



# British Columbia Coalition Institute

## Planetary health: local and global

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# 2020

## Final Report



**CCGHR CCRSM**  
Canadian Coalition for  
Global Health Research    Coalition canadienne pour la  
recherche en santé mondiale

Presented by the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research



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#theBCCI2019

# Thank you to our sponsors

We thank our donors for their generous support of the second British Columbia Coalition Institute.





## Table of Contents

|                           |    |                                  |    |
|---------------------------|----|----------------------------------|----|
| Letter from our chairs    | 5  | Outputs                          | 15 |
| Introduction & overview   | 6  | Community of practice            | 15 |
| Deliverables & objectives | 7  | Student Voices                   | 16 |
| Phased approach           | 8  | Evaluation                       | 19 |
| Program overview          | 12 | BCCI 2 Evaluation                | 19 |
| BCCI members              | 13 | Conclusion                       | 23 |
| Coordination              | 14 | Appendices                       | 24 |
|                           |    | A: BCCI 2 Press Release          | 24 |
|                           |    | B: Participants and Facilitators | 26 |
|                           |    | C: CoP Update                    | 27 |
|                           |    | D: Financial summary             | 28 |

# Letter from our chairs



Dear coalition supporters,

Following the recent tradition of previous coalition institutes in Ontario in 2016, and BC in 2017, the 2019 British Columbia Coalition Institute (BCCI) represented a dynamic and innovative extension to our story. The focus of BCCI 2 was on a key issue of our time — climate change.

It is certain that our global environment is changing. And though the average global citizen's health has improved over the past century, the health of our planet has sharply declined — putting historically recent, and fragile, public health gains at risk (Planetary Health Alliance). The decision to name BCCI 2 an event and Community of Practice (CoP) focusing on Planetary health: local and global was intimately linked to this idea.

## A few key features of the event

- Focus on planetary health being a key challenge of our time, but with the use of the term “planetary” as a term that expands the concept of climate change;
- Key idea that planetary health involves the link between local and global manifestations;
- Individuals and communities in BC have a role in this planetary idea;
- Youth especially have a critical role to play in the future of our planet

## Accomplishments we are proud of

- First ever coalition institute on the theme of climate change and planetary health
- An active phase 3 and ongoing Community of Practice
- The addition of four Student and Young Professional representatives
- An increased number of BC universities
- Strong financial report

We would simply not be here without your continued support. We would like to share our immense gratitude for our committed students, participants and committee members, whose dedication has been essential to our continued accomplishments. The students and young professionals have motivated us consistently through their commitment to always stay connected and learn, as well as reach for new opportunities every year, while the planning committee have provided clear direction — always in the best interest of the students and the cause, and have been a constant support system.

We are humbly grateful to all,

Co-chair Vic Neufeld

Co-chair Nathan Lachowsky

# Introduction & overview

This report provides an overview of the institute, outlines early outcomes, and can be used to inform future institute planning, funding, and policy decisions. It accomplishes this by providing a background to the regional model, an overview of how it is administered, details of each of the three phases, a reporting of the outputs, and an evaluation of the BCCI Community of Practice.

## Background

Established in 2003, the [Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research \(CCGHR\)](#) is a knowledge network promoting equity in health worldwide. It is a member-based, non-profit organization representing global health students, researchers, and practitioners at institutions and non-governmental organizations across Canada and globally.

The British Columbia Coalition Institute (BCCI), an innovative more localized model, is a collaborative project involving several universities, all of whom are CCGHR institutional members. The BCCI is made up of three phases:

1. The first was a preparation and planning phase extending over several weeks.
2. The second phase involved a three-day on-site event, hosted by the University of Victoria that consisted of workshops, panels, and open sessions
3. The BCCI culminated with a follow-up phase that included capacity strengthening activities in the participating universities and regionally

Activities from this last phase are evolving into the BC Global Health Research Community of Practice, a regional network born out of the BCCI.

## Planetary health institute: local and global

Following the success of the inaugural British Columbia Coalition Institute (BCCI) in 2017 around [equity-centred practices for connecting knowledge with action](#) and the BC Global Health Research Community of Practice, over 40 members of the global health community came together in beautiful Victoria, BC from August 8 to 11, 2019 for the second iteration. Researchers, faculty members, and students deepened their understanding of a movement that calls for immense collaboration across disciplinary and national boundaries and connects us all: *Planetary health: local and global*.

The BCCI is an open collective designed for global health researchers – particularly graduate students and faculty members. A key deliverable of the institute is to build a regional network of global health research in British Columbia who are using research and knowledge translation for health equity. The planetary health focused institute held in August 2019 presented an opportunity to strengthen and broaden this network and build on the foundation of a Community of Practice (CoP).

Strengthen the Coalition Institute model for future similar events among partner universities across Canada

Build a regional network for global health research (GHR) in British Columbia, connected to others in the province who are using research and knowledge translation for health equity

Contribute to institutional capacity strengthening in GHR, including university-based mentoring systems

## Learning Objectives

To explore the concept of planetary health

To understand the history and meanings of the CCGHR Principles of Global Health Research

To understand and experience the application of the principles to real-world projects

To develop and maintain a network of global health and research for-health-equity researchers at participating universities, including graduate students and young professionals, linked to the national CCGHR Students and Young Professionals (SYP) network

To build capacity to mentor and teach equity-centred knowledge-to-action practices

# Phased approach

## Phase 1

Phase 1 included intensive preparation extending over several weeks leading up to the on-site event in Victoria. A set of resources were provided before the start of the BCCI, in order to help inform discussions at the workshop.

