ongoing project, firefighters in high-risk neighbourhoods continued to visit homes and check for working smoke alarms. In 2025/2026, 1,337 smoke alarms were installed, bringing the total of number of smoke alarms installed since the start of the project to 4,229 units. 45 fire departments across BC are participating in the project. No public education campaign took place in 2025/2026. This project is a strategic partnership between BCIRPU, Preventable, and the BC Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Learn more about this project on the [BCIRPU website](#).



## Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome BC – The Period of PURPLE Crying® Program

The aim of Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome BC (PSBSBC) is the reduction of Traumatic Head Injury Due to Child Maltreatment (THI-CM) and other forms of physical abuse in children under 2 years of age. This is achieved by providing timely and evidence-based information and resources to parents, caregivers, and the broader community. PSBSBC coordinates the training and delivery of the Period of PURPLE Crying® (PURPLE), a THI-CM prevention program, across the province.

### Core PURPLE delivery model

A multi-exposure education model (Teach, Reinforce, Strengthen) is used to ensure parents and caregivers receive consistent, evidence-informed information about infant crying, soothing, and coping strategies to help prevent THI-CM and physical abuse in children under two years of age. Education begins before discharge from maternity hospitals and is reinforced through public, primary, and community care during home visits, well-baby appointments, and immunization clinics. Community partners, including midwives, infant development and pregnancy outreach workers, parent support workers, and early childhood educators extend these messages. Free online training and resources equip interdisciplinary professionals across British Columbia to deliver consistent support to families.

### Supplemental PSBSBC program resources

The [dontshake.ca](https://dontshake.ca) website recorded 197 engaged visits during the 2025/2026 reporting period. In 2025/2026, there were 9,160 visits to [dontshake.ca](https://dontshake.ca), with a total of 13,819 pageviews. The Family page was the most viewed page after the Home page, representing 27.7% of total pageviews. Other frequently visited pages included the PURPLE, About, and Training pages.

## Program statistics

The Period of PURPLE Crying App+Booklet package is provided to all new parents before or within the first two weeks after birth, before infant crying typically increases. The package includes a booklet with a BC-specific insert card and access to the [PURPLE App](https://dontshake.ca), which provides education on infant crying, soothing, coping, safe sleep, infant safety, self-care, and tracking tools. Resources in additional languages are available in limited quantities. Additional information and resources for parents and the public are available through [dontshake.ca](https://dontshake.ca).

### In 2025/2026:

#### Training:

900+ completions of PURPLE implementation training on the PHSA LearningHub.

#### Program Materials:

A total of 37,267 PURPLE booklets were distributed to BC parents and caregivers:

- Fraser Health: 13,989
- Vancouver Coastal Health: 7,065
- Interior Health: 5,672
- Island Health: 5,785
- Northern Health: 3,795
- First Nations Health Authority: 180 booklets and 390 infographics



## Nurturing Best Starts:

This is a collaborative research project between PSBSBC, BCIRPU and the Fraser Health Authority, funded by a \$10,000 Strengthening Public Health Collaborative Action Plan (SPH-CAP) grant. This project builds on findings from the “Informing eLearning to Prevent THI-CM” funded through a CIHR Planning and Dissemination grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The objective is to support positive infant parenting and safe soothing practices among newcomers to Canada, specifically focusing on the Punjabi-speaking South Asian community by co-creating culturally responsive materials with community.

Throughout 2026, the project followed a structured timeline involving a collaborative working group comprised of researchers, public health nurses, and the South Asian Health Institute community coordinator. A harmonized UBC-Fraser Health ethics application was developed and submitted for approval. A targeted recruitment plan was designed in collaboration with local community agencies has been developed. Three focus groups (in-person and virtual) will gather direct community input; these focus groups will be conducted in English and Punjabi with new parents.

The resulting resources will be informed by this project, and will provide evidence-based strategies for responding to infant crying. The resource will be piloted through the Fraser Health’s Enhanced Family Visiting Program. Ultimately, the project will provide practitioners with validated tools to support diverse families, promoting long-term health equity and child well-being.

## THI-CM surveillance review:

To provide reliable longitudinal incidence data, the BC THI-CM Surveillance System was established in 2007 to monitor cases of traumatic head injury due to child maltreatment among children



Rattanachat | AdobeStock

aged 24 months and younger in British Columbia. The surveillance system was developed because the ICD-10-CA coding system did not include a specific diagnostic code, based on our case definition, to identify THI-CM-related hospitalizations or deaths, limiting the ability to accurately monitor incidents over time.

Cases are identified through referrals to the Child Protection Service Unit at BC Children’s Hospital for suspected physical abuse as either a primary or secondary referral and/or diagnosis. Referrals are reviewed using a standardized protocol by the BC Children’s Hospital and Regional Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect teams that including pediatricians, clinical nurses, and social workers in collaboration with the PURPLE team to determine whether cases met the surveillance case definition.



## BCIRPU Webinar Series

The BCIRPU [webinar series](#) is held on an as-needed basis based on priorities and topical areas, in order to reduce duplication with other webinars.

### Webinar topics:

#### 1. September 25 | Concussions: An Invisible Cause for Concern! (co-hosted by Horse Council BC)

Dr. Shelina Babul, Director, BCIRPU

#### 2. November 18 | Falls Prevention and Elder Care in Mini Thnii, Alberta

Sikin Samanani, Occupational Therapist, and Katie Kenyon, Physiotherapist, Stoney Health Services

[Recording](#)



Webinar  
Participants: **57**

## BCIRPU Website Google Analytics

In 2025/2026, there were 44,613 visits to [injuryresearch.bc.ca](http://injuryresearch.bc.ca).

Top pages visited were Home, About, Opportunities, Our Team, iDOT© tool, and the Injury Priorities landing page.

## Social Media

BCIRPU continues to engage the public and provide injury prevention information through social media channels. In 2025/2026, BCIRPU implemented a new social media strategy that included transitioning from X/Twitter to Bluesky, focusing activity primarily on LinkedIn and Instagram, seeking collaborations with other organizations to boost engagement, and creating a social media content calendar.

BCIRPU staff coordinated BC-specific campaigns for specific injury prevention topics, including button battery safety, BC Concussion Awareness Week, BC Seniors' Fall Prevention Awareness Week, and National Poison Prevention Week.

