



Education

K–12 Education Division
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January 2020

TO: Superintendents of School Divisions
Directors of First Nations Education Authorities and Tribal Councils
Principals of Funded Independent Schools
Student Services Administrators

Re: Education Mental Health Workshops

Manitoba Education, in partnership with Addiction Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) Youth Programs is pleased to offer a professional development opportunity.

Daniel Dacombe, Prevention Education Consultant with AFM, will present this two part series.

Part 1: Supporting Students with Substance Use/Abuse Issues

Date: Monday, February 24th, 2020
Location: Room 217 A/B - 1181 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB.
Time: 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The connection between mental health and addictions issues is well documented. Understanding this connection, though, can be difficult. How do they overlap? Which causes the other? Why do people become addicted to substance use or gambling? In this workshop, facilitators from the Addiction Foundation of Manitoba will explore the nature of co-occurring mental health and addiction issues, including the basics of substance use and gambling, basic pharmacology, adolescent development, and the bio-psycho-social-spiritual model of addiction. This presentation will assist school based professionals in understanding how to support students with complex needs related to substance use/abuse and addictions.

Part 2: Brief Intervention Technique (BIT) Training: Substance Use and Addiction Support

Date: Monday, March 16th, 2020
Location: Room 217 A/B - 1181 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB.
Time: 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

When individuals are experiencing problems with substance use or gambling, the first person they speak to about their issues is unlikely to be an addictions professional. More often than not, it is a teacher, school counsellor, educational assistant or other school based personnel who first identifies the presence of a problem. How can these conversations be handled effectively, and result in referrals

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to addictions-specific services? Brief Intervention Technique (BIT) Training, presented by Addictions Foundation of Manitoba staff, is a client-centered, language-based approach to motivate those at risk to change their behaviour. BIT training can help school-based personnel identify current or potential problems with alcohol misuse, drug abuse, or other unsafe behaviours, and help pave the way for conversations about accessing addictions-specific services.

There is no registration fee for the workshop, however, registration is required as space is limited. Register to attend using the Workshop Registration System (WRS) at:
<https://web36.gov.mb.ca/workshops/>

If you are not able to attend in person, ZOOM is available. Please do not register on the WRS website for ZOOM participation. Instead, RSVP to Susana Garza-Vargas at susana.garza-vargas@gov.mb.ca. A link will be sent to you shortly before the session.

Accommodations: A light meal will be provided at the beginning of each session. Please notify Susana Garza-Vargas at susana.garza-vargas@gov.mb.ca if you have any dietary restrictions or require any other accommodations.

Parking: Daily ticket parking is available for \$3.75 in the lot adjacent to 1181 Portage Avenue anywhere past the first two rows (Government Employee – Daily Ticket Parking). A ticket must be purchased from the machine near the building where you can pay with exact change or credit card. In addition, free parking is available on Erin (2 hour until 5:30) and Wall Street (1 hour until 5:30), with no restrictions after 5:30. Please be advised that other restrictions may still apply (watch for signs) and parking on Portage Avenue is not permitted as cars will be ticketed/towed for rush hour traffic. See the attached map for details.

Note: If you arrive after 5:00, the building doors will be locked and the elevators will not take you to the 2nd floor. Please contact Cheryl by email for building entry.

If you require further information, please contact Cheryl Chorneyko at 204-945-5563 or Cheryl.chorneyko@gov.mb.ca

Following the workshop, you will be invited to complete a feedback form through survey monkey. The feedback is important as it helps select future topics and assists in workshop design and delivery to meet your learning and support needs.

Sincerely



Barb Melnychuk
Coordinator

Attachment

c. Cheryl Chorneyko