Planning began about twelve weeks before the face-to-face event updating of the BCCI website, specially designed to meet the needs and objectives of the program. Included were relevant readings—some of them specifically designated as “homework”, participant bios (most with photos), regular updates, blogs, and other features.

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## Phase 2

Phase 2 included a three-day on-site event consisting of workshops, panels and open sessions focusing on participants’ self-directed learning objectives. The major theme of cultivating “Planetary health: local and global” was threaded throughout the program between Thursday, August 8 and Sunday, August 11, 2019, with each step building on earlier reflections.

A major focus throughout the three days included an exploration of how a “high income country” (that is Canada, represented by BC) can strengthen links with colleagues and institutions from low income countries, so that together BC can address the challenge of global climate change. Through small group discussions and presentations, participants also explored ways in which global health research can impact more local solution seeking around planetary health. The event also included student presentations and discussions with key global health research leaders and “open sessions” to share and debate specific topics and issues. There was also allocated time for individual reflection and personalized mentorship and career guidance.



Disann Katende presenting as part of the SPPH 581K UBC course





Katrina Plamondon presents on equity    Special dialogue with Elizabeth May

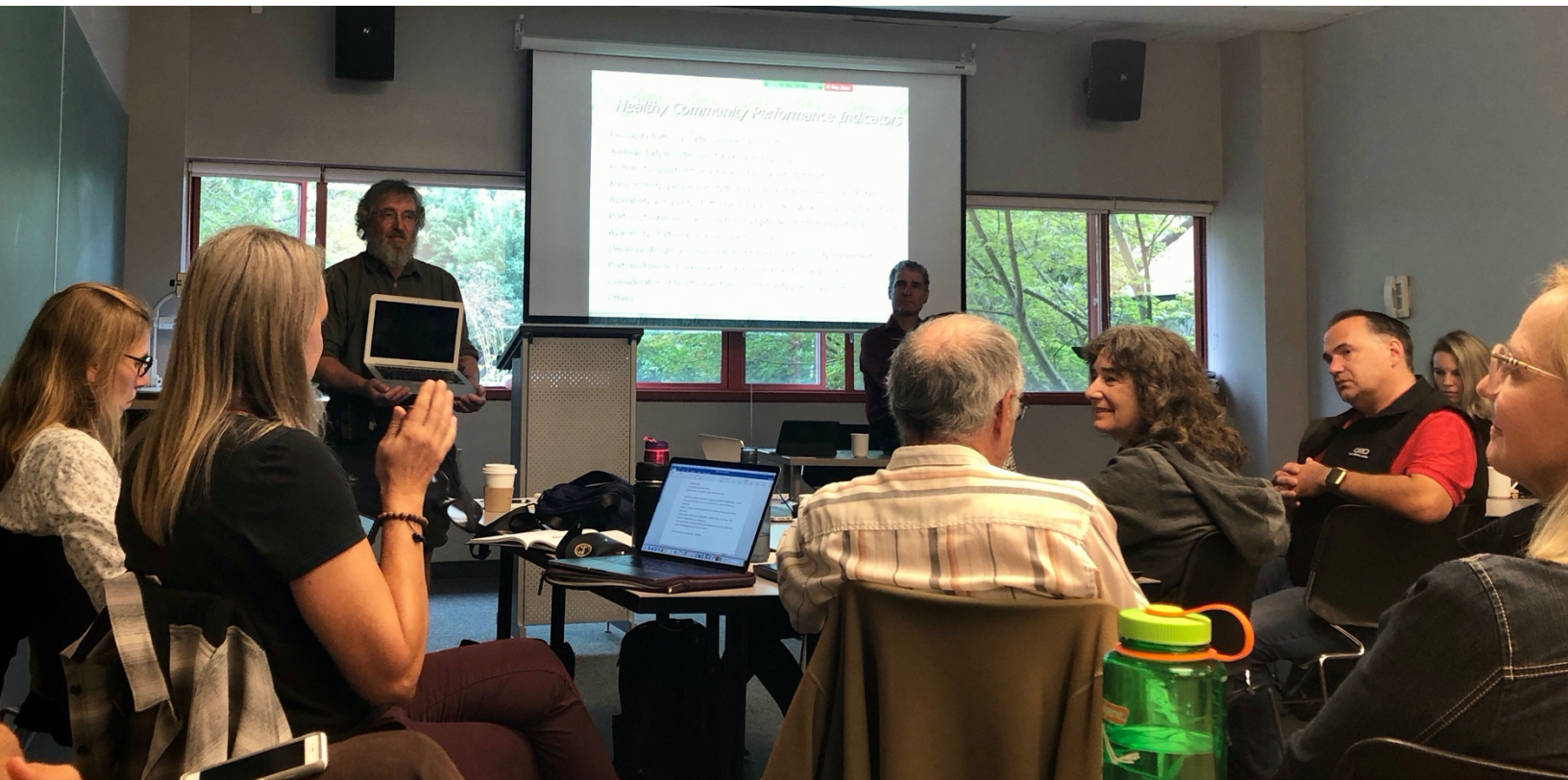
### Special features of Phase 2

- A special dialogue with Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada, about the climate emergency that we are facing, how self-governance and sovereignty are critical to land stewardship, and what we can do as citizens.
- Student presentations from SPPH 581K, a course that came out of BCCI-1 to build practical knowledge, skills, and attitudes required in the field of global health, covering planning, delivery, evaluation and sustainability of projects and programs in low and middle-income countries.
- Opening and closing ceremonies from Songhees Old One (elder) Joanie Morris offered a significant opportunity to reflect on how colonization and associated attitudes, policies and institutions have significantly changed Indigenous peoples' relationship with this land - and health care - and how we can do better.