**Facebook:** 426 followers, 50 posts published.

**Bluesky:** 87 followers, 10 posts published.

**Instagram:** 496 followers, 110 posts and reels published.

**LinkedIn:** 340 followers, 50 posts published.

## BCIRPU Website

The BCIRPU website continues to be a landing page for injury prevention information in the province, and traffic from other mediums, such as social media and newsletters, is directed to specific pages on the website. Updates this year included news articles highlighting research collaborations, and the addition of pages on [e-scooter](#) and [button battery safety](#). A survey was sent to stakeholders asking about their current engagement with the website and improvements they would like to see; BCIRPU staff are reviewing the feedback and making changes, as appropriate and funding dependent.



## Concussion Awareness Week

BC Concussion Awareness Week was held September 21-27, 2025 by proclamation of the Province of British Columbia. The campaign toolkit was distributed to partners, containing the proclamation, concussion resources, sample e-newsletter message and social media posts, images, and a short-form video. Partners included injury prevention organizations, government agencies, health authority communications departments, and sports and non-profit organizations. Feedback from viaSport stated that this annual toolkit is the most useful one they receive. Social media posts went out via CATT® and BCIRPU accounts. Both paid advertisements and organic posts were well received by the public; the BCIRPU Instagram account received the highest number of views and engagement.



An interactive Brain Waves workshop | Photo by Anita Yau

## Brain Waves

Brain Waves is an interactive and informative neuroscience program that teaches students in grades 4-6 about the importance of brain and spinal cord safety, concussion prevention and proper helmet fitting. In 2025/2026, the Brain Waves program delivered a total of 29 presentations to elementary school students across British Columbia, reaching approximately 777 students.

In May 2025, 3 in-person and 5 online presentations were delivered to schools in Rossland and Vancouver, respectively, educating 228 students. Furthermore, with support from the Fraser Valley Brain Injury Association (FVBIA), four BCIRPU team members travelled to Chilliwack in May 2025 and delivered 8 presentations at 3 schools in Chilliwack (Tyson Elementary, Timothy Christian School, and St. Mary's School), reaching approximately 208 students. In January

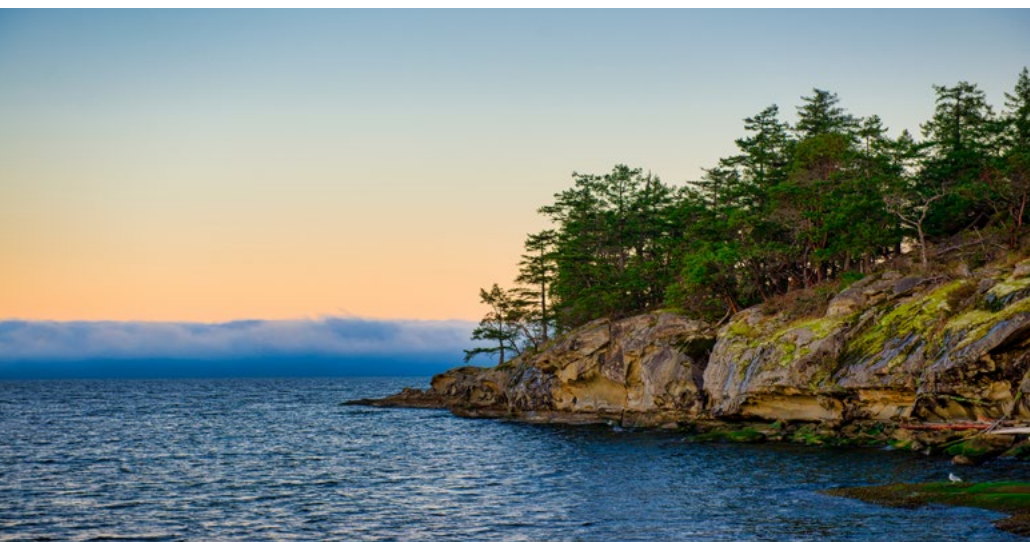


Concussion Awareness Week 2025 Toolkit



2026 and with the successful ICBC grant application, the Brain Waves team achieved 5 in-person presentations at 2 schools in Vancouver, across 6 classrooms, reaching a total of 147 students. The BCIRPU team travelled to Chilliwack in January 2026 to deliver eight presentations at three schools (Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:lt Elementary/Middle School, Cultus Lake Swilhcha Community School, Yarrow Community Elementary School), reaching approximately 194 students.

The Brain Waves team was also successful in the Strengthening Public Health Collaborative Action Plan (SPH-CAP) grant fund application for expanding Brain Waves in Interior Health (May 2026-2027). In 2025, BCIRPU piloted the delivery of in-person Brain Waves sessions in School District 20, Kootenay Columbia. This project will increase the capacity to deliver Brain Waves in southern BC through in-person training of volunteer presenters and the delivery of 14-16 presentations in 2026.



roxxyphotos | AdobeStock



UBC Brand and Marketing

## SPPH 555

Principles and Practices of Injury Prevention is a graduate-level course at UBC's School of Population and Public Health (SPPH 555). The course is based on the Canadian Injury Prevention Curriculum (CIPC), focused on injury prevention and the public health model. The course was facilitated in May-June 2025, with guest speakers presenting on featured subjects, including road safety, injury surveillance, concussions, and intervention-based studies. Seven students participated in the course from fields of public health and engineering fields and received their CIPC certificates upon successful completion. The course was facilitated with guest speakers providing didactic lectures and supporting small group discussions in areas such as road safety, Indigenous inclusion in research settings, youth suicide and self-harm prevention, and government injury priority areas.



# NETWORKS, COALITIONS, AND PARTNERS

## Supporting injury networks and coalitions

### Networks and Coalitions

BCIRPU directly participated in and supported the following strategic provincial, national, and international networks during 2025/2026:

- **BC Concussion Advisory Network** — providing leadership, coordination, and secretariat support.
- **BC Falls and Injury Prevention Community of Practice (BCFCP)** — providing expertise, leadership, coordination, and secretariat support.
- **BC Injury Prevention Committee (BCIPC)** — providing expertise, leadership, coordination, and secretariat support, including for the following working groups:
  - Fall Prevention Working Group
  - Road Safety Working Group
  - Button Battery Safety Working Group
- **BC Injury Prevention Alliance (BCIPA)** — providing expertise, leadership, coordination, and secretariat support.
- **BC Trauma Injury Prevention Committee (formerly BC Health Authority Injury Prevention Community of Practice)** — providing coordination and support.
- **BC Road Safety Strategy** — providing input and leadership support.
- **BC Road Safety Strategy Steering Committee**
- **Injury Surveillance Methodology Working Group** - providing co-chair and leadership.
- **Parachute (the national NGO for injury prevention)** — providing provincial leadership and coordination under the renewed memorandum of understanding.
- **Parachute Board of Directors**
- **Road Safety Data and Measurement Group** — providing coordination and support.
- **The Community Against Preventable Injuries (Preventable)** — providing injury prevention research and evaluation expertise, leadership, and spokesperson support to the injury prevention social marketing campaign.
- **The Community Against Preventable Injuries Board of Directors**
- **Trauma Association of Canada Injury Prevention Committee** — providing leadership support.



