



# Mental Health Structural Stigma

Thursday - April 17th

3:00 to 4:30pm

Contact [peerworknetwork@vch.ca](mailto:peerworknetwork@vch.ca) for the Zoom link

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“Structural stigma refers to the accumulated activities of organizations that create and maintain social inequalities for people with lived experience of mental illness and/or substance use in terms of access and quality of care.

This includes the **underfunding** of addictions and mental healthcare, as well as policies, practices, and models of care that systematically create and maintain **inequities in both access to and quality of care** for people with mental illnesses or substance use problems.”

(International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction 2022)

Structural stigma also contributes to the burnout, compassion fatigue, and self-stigma of mental Health Care Professionals (HCPs) **including peer workers**. Join us for an informative discussion on research so far by such organizations as the Mental Health Commission of Canada and EMBER (Exploring Mental Health Barriers in Emergency Departments – Calgary Alberta) about structural stigma in mental health care. Your contributions regarding similar initiatives are welcome.

**We've posted some research on the [PWN Resource List](#) about Structural Stigma for your preview before the April 17<sup>th</sup> presentation. Come prepared for the discussion (not required).**



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A Consumer Involvement and Initiatives forum for all BC peer workers; including peer support workers, peer facilitators, peer navigators and CIF project leads



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