Open sessions

- Dedicated platform for BCCI building on the resources for the principles, with specially designed sessions guides prepared by facilitators to help inform discussions at the workshop and carrying forward.
- Small groups and open sessions focusing on participants' self-directed learning objectives.
- Special contributions by Trevor Hancock from the University of Victoria School of Population and Public Health, who conducted a Q&A regarding his experience as a public health leader with dinner and also facilitated a workshop on the theme *Planetary Health at a Local Level*.
- A new form of participation with satellite groups connecting from across the country. This remote participation aligns with the theme of planetary health, removing unnecessary travel and any geographical barriers to participating.
- A special session introduced a proposed program (tentatively called "BC and beyond") where research on the health impacts of climate change conducted in BC, would be linked to research on this theme conducted by partners in low and middle-income countries (LMICs)



Planetary health at a local level session



Vancouver SYP meet-up: December 2019

### Phase 3

The third phase was designed as a follow-up consolidation phase that includes capacity strengthening activities in the participating universities and regionally. A variety of follow-up activities were proposed as a transition strategy towards a long-term commitment of knowledge to action, with a goal to develop a long-term strategy. Phase 3 activities are more fully detailed in the Outputs section.



Canadian Conference on Global Health dinner in Ottawa: October 2019

# Program overview

|       | August 8 | August 9   | August 10  | August 11  |           |
|-------|----------|--|--|--|-----------|
|       | Arrival  | Breakfast  |  |  |           |
| 08:30 |          | Setting the stage for the day  | Setting the stage for the day  |  |           |
|       |          | Traditional opening  |  |  |           |
|       |          | Main session   |  |  |           |
| 09:00 |          | What (on earth) is planetary health?<br>- Paivi Abernethy<br>- Federico Andrade<br>- Shannon Waters    | Planetary Health at a Local Level<br>- Trevor Hancock<br>- Todd Litman<br>- Colin Plant                                    | Group reports  |           |
| 10:30 |          | Break  |  |  |           |
|       |          | Main session   |  |  |           |
| 10:45 |          | Mobilizing our Commitment to the Future through Equity<br>- Katrina Plamondon<br>- Verena Rossa- Rocco | BC and beyond – an exploration of future research engagement<br>- Vic Neufeld<br>- Jerry Spiegel<br>- Kristy Faccor (PICS) | Institutional Group Conversations: Next Steps (Phase 3)<br>Institutional reports; participant feedback; synthesis & follow-up<br>Traditional closing |           |
| 12:15 |          | Lunch  |  |  |           |
|       |          | Open session   |  |  |           |
| 13:00 |          | Small groups and individual free time<br>Student presentations (SPPH 581K)                             | Small groups and individual free time  |  | Departure |
| 16:00 |          | Special session<br>A dialogue with Elizabeth May<br>Leader, Green Party of Canada                      | Open space   |  |           |
| 17:00 |          | End of day synthesis   |  |  |           |
|       |          | Dinner   |  |  |           |
| 19:00 |          | Getting to know you: BBQ dinner at University Club   | Dinner at University Club: Leadership dialogue with Trevor Hancock   | Dinner at 10 Acres Commons   |           |

## BCCI members

In an effort to celebrate interdisciplinary backgrounds, a remarkable range of global health experiences and research areas were present in Victoria.

Of the 30 participants, 20 were graduate students, four were young professionals, three were early career faculty members, and three were post doctoral researchers. See Appendix B for a listing of participants, facilitators and planning committee members.



Available photos of BCCI participants & facilitators from the on-site event plus CoP members

### Participant selection

Led by the planning committee member(s), each partner university identified graduate students or junior faculty members thought to be suitable BCCI participants, encouraging these individuals to submit a standard application form. The form requested applicants to summarize why the BCCI was of interest, and whether a bursary was required. The form also included comments from the applicant's supervisor, applicants to summarize why the BCCI was of interest, and whether a bursary was required. The form also included comments from the applicant's supervisor, where applicable.

In their applications most participants identified an interest area within the broad field of planetary health. Five interest areas emerged from the analysis of the applications and the planning committee used these to allocate participants to study groups:

1. Deforestation & energy
2. Air pollution
3. Water/WASH
4. Food systems & nutrition
5. Education & training

## Coordination

The initial planning was done by a small team at the University of Victoria in the early fall of 2018. This included conversations with institutional university leaders in particular Dr. Lisa Kalynchuk (Associate Vice-President Research) and Dr. Oliver Schmidtke (Executive Director, Centre for Global Studies). With endorsement from these two leaders, Nathan Lachowsky and Vic Neufeld took on the role of co-directors.

They contacted members from other BC universities who had been involved in the follow-up from the 2017 event and created a new planning team for BCCI-2. The members of this planning committee are indicated in Appendix B.

With the assurance from Dr. Kalynchuk and Dr. Schmidtke of some initial funding, Mr. Bernie Paille was recruited as a part-time project manager. Bernie was involved at the university as the manager of several research projects, and so had the skills, local connections and capacity to take on this role. His contributions as the overall project manager were invaluable.



Leadership dialogue with Trevor Hancock at BCCI 2: August 2019

# Outputs

## Community of Practice



Vancouver SYP meet-up: February 2020

The Community of Practice (CoP) is a regional network for global health research (GHR) in British Columbia, connected to others in the province who are using research and knowledge translation for health equity. The continuation of this initiative was unanimously supported by participants on the final day of the institute, as an organizational approach for further facilitating access to resources, mentorship, training, collective learning, and opportunities. Some of these will be achieved with the following activities:

- Continued learning and sharing through webinars
- An expansion of the Student & Young Professional network
- A dedicated platform and resource library for members
- Opportunities to develop and disseminate original content

The network is a collaborative venture involving universities, health authorities, and the BC SYPs. Membership is available to British Columbia members of CCGHR. In this model, the BC SYPs serve as a key component group. Like the CCGHR, this is a platform for directly and indirectly engaging partners to share experiences and facilitate interactions where useful.