# NETWORKS, COALITIONS, AND PARTNERS

BCIRPU was represented in the following coalitions, working groups, and committees during 2025/2026:

- BC Children's Health Bridge, Advisory Committee
- BC Children's Hospital Research Institute Senior Leadership Committee
- BC Children's Hospital Research Institute Space Committee
- BC Children's Hospital Research Institute Mentorship Excellence Award Committee
- BC Children's Hospital Research Institute Research Leadership Council
- BC Children's Hospital Trauma Program Committee
- Canadian Collaborating Centres for Injury Prevention
- Canadian Collaborating Centers for Injury Prevention (CCCIP) ATV subcommittee
- Canadian Drowning Prevention Coalition
- Canadian Drowning Prevention Coalition, 0 to 4-year-old subcommittee
- Canadian Drowning Prevention Coalition, Cost of Drowning Working Group
- Canadian Traumatic Brain Injury Research Consortium
- Concussion in Para Sport Group
- International Collaborative Effort on Injury Statistics
- International Brain Injury Association
- International Safety Media Awards – Judge
- National Toxicovigilance Committee
- Slocan Site Redevelopment Committee
- Sunny Hill BC Leadership Chair in Child Development, Co-Chair Search Committee
- Interdisciplinary Trauma Network of Canada
- The British Columbia Vision Zero in Road Safety Grant Program
- Trauma Association of Canada
- UBC Faculty of Medicine Search Committee, Director Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, Committee
- UBC SPPH Search Committee, CRC Tier 2 in Anti-Racism in Population Health

## Cooperation and Collaboration

BCIRPU provides leadership and support to government, health authorities, and other interest holders and their extensive networks and coalitions. Successful injury prevention activity in BC is dependent upon multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaborations. BCIRPU has established strong strategic relationships with many provincial, national, and international agencies and organizations. This enables BCIRPU to draw upon external expertise and resources to build capacity and better address injury prevention in BC.



# NETWORKS, COALITIONS, AND PARTNERS

## Key Partnerships

In the 2025/2026 operating period, BCIRPU worked with the following key partners:

### British Columbia:

- BC AdventureSmart
- BC Ambulance Service
- BC Automobile Association
- BC Brain Injury Association
- BC Coroners Service
- BC Drug and Poison Information Centre
- BC Hockey
- BC Ministry of Health
- BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- BC Office of the Fire Commissioner
- BC Recreation and Parks Association
- BC Regional Health Authorities
- BC School Sports
- BC Trauma Council
- Canadian Concussion Network
- Canadian LeadHERs in Road Safety
- Child Health BC
- Doctors of BC
- First Nations Health Authority
- Fraser Valley Brain Injury Association
- Insurance Corporation of British Columbia

- Provincial Health Services Authority
- Rainbow VI
- Road Safety BC
- SportMed BC
- Supporting Survivors of Abuse and Brain Injury through Research (SOAR)
- The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health
- University of British Columbia – Vancouver and Okanagan
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver General Hospital Trauma Services
- WorkSafe BC
- YWCA/Cridge collaboration - IPV + Concussions

### National:

- Brain Injury Canada
- BrainTrust Canada
- Canadian Concussion Centre: Krembil Neuroscience Centre (Toronto Western Hospital)
- Canadian Red Cross
- ENRICH Empowering Next-Generation

Researchers in Perinatal and Child Health

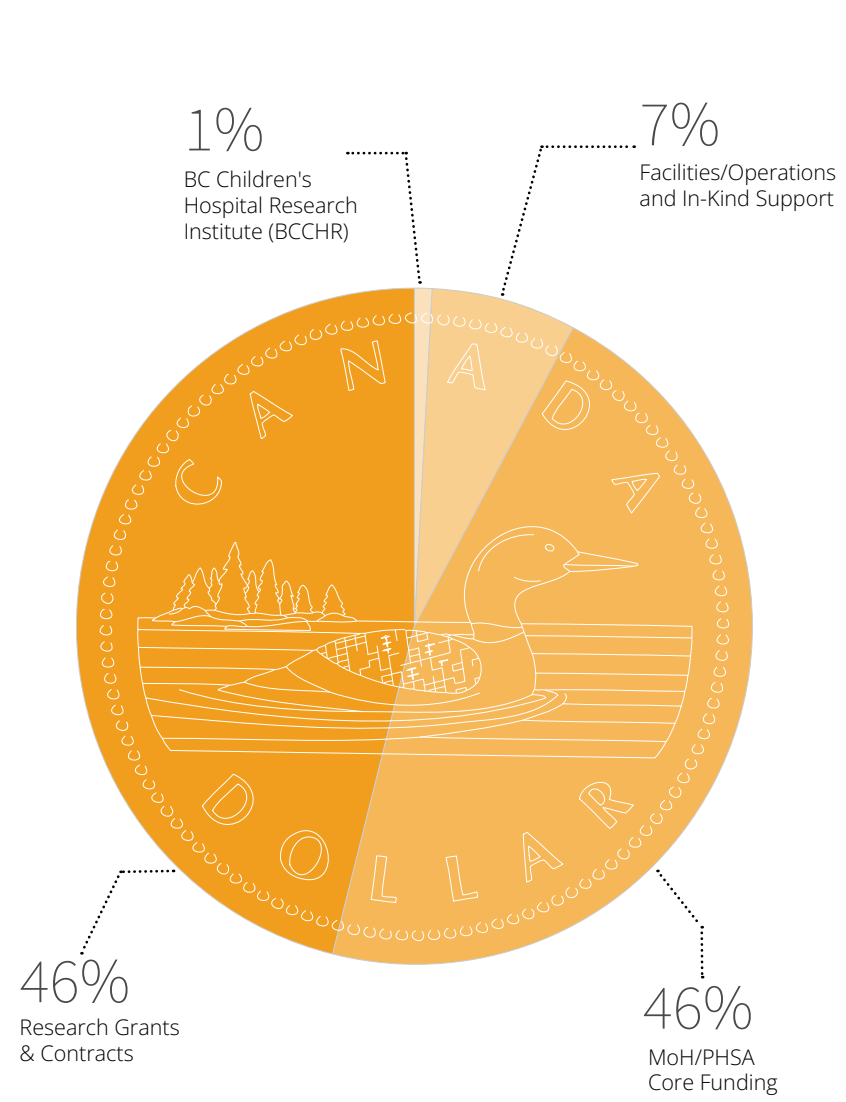
- Health Canada
- Injury Prevention Centre (University of Alberta)
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Public Health Ontario
- SickKids Hospital Research Foundation
- Toronto Metropolitan University (Ryerson University)
- University of Calgary, Sport Injury Prevention Research Centre
- Winnipeg Pan-Am Concussion Clinic
- York University

