

**SERVICE PROVIDERS WORKING IN THE MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIONS,
ANTI-VIOLENCE AND HEALTH SECTORS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND**

WORKSHOPS AND CONSULTATIONS

Did you know that alcohol dependency is 15 times more prevalent among women impacted by abuse than the general public? Or that up to 83% of women impacted by abuse suffer from depression compared to only 10% of the general population of women?

To add to the complexity, approximately 67% of women with substance use issues also have a concurrent mental health problem.

The Woman Abuse Response Program at BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre is expanding the 'Building Bridges: Linking Woman Abuse, Substance Use and Mental Ill Health' initiative. The aim of this provincial initiative is to encourage and foster cross-sectoral dialogue within and across the mental health, addictions and anti-violence sectors. Building Bridges has recently received a grant from The Vancouver

Foundation to hold province wide consultations with women and service providers and develop a provincial framework to improve services for women. This will help guide the integration of services, policy and research in British Columbia. This year, Building Bridges will be holding 7 cross-sector workshops and consultations, 4 sector-specific consultations and a 2-day meeting to develop the Provincial Framework.

Please see our calendar and plan to attend an event in your region.

Check our website for more information:

<http://www.bcwomens.ca/Services/HealthServices/WomanAbuseResponse/Building+Bridges.htm>



INTEGRATED NEEDS, INTEGRATING SERVICES
Improving our response to women

Woman Abuse Response Program

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Women's
BC WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
& HEALTH CENTRE
An agency of the Provincial
Health Services Authority