## Student voices

The CCGHR Students and Young Professionals Network (SYPN) aims to help individuals interested in global health research to expand their knowledge and experiences. The SYPN provides professional development, networking, and learning opportunities through an engaging network of like-minded students and young professionals.

Students and young professionals certainly play a critical role in keeping the momentum strong for the BCCI community of practice. One of the strategic priorities for the BCCI Community of Practice was to add to the network of Student & Young Professional Representatives. This network supported with webinar series, conducting Q&As with global health researchers, and engaging with students from their respective universities. This year, four students took on the SYP role, each representing four universities across the province:



Krishna Todi, Simon Fraser University



Arnold Okpani, University of British Columbia



Julia Chalmers, University of Fraser Valley



Leigh Borrett, University of Victoria

Read the below Q&A to learn more about our BCCI SYP representatives.

### **What do you believe will be the most important global health issue to students and young professionals in the coming years ahead?**

KT: My understanding says that the most important global health issues that SYPs could watch out for in the coming years are finding career opportunities and climate change. Given the historic pandemic of 2020, it might be tougher for SYPs to find career opportunities that are a good fit for them since it is going to take a few years to recover from the economic impact of COVID-19. On the other hand, **climate change is real and happening fast**. While one doesn't need to be an expert or a professional directly working in environmental health, a good start for every individual would be to acknowledge this global health issue and moving forward from there.



LB: I think the most important global health issue in the coming years ahead will be climate change and the corresponding increase in natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies. While quick-fix solutions are currently the status quo in these contexts, **shifting this thinking to highlighting long term and sustainable alternatives** may produce a rewarding alternative.

AO: I believe the economic impact of the SAR-COV-2 pandemic will take a long time to recover from. One potential effect this would have will be a reduction in international development assistance for health at the time that the most vulnerable economies are least able to finance their own health needs due to economic constraints. I also think that the disruptive effect of the pandemic will slow progress toward global health and development goals like the SDGs. Some of the recent gains may actually be lost.

JC: I believe one of the most important global health issues students and young professionals will face in the coming years is the **need to address health inequity** while simultaneously being faced with the effects of climate change. We know that planetary health influences human health. For example, climate change has brought about extreme weather events leading to increases in flooding, wildfires and drought. The health of individuals living in areas affected by these events are greatly impacted. Moreover, it is ultimately the globe's most vulnerable such as those living in low income countries and Canada's indigenous communities who will be most negatively affected. I believe students and young professionals are challenged with advocating for marginalized and vulnerable communities and collaborating locally and globally to create innovative and sustainable solutions.

#### **How can the BCCI address these issues and influence change?**

KT: BCCI has already been doing a great job by existing and providing a platform where global health professionals can **collaborate** and bring their interests and expertise to the table. By continuing to last year's theme on planetary health, thereby addressing climate change, the BCCI could continue its work on widening the platform to grow network-building. This would allow SYPs to find the right opportunities and contribute to global health issues they feel passionate about.

LB: BCCI provides a platform for collaboration and **out of the box thinking**, which is critical when facilitating the shift to a long term and sustainable problem-solving mindset as previously mentioned.

AO: By continuing advocacy and sustaining the visibility of global health cooperation as a means of protecting humans and the environment. **We need to leverage the awareness created by the pandemic to continue to make our voices heard even after COVID-19 has receded.** We should also reach out to build new alliances with people and groups that have become more aware of the value of the work we do.

JC: I believe the BCCI can address these issues by continuing to provide a platform for people to come together and collaborate. Helen Keller's words "alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much" resonate with me when I think about the role the BCCI has in instigating change. Furthermore, the BCCI can continue to broaden its network of students and young professionals and provide them with the opportunity to develop relationships with those in global health in the

hope that our next generation of professionals can continue to create innovative and sustainable solutions.

**What advice would you give to students and young professionals who want to be more involved both locally and globally?**

KT: Clichéd but true - **Think global, start local**. If you wish to work globally, think about the kind of skills and experience required in the opportunities/departments/organizations that would fulfill your career goals. Transition into finding local opportunities that help you in gaining those global requirements. If you wish to work (or starting off) locally, build connections and widen your network. A good idea would be to find collaborative platforms such as BCCI, CCGHR, etc. which help you meet professionals you wouldn't be able to typically network with. I'd also strongly encourage in getting involved with volunteer work for organizations that work toward your passionate global health issues.

LB: If you want to make an impact globally, **think critically** at the system as a whole, and start locally.

AO: Do not look for the perfect time or opportunity. **Just begin. Get engaged, even if it may not exactly fit your expectation**. Good things can come from unexpected places. Get accurate information from reliable sources, then use your networks to share it to counter damaging disinformation.

JC: Locally, students can connect with organizations and groups within their communities and respected universities that are focused on promoting health equity and planetary health and combating climate change. Moreover, students can connect with and perhaps become members of organizations like the BCCI, CCGHR and Planetary Health Alliance and **promote the values of these organizations within their universities and workplaces**. I would also encourage students to **engage with local Indigenous and First Nations communities**, and perhaps even get involved in projects focused on harm reduction and combating the opioid crisis. I truly believe that learning to listen non-judgementally to communities and developing empathy is a crucial skill for any student or young professional seeking a career in global health to develop. On a global scale, students can look for international experiences such as study tours through their universities like those offered through the University of the Fraser Valley's Health Sciences Program to gain exposure and insight into the daily realities of those living in low income countries.