### International:

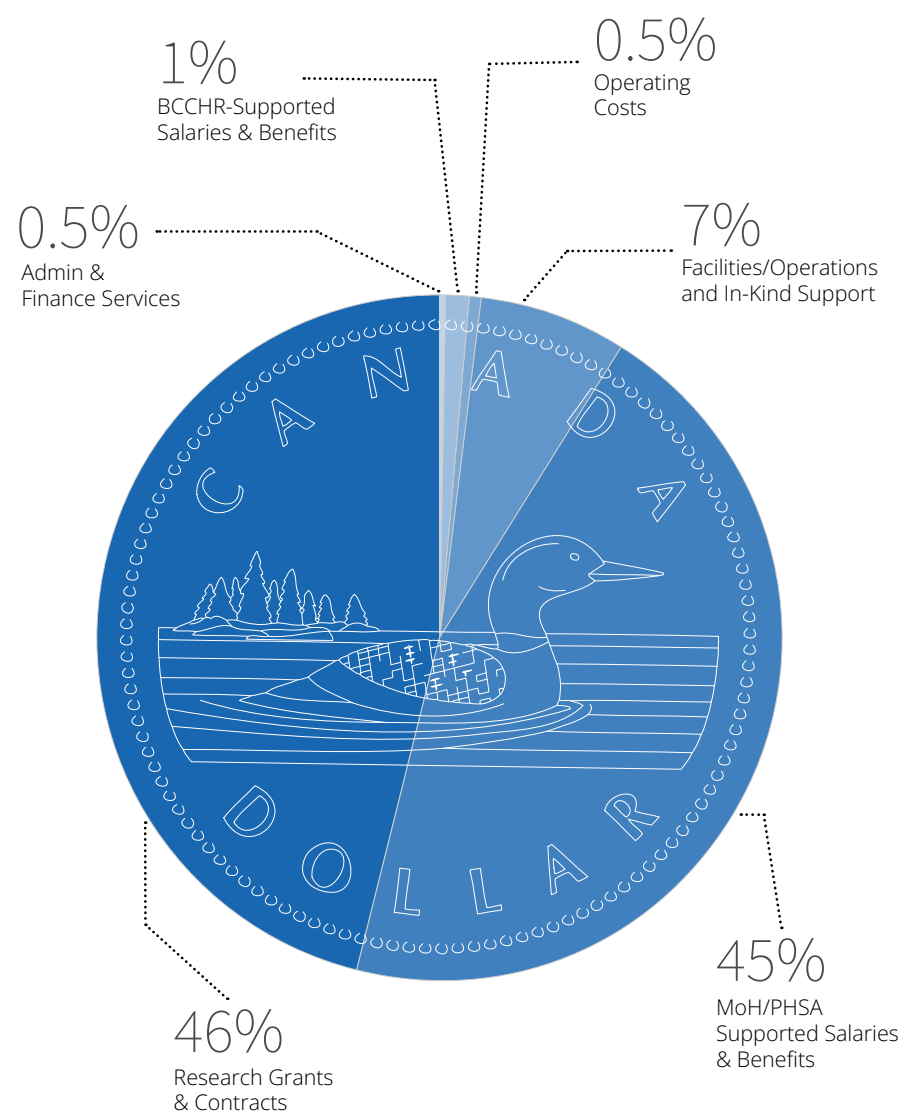
- American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- Middle East and North Africa Program for Advanced Injury Research (MENA PAIR)
- Monash University, Australia
- National Research Institute of Police Science, Japan
- Universidad CES, Colombia
- University of Queensland, Australia
- World Rugby

# REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

## Sources of Revenue



## Sources of Expenditure



# AWARDS, GRANTS, PUBLICATIONS, & CONFERENCES

April 1, 2025–March 31, 2026

## Research Grants

Babul S. Age Forward Strategy. Ministry of Health. (2025-2026)

Babul S. Brain Waves Program. ICBC (2025)

Babul S. Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting & Prevention Program (CHIRPP). Public Health Agency of Canada (2025-2026)

Babul S, Bauer MEE, Ly V. Youth empowerment through co-design: Building capacity for wellness and injury prevention research and educational resources. Research Seed Grant, Evidence to Innovation Theme, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (2025-2027)

Babul S, Kamel A, Oakey M. Road Safety Researcher. ICBC. (2025-2026)

Babul S, Oakey M, Karbakhsh M, Turcotte K, Bilal H. Evidence Synthesis for Decision Making BC Road Safety Strategy. Ministry of Health. (2025)

Babul S, Oakey M, Liu-Ambrose T, Davis J. Falls Prevention Project: the provincial approach for community-based falls prevention programming. Public Health Association of British Columbia and Ministry of Health. (2025-2026)

Barlow K, Babul S, Cunningham E, Browne G, Leddy J, Leov G, Zeibell J, Ferguson K, Oreilly L, Acher R, Kimble R. Mind the Gap: Partnering with consumers to implement person-centred concussion management. National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia. (2025-2027)

Bauer MEE, Babul S. Cooking with Fahra. UBC Healthy Initiatives. (2025-2026)

Cairncross M, Babul S, Doan QH, Ledoux A, Purtzki J, Scratch SE, Silverberg N, Zemek R. Mindfulness App for Concussion Recovery (MACRO) feasibility trial: A digital mindfulness-based intervention for adolescents with persisting symptoms after concussion. Canadian Institute of Health Research. (2025-2027)

Emery C, Babul S, Belton K, Macpherson A, McHugh T, Moore S, Ramsay S, Reed N, Russell K, Schneider K. You-CAN SHRed Concussions. CIHR Healthy Youth Team Grant (2025-2030)

Paetkau C, Babul S. Community-based Programming. Brain Injury Alliance. (2023-2026)

Pike I, La Freniere K, Bruin S. A strategic alliance for the prevention of injuries through social marketing. The Community Against Preventable Injuries (2020-2025).

Perry D, Babul S. ARTI equipment grant. NSERC Applied Research Tools and Instruments grants/CIHR. (2025-2027)

Ramsay S, MacRae W, Schmidt J, Schrader D, Silverberg N, Paneka W, Babul S, De Sousa I, Van Raamsdonk R, Paetkau C, Meachen S, Purtzki J, Woodman s, Lam J, Evans N, Dundon B. Modernizing brain injury services in British Columbia: Developing research priorities for children, youth, and young adults. Micheal Smith Health Research Foundation. (2025)

Saunders NR, Pike I, Ahmed N, Babul S, Bailey AA, Brown H, Jaramillo DG, Lewis M, Snider C, Strauss R, Tanenbaum B. Pediatric Outcomes of Children Whose Mothers Experience Violence: A Multi Province Study. Canadian Institute of Health Research. (2025-2028)

vanDonkelaar P, Babul S. Building awareness and service provider capacity for gender-based violence traumatic brain injury (GBV-TBI) in Canada. Public Health Agency of Canada. (2024-2027)

## Research Awards

Shelina Babul: 2025 Certificate of Merit Award, Canadian Association for Medical Education CAME/ACÉM

Shelina Babul: 2025 Alumni Achievement Award: Global Citizenship, University of British Columbia

Michelle Bauer: 2025 Best Presenter Award, Evidence to Innovation Theme, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

## Journal Articles

Al-Hajj S, Thomas L, Garis L, El-Asmar K, El-Hajj F, Pike I. (2025). Occupational injury among firefighters in Canada: a trends analysis of fatality and time-loss injury claims (2007–2021). *Inj. Epidemiol.* 12, 85. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40621-025-00639-0>

Bauer MEE, Abdelhameed J, Presser E, Pike I, Al-Hajj S. (2026). Violence Against Children in Syrian Refugee Camps and Villages: The Need for Equitable Solutions to a Growing Global Health Crisis. *Child: Care, Health and Development* 52, no. 3: e70279. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cch.70279>.

Bauer MEE, Gilley M, Cunningham L, Pike I. (2026). Physicians' and nurses' exposure to child injury and death in emergency departments: implications for vicarious trauma and awareness for injury preventability. *Injury Prevention* Published Online First: 25 March 2026. doi: 10.1136/ip-2025-045853

Bauer MEE, Gilley M, Pike I. (2025). Parental perspectives of physicians and nurses on child trampoline use: "I feel like I'm just kind of caving to social pressure". *Injury Prevention* Published Online First: 18 June 2025. doi: 10.1136/ip-2024-045514

Bauer MEE, Ibrahimova A, Rajabali F, Sadler K. Immigrant Mothers' Experiences With Child Soothing in Vancouver, Canada: 'I Just Want to Be a Good Mom'. *Child: Care, Health and Development*. 2026 Jan;52(1):e70224. <http://doi.org/10.1111/cch.70224>

Bauer MEE, Moore A, Lynch H. Inclusive play space design for users with neuro-physical disabilities: Adult, youth, and child perspectives in Ireland. *Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning*. 2025 Dec 10;1-4. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14729679.2025.2600976>

Eliason PH, Galarneau JM, Martin C, Kolstad AT, Shill I, Babul S, Mrazik M, Schneider KJ, Hagel B, Emery CA. Uncovering factors associated with lower extremity injury rates in youth ice hockey players. *Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy*. Advance Publication 2025. <https://www.jospt.org/doi/10.2519/jospt.2025.13106>

Kadi K, El-Zahrán T, Badr M, Mdaihy M, Ahmad N, Berri A, Bauer MEE, Al-Hajj S. Challenges and management of venomous bites and scorpion stings in Lebanon: a qualitative study. *Frontiers in Public Health*. 2025 Jun 2;13:1585250. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1585250>

Karbakhsh M, Oakey M, Foreman J, Copley TT, Arason N, Xiao M, Zheng A, Turcotte K, Newhouse E, Schwandt M, Fyfe M, Pike I, Babul S. (2026). Public attitudes toward speed safety camera enforcement and critical elements of support in British Columbia, Canada. SSRN. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.6299978>

Karbakhsh M, Rajabali F, Zheng A, Pike I. (2025). The epidemiology and deprivation profile of firearm-related injuries and deaths in British Columbia, Canada. *Health Promot Chronic Dis Prev Can*. 2025;45(6):286-98. <https://doi.org/10.24095/hpcdp.45.6.03>

Khudadad U, McGaughey T, Zheng A, Giles A, Pike I. (2026). Geospatial hotspots and neighbourhood deprivation associated with unintentional home injuries in British Columbia, Canada. *Sci Rep* 16, 6610 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-026-37031-x>

Liao C, Varcoe C, Brown H, Pike I. (2025). Weaving Structural Violence into Trauma-Informed Qualitative Health Research with Populations Considered Vulnerable. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 24, <https://doi.org/10.1177/160940692513409>

Moore L, Yanchar N, Tardif P-A, Weiss M, Beaulieu E, Stang A, Gagnon IJ, Gabbe B, Stelfox T, Pike I, Macpherson A, Berthelot S, Klassen T, Beno S, Carsen S, Labrosse M, Zemek R, Priestap F, Burstein B, Remick K, Yeates KO, Merritt N, Kuppermann N, Loellgen R, Davis N, Lecky F, Teague W, Holland A, Malo C, Beaudin M, Archambeault P, Ben Abdeljelil A, Freire GC. (2025). Evidence-informed quality indicators for pediatric trauma care: an expert consensus study. *JAMA Pediatrics*, doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2025.0036

Ramsden R, Jenkins E, Thorne S, Pike I, Brussoni M. (2026). 'There are so many good things outside, let me tell you': Children's qualitative perspectives of outdoor play affordances at early learning and child care. *Journal of Early Childhood Research*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/1476718X261439022>

Richmond S, Mahboob M, Medeiros A, Pike I, Macpherson A. (2025). Rates of serious injury from falls in children and adolescents: 10-year retrospective review of data from Ontario, Canada. *Injury Prevention* Published Online First: 23 October 2025. doi: 10.1136/ip-2024-045422

Richmond S, Medeiros A, Pike I, Oakey M, Macpherson A. (2025). Fall prevention indicator priorities for public health and across health sectors in Ontario: a comparative study. *BMC Geriatr* 25, 832. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12877-025-05693-3>

Ramsden R, Pike I, Thorne S, Brussoni M. (2026). Children's outdoor play at early learning and child care centres: Examining the impact of environmental play features on children's play behaviour. *PLoS One* 10;20(12):e0318538. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0318538.