# Evaluation

The BCCI evaluation component looks at activities, outputs, and outcomes of the new regional model as previously mentioned.

### Qualitative feedback

Opportunities for feedback and day-by-day adjustments to the program took place each morning and at the end of the day. During the final session, participants were asked to reflect and comment on the question “What did you learn that was new to you, and how will you put this into action?”

### Survey

Participants were asked to complete a post BCCI survey at the culmination of Phase 3. Digital copies of the surveys were developed and disseminated to BCCI participants with a sample of 30 and a response rate of 50% providing an easy method of completing the survey anonymously and a cost-effective method of analyzing the data in a straight-forward, user-friendly manner.



Tree ring painting submitted by BCCI 2 Facilitator

“ I met people who were committed to making a difference beyond the 3-day institute and that in itself was invaluable.

# Summary of findings

### Phase 1: BCCI preparation

#### How satisfied were participants with Phase 1?

Overall, participants were satisfied with the pre-workshop preparation. The readings were relevant, the communications were clear and actionable, the videos were informative, the session guides were beneficial, and the questions for consideration were useful.

## Phase 2: On-site event

### How satisfied were participants with the BCCI event in Victoria?

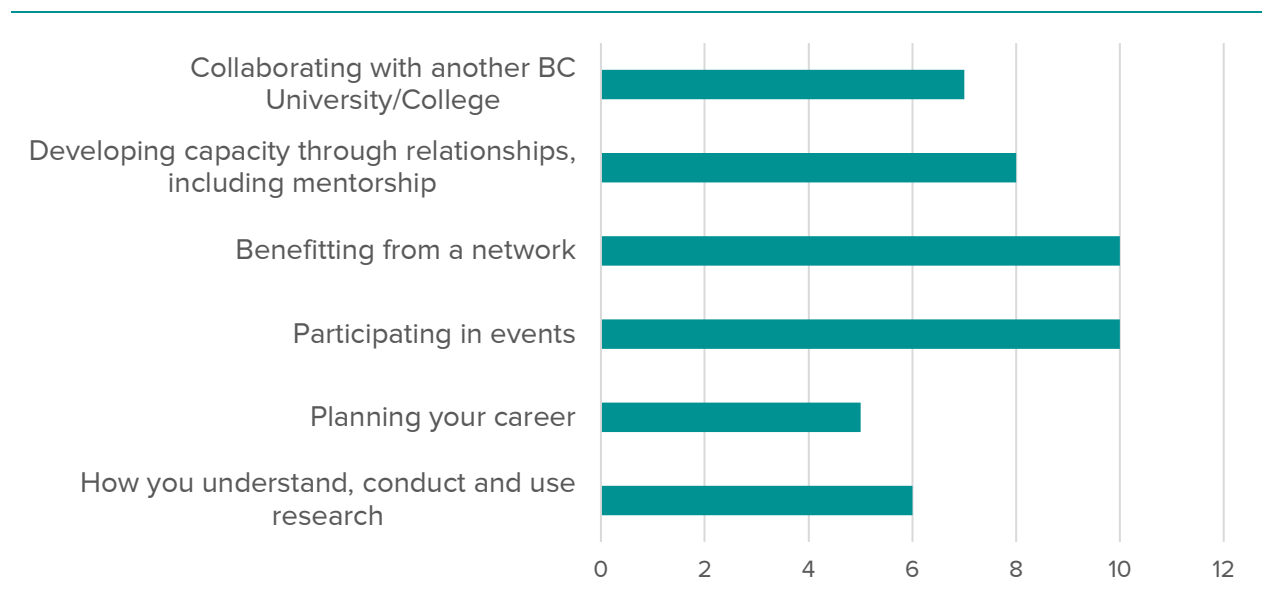
Participants seemed very satisfied with the event in Victoria, as detailed by one participant stating: “[t]he sessions were greatly organized and framed. Loved the intellectual and engaging component involved through group discussions. Overall, the agenda was rightly met with the presentations and speakers throughout the weekend.”

Other participants note that the dates of the event were convenient, the content was relevant, the duration was appropriate, the location was suitable, the facilitation was engaging, and the institute met its objectives.

→ Membership in BC increased after the institute, indicating new memberships were a direct result of the event and ensuing Community of Practice.

### In what ways did the BCCI support professional development?

When asked to rank how BCCI experiences helped participants in their own professional development, benefitting from a network and participating in events were the most common responses as shown in Graph 1.



Graph 1

The data is also reflective of the feedback where participants described the benefits of the new network: “it was great to reconnect with a network of global health researchers” and “I met people who were committed to making a difference beyond the 3-day institute and that in itself was invaluable.”

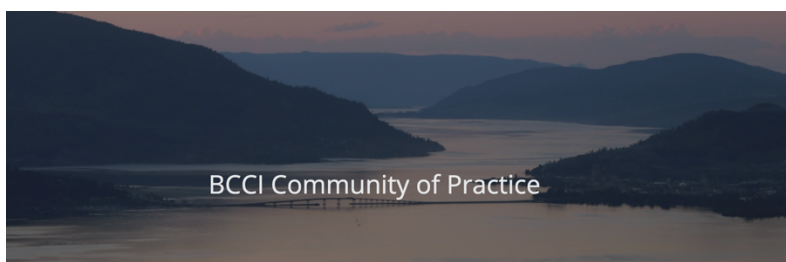
## Following the event, did participants have a greater understanding of the principles and how to use them in a relevant way?