Shill IJ, van den Berg C, West SW, Galarneau JM, Fraser K, Schneider KJ, Pasanen K, Pike I, Palmer D, Stokes KA, Hagel BE, Emery CA. (2026). Is a neuromuscular training warm-up enough for injury and concussion prevention in high school girl rugby players? *Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy*, 56(4), 261-271. <https://doi.org/10.2519/jospt.2026.13373>

Shill IJ, West SW, Galarneau J-M, Omokuale J, Hendricks S, Pike I, Palmer D, Stokes KA, Hagel BE, Emery CA. (2026). Tackle characteristics and suspected concussion: Recommendations to improve high school girls' rugby tackle safety. *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, 60(4), 212-220. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bjsports-2025-108421>

Zheng A, Medeiros A, Richmond SA, Rajabali F, Karmali S, Smith B, Carsley S, Macpherson AK, Saunders N, Babul S, Pike I. (2026). Trends in hospitalizations resulting from violent injuries among children and youth in British Columbia during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Child Protection and Practice*, 21(3), Article 100262. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chipro.2025.100262>

## Conference Proceedings

Babul S, Cowle S, Gargaro J, Louis R. Older adults, falls and concussions: Advancing priorities through regional and national action. 6th Canadian Fall Prevention Conference, April 9 & 10, 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Bauer MEE. The importance of story in qualitative pediatric health research: Findings from a national study with physicians and nurses in emergency medicine. Annual Symposium. ENRICH. May 12, 2025, Montreal, Canada.

Bauer MEE. Experiences with severe pediatric injuries and death in emergency rooms: Stories shaping the at-home safety practices and well-being of practitioners. Trauma Rounds. Interdisciplinary Trauma Network of Canada. September 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Bauer MEE, Pike I, Gilley M, Cunningham L. Emergency room practitioners' psychological well-being and pediatric safety perspectives

following exposure to patient trauma: Stories from across Canada. Trauma Symposium, Caring for Healthcare Providers. April 28, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Bauer MEE, Pike I, Al-Hajj S. Behind the walls of a city in conflict: Child safety, play, and severe injuries in refugee communities after displacement. E2i Research Day. BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. November 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Bauer MEE, Sadler K, Ibrahimova A, Rajabali F, Babul S. Immigrant mothers' experiences with child soothing: Isolation, guilt, and the need for community. E2i Research Day. BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. November 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Black A, Babul S. CATT-A Implementation in Canadian Universities: A Multi-Method RE-AIM Study. 2nd Emirates Sports Medicine Conference 2025, November 1-2, 2025, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Ezzat A, Barton C, Bauer MEE, Cooper A, Chhina H, Keefer J, Hogarth C, Babul S. How can we improve injury prevention program implementation in girls sport? A knowledge exchange event to share research and practical experience. Poster presentation at the 2025 Orthopaedic Symposium, May 2-4, 2025, Kelowna, Canada.

Ezzat A, Bauer MEE, Keefer J, D'aigle I, Hogarth C, Chhina H, Cooper A, Barton C, Babul S. "Injury prevention is more than just a program. It's the whole context:" Physiotherapists' perspectives on improving injury prevention practices in community level girls team sports. Scandinavian Sports Medicine Congress, January 29-31, 2026, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Ezzat A, Bauer MEE, Keefer J, Hogarth C, D'aigle I, Chhina H, Cooper A, Barton C, Babul S. "Injury prevention is more than just a program. It's the whole context": Physiotherapists' perspectives on improving injury prevention practices in girls team sports. Female, Women, and Girl Athlete Health and Safety Summit, September 23-25, 2025, Calgary, Canada.

Ezzat A, Bauer M, Keefer J, D'aigle I, Hogarth C, CChina H, Cooper A,

Barton C, Babul S. "Injury prevention is more than just a program. It's the whole context:" Physiotherapists' perspectives on improving injury prevention practices in community level girls team sports. E2i Research Day. BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. November 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Godfreyson A, Babul S. Launching Age Forward: British Columbia's 50+ Health Strategy and 3-Year Action Plan. 6th Canadian Fall Prevention Conference, April 9 & 10, 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Karbakhsh M, Bruin S, Arason N, Oakey M, Fyfe M, Babul S. Big danger in a small package: Surveying public awareness of button battery risks to children. E2i Research Day. BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. November 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Pike I, Rothman L, Macpherson A, Zheng A, Nelson B, Karmali S, Rajabali F, Uimi B. The impact of COVID-19 stay-at-home policies on unintentional injuries among children and youth. 12th European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, October 1-2, 2025. Heraklion, Greece.

Rajabali F, Turcotte K, Zheng A, Karbakhsh M, Zargaran A, Babul S. Landscape of Falls in British Columbia, Canada. 6th Canadian Fall Prevention Conference, April 9 & 10, 2025, Toronto, Canada. [

Rankin M, Ezzat A, Rajabali F, Leveille L, Ross A, McClung B, Babul S. Estimating the financial burden of pediatric Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury in British Columbia: A cost of injury study. E2i Research Day. BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. November 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Rothman L, Pike I, Macpherson A, Babul S, Zheng A, Sammy A, Batomen Kuimi B, Zubair S, Rajabali F, Howard A. Transportation injury trends in children and youth in Ontario as related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ontario Road Safety Forum, April 2, 2025, Toronto, Canada.

• Rothman L, Sammy A, Pike I, Batomen Kuimi B, Zubair S, Zheng A, Howard A, Babul S, Rajabali F, Macpherson A. Transportation injury

Children's Hospital Research Institute. November 25, 2025, Vancouver, Canada.

Rothman L, Pike I, Macpherson A, Babul S, Zheng A, Sammy A, Batomen Kuimi B, Zubair S, Rajabali F, Howard A. Transportation injury trends in children and youth in Ontario as related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ontario Road Safety Forum, April 2, 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Rothman L, Sammy A, Pike I, Batomen Kuimi B, Zubair S, Zheng A, Howard A, Babul S, Rajabali F, Macpherson A. Transportation injury trends in children and youth in Ontario as related to the COVID-19 pandemic. CARSP/ICTCT 2025 Road Safety Conference, May 20-23, 2025, Québec City, Canada

### **Invited Presentations**

Michelle Bauer: Facilitator. Beyond breakthroughs and burnout: Building sustainable careers in perinatal and child health. ENRICH Orientation Day. Virtual. September 2025.

Michelle Bauer: Invited Speaker. From the frontlines of emergency medicine: Mental health and child safety perspectives after practitioners' exposure to family trauma. Trauma Tuesday Webinar Series. Island Health Trauma Services. April 11, 2025, Vancouver Island, Canada.

Ian Pike: Invited Keynote Presentation. The Preventable social marketing campaign: Preventing injuries at home, at work, at play, and on the journeys in-between. Health and Safety Learning Symposium, October 22, 2025, St. John's NL.

Shelina Babul: Invited Speaker. Concussions – A Conundrum of Uncertainty. Trauma Tuesday Webinar Series. Island Health Trauma Services. June 2025, Vancouver Island, Canada.

Shelina Babul. Facilitator. Expanding Concussion Knowledge and Care in Medellin. Universidad CES, May 2025, Medellin, Colombia.

## OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

### Dr. Shelina Babul

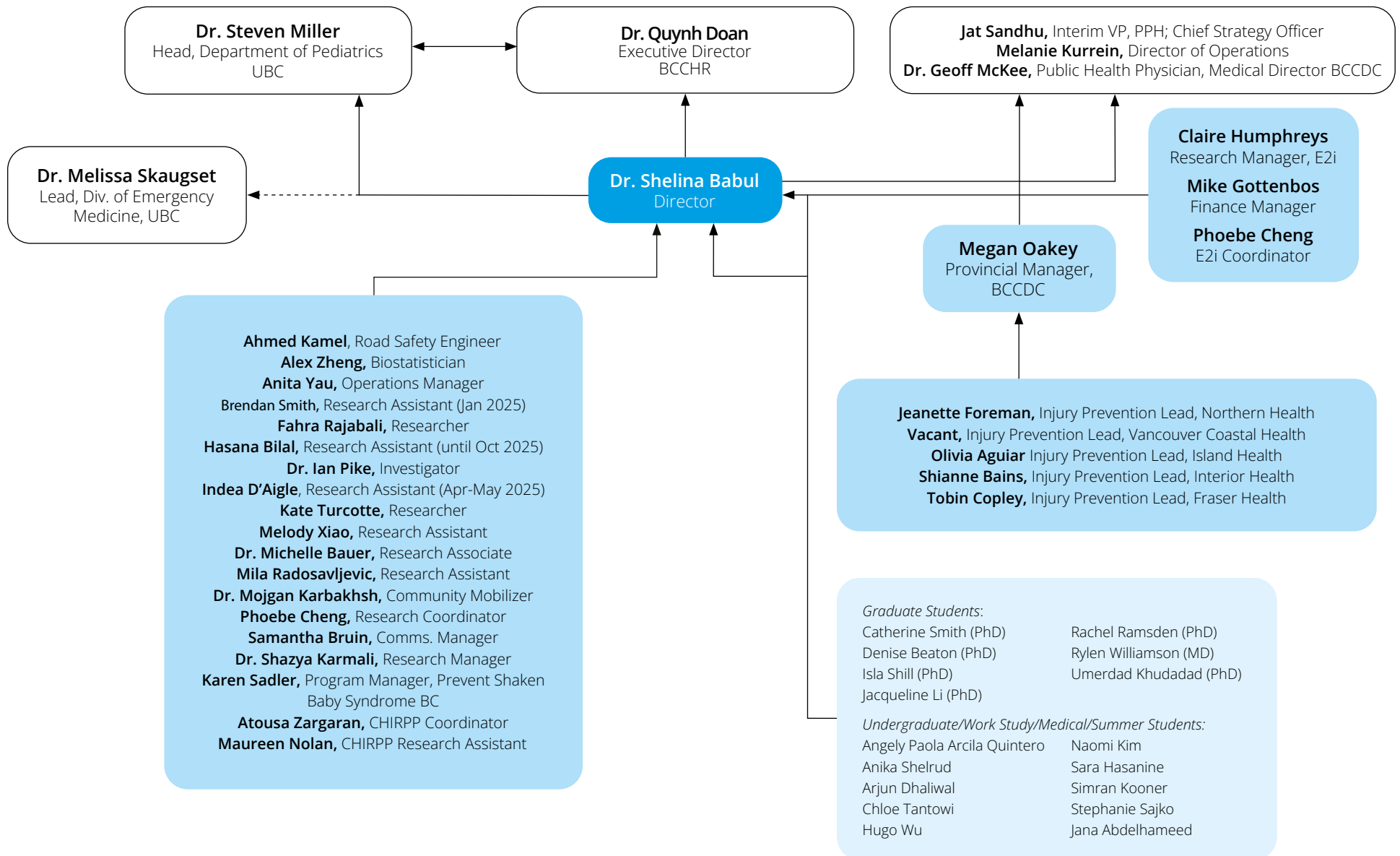
- Director: BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit
- Chair: BC Concussion Advisory Network (BC CAN)
- Director: BC Brain Waves
- Director: Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting & Prevention Program (CHIRPP) at BC Children's Hospital
- Media Spokesperson: The Community Against Preventable Injuries
- Member: BC Brain Injury Association Scientific Advisory Committee
- Member: BC Guidelines & Protocols Advisory Committee: Concussions
- Member: BC School Sports Sport Medicine & Athlete Safety Committee
- Member: Canadian Academy of Sport and Exercise Medicine
- Member: Research Awards Committee, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
- Member: viaSport Safe Sport Advisory Group
- Member: Toxicovigilance Canada Public Outreach and Communications Working Group
- Member: Canadian Standards Association BC Advisory
- Member: Pediatric Concussion Clinical Practice Guideline consensus committee
- Member: Scientific Advisory Committee for Brain Injury Canada
- Member: Public Health Agency of Canada CHIRPP Executive Advisory Group
- Member: Public Health Agency of Canada Intimate Partner Violence Expert Advisory Committee
- Member: Public Health Association of BC Falls Prevention Advisory Committee