While there is room for improvement, perception of understanding is mostly positive. With the highest score of 100 indicating “Strongly Agree”, the average number was 83.3, an increase from the first BCCI.

### Phase 3 Follow-up activities

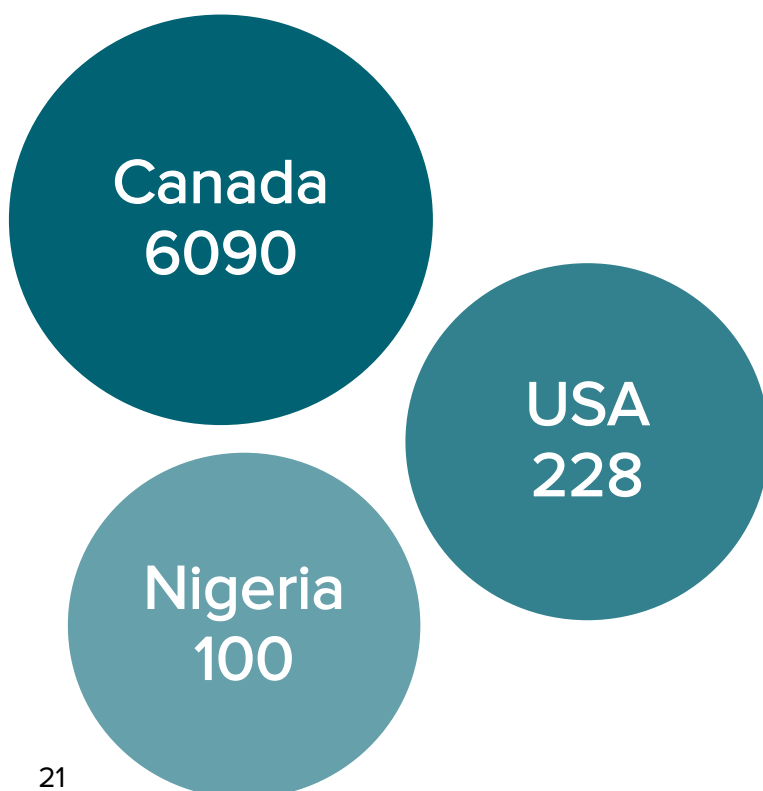
#### How useful were the follow-up activities to participants?

Of those that participated in follow-up activities, joining the national CCGHR SYP Network was regarded as the highest valued activity. Other activities that provided value included attending a SYP meet-up, participating in webinars, and joining a working group. One participant notes: “I attended a SYP meet-up session that helped to expand my network as well maintain contact with other scholars.”



Dedicated platform for BCCI

Visiting the dedicated platform was considered the second most useful activity to respondents. As of July 12, 2020, website analytics show that the platform received 6,786 views from 2,224 unique visitors representing 49 countries from its creation in July 201



| Country           | Views |
|-------------------|-------|
| Canada            | 6,090 |
| United States     | 228   |
| Nigeria           | 100   |
| China             | 44    |
| India             | 38    |
| Mexico            | 30    |
| United Kingdom    | 29    |
| Norway            | 26    |
| France            | 22    |
| Philippines       | 18    |
| Zambia            | 13    |
| Germany           | 12    |
| Trinidad & Tobago | 11    |
| Australia         | 9     |
| South Africa      | 9     |
| Pakistan          | 8     |
| Netherlands       | 7     |

**Did participants take part in follow-up activities at their University/College or workplace? In what ways did this benefit participants?**

50% of respondents participated in follow-up activities. One of the largest benefits indicated by one participant states: “I was able to deliver critical aspects that I had taken away from my attendance of the BCCI2 institute to other individuals in my department. I was also fortunate to be joined by others who were doing relevant work in the field of Planetary Health. Generally, it helped me become an advocate for Planetary Health and an educator on the topic, allowing me to build on my ability to present to others and feel confident when I do so.”

**Additional follow-up activities that would be useful**

Survey respondents indicate that additional “working groups committed to publishing material that is relevant for their discipline based on the key-takeaways from attending BCCI2,” and content collaboration within BCCI to develop “webinars involving us to present or research more that will help us deepen our knowledge in the relevant topic”

Participants also suggested “holding a joint virtual meet-up with senior researchers once every semester to learn about additional opportunities and how to leverage them”

**Looking forward**

**How likely are participants to attend future events?**

All survey respondents are either likely or extremely likely to attend future events. In fact, one participant states: “a token of appreciation for all the facilitators of BCCI-2 and a big thank you for provision of bursaries which enabled us students to participate in the event. Excited to be a part of CCGHR in the future.”

**What is the interest in attending an alumni event at the next BCCI?**

Similarly, participants are also interested in attending an alumni event at the next BCCI.

**How likely are participants to recommend BCCI events to friends/colleagues?**

Looking forward, all survey respondents are either likely or extremely likely to recommend BCCI events to a friend/colleague. “It was exciting to see how the BCCI community feels and looks stronger, and I am looking forward to the opportunities and actions this is going to bring in the future. The institute format is pretty unique, and I was delighted to see how emergent scholars and young professionals felt, most times, supported and able to share their experiences and needs.”

“ Thank you for the opportunity! I am so happy to have found my people who share my passion and to continue to contribute to this instrumental work!

# Conclusion

The BCCI 2 has been a successful iteration of the earlier summer institutes. The theme: Planetary Health: Local and Global certainly offers tools for reflection and action in research and knowledge translation. The three deliverables identified by the planning team were addressed by the following:

## Strengthening the Coalition Institute model

This model was strengthened. The experience demonstrated that universities in BC are able to collaborate well. The leadership in each participating university contributed in several ways: providing financial support, encouraging faculty members to contribute time and expertise as planners and facilitators (at the on-site event), and identifying potential participants.