### Dr. Ian Pike

- Board Member: The Community Against Preventable Injuries
- Board Member: Parachute Canada
- Co-Executive Director: The Community Against Preventable Injuries
- Investigator, BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit
- Director, BC Shaken Baby Syndrome – Intentional Injury Prevention Program
- Research Theme Co-Director: Evidence to Innovation (E2i). BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
- Governor: Lifesaving Society Canada Governor – Drowning Prevention
- Fellow: International Society for Child and Adolescent Injury Prevention
- Media Spokesperson: The Community Against Preventable Injuries
- Member: BC Road Safety Strategy Steering Committee
- Member: Canadian Injury Prevention and Control Curriculum – Revisions Committee
- Member: LSC member of the International Lifesaving Federation Drowning Prevention Commission
- Member: Research Leadership Council, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
- Member: Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR)
- Member: BCCHR Research Space Committee
- Member: BCCH Health Bridge (Knowledge Centre)
- Member: BCCH Trauma Committee
- Member: National Toxicovigilance Committee
- Member: Research Committee, Slocan Redevelopment Project

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

## BCIRPU PARTNERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (2025/2026)



## STAFF PHOTOS



Shelina Babul,  
BSc, PhD



Ian Pike, BSPE,  
MSc, PhD



Michelle Bauer,  
BA, MA, PhD



Anita Yau, BSc



Fahra Rajabali,  
BComm, MSc



Kate Turcotte,  
BSc (Hons), MSc



Alex Zheng,  
BSE, MSc



Atousa Zargaran,  
BSc



Hasana Bilal,  
PharmD, MSc



Karen Sadler,  
BID, MCP



Maureen Nolan



Megan Oakey,  
BHK, MPH



Melody Xiao,  
BA, MSc



Mojgan Karbakhsh,  
MD, MPH



Ahmed Kamel,  
PhD



Phoebe Cheng,  
BSc



Samantha Bruin,  
BA



Shazya Karmali,  
BHSc, MSc, PhD



Jeanette Foreman,  
BA (Hons), MPH



Olivia Aguiar,  
BSc, PhD



Shianne Bains,  
BSc



Tobin Copley,  
MA

## AFFILIATE FACULTY



### **Mariana Brussoni, BA(Hon), MA, PhD**

**Professor, Department of Pediatrics and School of Population and Public Health, UBC**

**Director, Human Early Learning Partnership**

Dr. Brussoni is a Professor at UBC, Director of the [Human Early Learning Partnership](#) (HELP), and a founding member of [Outdoor Play Canada](#). She is a developmental psychologist, whose award-winning research focuses on the benefits of unstructured, outdoor play on children's development and addresses the barriers that get in the way of children playing outside. Dr. Brussoni leads the Outside Play Lab, a team of researchers dedicated to studying children's outdoor risky play and injury prevention. She was the recipient of the UBC Faculty of Medicine Service to the University and Community Award (2024), the US Play Coalition's 2024 Joe L. Frost Award for distinguished research, and the inaugural Outdoor Play Canada Dr. Mariana Brussoni Award (2019), named in her honour. Her work has contributed to the recent Position Statement by the Canadian Paediatric Society on the importance of outdoor risky play.

### **Samar Al-Hajj, PhD**

**Assistant Research Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut**

Dr. Hajj is an Assistant Research Professor at the Faculty of Health Sciences at the American University of Beirut. She is the founding Director for Middle East and North Africa Program for Advanced Injury Research (MENA PAIR), an NIH-funded program to advance the science and practice of injury research in Lebanon and the MENA region. Dr. Hajj completed her PhD study under the supervisor of Dr Ian Pike. Currently she lives in Beirut, and leads research projects examining the epidemiology and prevalence of various injury causes, including traffic-related injuries, war-related injuries, drowning, burns, and falls in Lebanon and the MENA region. Dr. Hajj has worked extensively with the refugee community to understand the burden of injuries among vulnerable populations living in humanitarian settings. She is the recipient of several international and regional awards, and was recently nominated for the 2024 Roux Prize.



Photo not  
available

### **Dr. Ediriweera Desapriya**

**Research Associate, BCIRPU**

Dr. Desapriya is a public health researcher. With a career rooted in evidence-based advocacy, his research has informed global policy discussions on nature prescribing, pediatric artificial intelligence (AI) safety, fire injury prevention, and occupational health. Dr. Desapriya is a leading voice in shaping responsible AI deployment in mental health. His recent publications critically examine the overlooked risks of generative AI in pediatric care and algorithmic bias affecting vulnerable populations. He is committed to equity, clinical safety, and system-level change, bridging the gap between emerging technologies and compassionate care. Currently, Dr. Desapriya is conducting research on pediatric neurodevelopmental conditions within the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, where his work informs policy and service design for children with developmental challenges. He also is an academic editor for a peer-reviewed medical journal within the Wolters Kluwer Lippincott portfolio.

## AFFILIATE FACULTY



### **Allison Ezzat, PT, MSc, PhD**

**Implementation Scientist, BCIRPU**

**Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, UBC**

Dr. Ezzat's research applies implementation science methodologies to advance the primary prevention of knee injuries in adolescents in real-world settings. She has a focus on reducing gender disparity for girls/women in injury risk and decreasing the long-term injury burden (e.g., knee osteoarthritis). She prioritizes meaningful engagement with research users across the research process to maximize impact.

Dr. Ezzat completed her PhD in School of Population and Public Health, UBC in 2019, followed by post-doctoral training at UBC Centre for Health Services and Policy Research and La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. She obtained a Graduate Certificate in Implementation Science, University of California. She is a Fellow in the Canadian Academy of Manual and Musculoskeletal Physical Therapists (FCAMPT) and has practiced clinically throughout her academic training specializing in management of knee injuries across the lifespan.

### **Len Garis**

**Senior Advisor, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Statistics Canada**

**Director of Research, National Indigenous Fire Safety Council**

Chief Garis is Retired Fire Chief for the City of Surrey. He is currently a Senior Advisor for the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada, Director of Research for the National Indigenous Fire Safety Council. He has academic affiliations with the University of the Fraser Valley and John Jay College in New York.





F508 - 4480 Oak Street  
Vancouver, BC, Canada  
V6H 3V4

[bcinjury@bcchr.ca](mailto:bcinjury@bcchr.ca)

[www.injuryresearch.bc.ca](http://www.injuryresearch.bc.ca)