This final report will be distributed to all participants in BC (including university leadership). It will also be shared with the relevant leadership of the CCGHR and disseminated through Coalition information channels.

## Building a regional network in BC

As described throughout the report, the Phase 3 component—a regional network, has succeeded. As the August event came to a close, the planning team thanked Nicole Spence for all her work as the Coordinator of the Community of Practice (CoP) leading up to the on-site event. Fortunately, Tasha-Aliya Kara was available to succeed Nicole, to continue supporting the CoP on a part-time basis. The ongoing activities have included: maintaining the dedicated platform, building a resource library in partnership with faculty members, evaluation and reporting, information management, and communication to CoP members on a monthly basis.

An interesting example of regional cooperation is a unique master's level graduate course, organized by colleagues at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver campus). This is a spring semester course offered by the School of Public and Population Health (SPPH) entitled: *Practical Knowledge and Skills for Working in Global Health*.

The focus is on understanding and using the CCGHR Principles of Global Health Research. Faculty members from other universities have contributed to some of the sessions. Building on the experience of a similar course in the spring of 2019, the course has become a complementary activity to the BCCI and an excellent example of another strategy to build the regional network.

## Contributing to institutional capacity strengthening in global health research

All members of the planning team from the various partner universities are involved as global health research leaders in their respective universities. This includes building and maintaining institutional mentorship systems. Some individuals also serve as the designated liaison persons for their university's institutional membership in the CCGHR, and thus are members of the national group of member universities, known as the University Advisory Council (UAC). The experience of the BCCI model, including the CoP, have been shared with the national UAC.

Overall, the Institute has provided a capacity building forum for practicing teaching and mentoring about equity centred planetary health research and knowledge translation, and will continue to do so, particularly through the Community of Practice. Building on the success of this Institute, there are hopes to host another event in the fall of 2021.

# Appendix A BCCI 2 Press release

## BCCI-2: Coming together for Planetary Health

August 15, 2019

Over 40 members of the global health community recently came together in beautiful Victoria for the second British Columbia Coalition Institute (BCCI-2), an innovative and localized learning institute for new global health researchers to expand their understanding of CCGHR Principles for Global Health Research launched in 2017. This year the special focus was *Planetary Health: Local and Global* and built upon the Community of Practice established at the inaugural institute.



Coming from ten universities, two colleges and local and provincial health services organizations, twenty-eight participants and fifteen facilitators came together to better understand the systems approach to health that addresses planetary boundaries and linkages between human well-being and the state of the natural systems on which it depends. The on-site component consisted of workshops, guided sessions, dialogues, and open spaces focused on participants' self-directed learning objectives.

### Special features of BCCI-2 included the following:

- A special dialogue with Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada, about the climate emergency that we are facing, how self-governance and sovereignty are critical to land stewardship, and what we can do as citizens.
- Student presentations from SPPH 581K, a course that came out of BCCI-1 to build practical knowledge, skills, and attitudes required in the field of global health, covering planning, delivery, evaluation and sustainability of projects and programs in low and middle-income countries.



- Opening and closing ceremonies from Songhees Old One (elder) Joanie Morris offered a significant opportunity to reflect on how colonization and associated attitudes, policies and institutions have significantly changed Indigenous peoples' relationship with this land - and health care - and how we can do better.
- Dedicated platform for BCCI building on the resources for the principles, with specially designed sessions guides prepared by facilitators to help inform discussions at the workshop and carrying forward.
- Small groups and open sessions focusing on participants' self-directed learning objectives.
- Special contributions by Trevor Hancock from the University of Victoria School of Population and Public Health, who conducted a Q&A with dinner and facilitated a workshop on the theme *Planetary Health at a Local Level*.
- A new form of participation with satellite groups connecting from across the country. This remote participation aligns with the theme of planetary health, removing unnecessary travel and any geographical barriers to participating.
- A special session introduced a proposed program (tentatively called "BC and beyond") where research on the health impacts of climate change conducted in BC, would be linked to research on this theme conducted by partners in low and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Looking forward, the follow-up phase (Phase 3) includes several activities to ensure a commitment of knowledge to action:

- Support continued learning and sharing through our on-going webinar series, including a national webinar on the outcomes of the BCCI focus on planetary health co-hosted by the national Working Group on the Health Impacts of Climate Change.
- Build on the momentum established by the regional BC global health research community of practice, including creating a long-term strategy, including establishing "nodes" at BC institutions, supporting regional meetups, and strengthening institutional capacities for global health research.
- Synthesize new material to encourage and support networking, engagement, and dialogue, including opinion pieces, policy briefs, blogs, and articles to publish.

The BCCI planning team will continue its work to oversee and support the various follow-up plans. A more detailed BCCI report will be available in the coming months. For further information, please contact Phase 3 coordinator Tasha Kara at [tashakara@gmail.com](mailto:tashakara@gmail.com)

# Appendix B Participants & Facilitators

## BCCI 2 Participants

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Mareike Kroll               | University of Kaiserslautern, Artisanal Gold Council            |
| Tasha Kara*                 | Provincial Health Services Authority                            |
| Takaia Larsen               | Selkirk College   |
| Angela McIntyre             | University of Pretoria (South Africa)                           |
| Regiane Garcia              | University of British Columbia                                  |
| Mira Ziolo                  | University of British Columbia                                  |
| Nicole Spence*              | University of South Wales, Provincial Health Services Authority |
| Natalie, Jane, Buglioni     | Simon Fraser University   |
| Cassandra Violet Parsons    | Simon Fraser University   |
| Maryam Dehnadi              | Simon Fraser University   |
| Krishna Suresh Todi         | Simon Fraser University   |
| Yue Yuan                    | Simon Fraser University   |
| David Giesbrecht            | Trinity Western University                                      |
| Amanda Grace Egert          | Trinity Western University                                      |
| Rebecca Joy Houweling       | Trinity Western University                                      |
| Raluca Radu                 | University of British Columbia                                  |
| Zeena Yesufu                | University of British Columbia                                  |
| Federico Andrade-Rivas      | University of British Columbia                                  |
| Christiana Onabola          | University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)                  |
| Claire M Remington          | University of Victoria  |
| Ngozi Nneka Joe-Ikechebelu  | University of Victoria  |
| Leigh Borrett               | University of Victoria  |
| Matilde Cervantes Navarrete | University of Victoria  |
| Disann Katende              | University of British Columbia                                  |
| Nicole Moen                 | Douglas College   |
| Matthew Little              | University of Guelph  |
| Catherine Smith             | University of the Fraser Valley                                 |

## BCCI 2 Facilitators

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Paivi Abernathy*        | University of Victoria                  |
| Federico Andrade-Rivas* | University of British Columbia          |
| Barb Astle*             | Trinity Western University              |
| Dzifa Dordunoo*         | University of Victoria                  |
| Nathan Lachowsky*       | University of Victoria                  |
| Katrina Plamondon*      | University of British Columbia Okanagan |
| Vic Neufeld*            | University of Victoria                  |
| Verena Rossa-Roccor*    | University of British Columbia          |
| Jerry Spiegel*          | University of British Columbia          |
| Kate Tairyan*           | Simon Fraser University                 |
| Annalee Yassi*          | University of British Columbia          |
| Trevor Hancock          | University of Victoria                  |

\*2019 BCCI 2 Planning Committee Member

# Appendix C Community of Practice Update

FEBRUARY, 2020

## Community of Practice Update

### Update: BC and Beyond proposal

BCCI-2 participants will remember that one of our sessions focused on the idea of creating a *BC and beyond* initiative, to collaborate climate change research in BC, with similar research in the global South. The planning team for this initiative has responded to a call from the [Pacific Institute for Global Solutions \(PICS\)](#) and submitted an initial Letter of Intent (LOI) for consideration.

The proposal calls for the involvement of four partnerships: BC's Indigenous community; a youth group; and global South partners from Nigeria and Zambia. We anticipate news about the LOI proposal in mid-March, with the hope that our proposal is selected for the next stage of the competition, that involves a full proposal.

For anyone interested, we can share the 3-page LOI document. Contact [Vic Neufeld](#) for more information.

### Canadian Institute for Climate Choices (CICC)

The CICC - launched in January - is a collaboration of experts from across Canada, with a commitment to undertake research, analysis, and broad engagement about climate challenges and policy choices in Canada. This group has released an initial report entitled: [Charting Our Course](#).

### Adaptation Canada 2020:

A few of BCCI members participated in a conference that took place in Vancouver from February 19 – 21. This event was largest ever meeting about climate change (particularly adaptation) in Canada, with 750 participants. There will be a summary and recommendations available shortly. If you are interested, contact [Paivi Abernathy](#) or [Vic Neufeld](#).

The February 19 BCCI meet-up in Vancouver was a huge success! Thank you to those who joined:

*From left to right:* (Prince Adu, Arnold Okpani, Nicole Spence, Krishna Todi, Vic Neufeld, Tasha Kara & Raluca Radu)



### Are you a student looking to get more involved?

The BCCI is always looking to recruit a Student & Young Professional (SYP) Representatives to work collaboratively with the Community of Practice Coordinator and supervisory team to support planetary health initiatives.

For more information, about this position or about the next BCCI meet-up, please contact [bcci.community@gmail.com](mailto:bcci.community@gmail.com).

<https://bccoalitioninstitute.com/>

Welcome Krishna Todi (SFU) and Julia Chalmers (UFV) as our new SYPN representatives!



### Resource Library

Be sure to check out the [BCCI resource library](#) where you can find carefully selected readings, presentations, and session guides.

### Webinar

Climate Change and Health: Working with First Nations

March 31, Tuesday  
10:30am PST/ 1:30pm EST

[bcci.community@gmail.com](mailto:bcci.community@gmail.com)

# Appendix D Financial summary

## Income

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| University of Victoria                  | \$3550.00          |
| VP Research                             | \$2500.00          |
| Centre for Global Studies               | \$500.00           |
| Graduate Studies                        | \$300.00           |
| School of Public Health & Social Policy | \$250.00           |
| Simon Fraser University                 | \$2000.00          |
| UBC-Okanagan                            | \$2500.00          |
| Trinity Western University              | \$476.19           |
| Capital Region District (CRD)           | \$4000.00          |
| Pacific Institute for Global Solutions  | \$5000.00          |
| Registration income                     | \$1400.00          |
| UBC                                     | \$1150.00          |
| Other                                   | \$250.00           |
| <b>Total income</b>                     | <b>\$18,926.19</b> |

## Expenses

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Event Manager               | \$3977.93           |
| Honoraria (2 at \$100 each) | \$200.00            |
| Travel reimbursements       | \$1525.81           |
| Parking permits             | \$12.00             |
| Hospitality                 | \$8736.51           |
| Supplies                    | \$11.95             |
| Accommodation (residences)  | \$2916.00           |
| <b>Total expenses</b>       | <b>\$17,368.20*</b> |

\*Surplus of \$1,557.99 transferred to CCGHR for costs related to on-going BCCI-2 Community of Practice