

Carmichael Connection

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“It is one-of-a-kind. You almost heal just being up here”

Robert DeClark
Ravensview General Manager

Private mental health treatment centre opens in North Saanich

Excerpts From: <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/private-mental-health-treatment-centre-opens-in-north-saanich-1.4472377>

Homewood Ravensview, a 75-bed mental health and addictions treatment centre in North Saanich, is officially open. The facility was formerly owned by UVic and was used for continuing studies, training and conferences.

Now Ravensview is a private treatment centre that will treat patients with anxiety, depression or trauma-related conditions, as well as addiction disorders.

The centre, run by Homewood Health, is currently staffed for 30 patients and employs 50 people, including physicians, nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, and mental health and addictions councilors. Staffing levels will climb to around 100 as the centre takes on more patients.

The centre also offers specialized programs for first responders, military personnel, veterans, executives and professionals and young adults. The average stay is

about six to nine weeks, with one year of outpatient follow-up recovery management and care at Homewood-operated outpatient clinics across the country.

Renovations began in January 2018 and the revitalized 52-room, 75,000-square-foot facility will be able to accommodate up to 99 patients at full capacity.

The interior of the building has been extensively updated and resembles a high-end hotel. Apart from the current 52 live-in patient rooms, there are also two large lounge areas, nine group rooms, a medical clinic, offices and a lecture theatre.

“It is one-of-a-kind. You almost heal just being up here” says Robert DeClark, Ravensview’s general manager. Homewood Health has operated for 135 years and describes itself as

a Canadian leader in mental health and addiction services.

Five years ago, the company started looking to open a private facility in Western Canada. Four years ago, the company discovered Dunsmuir Lodge and entered into negotiations with UVic and the Pauquachin First Nation of North Saanich.

An agreement was reached that saw the 100-acre property split up with 72 acres going to the Pauquachin First Nation and 28 acres plus the facility going to Homewood Health.

The cost for private care at the facility were not disclosed and will vary depending on the treatment required. Homewood Ravensview also hopes to collaborate with local healthcare providers in its treatment plans.

Staff Spotlights

July Birthdays

Faith P.
Sam
Alvin
Joelene
Annette
Justin E
Les

Maximilian
Shalom
Russ
Charles
Shay
Steven I
Jennifer F

June Birthday Winner:

Carmen P

New Staff ~ Returns

Adeyinka
Amanda S
Chovi

Abigail
Samuel D



For Eligible Employees:

Submitted by: Carmela Taylor ~ Executive Administrator

Did you know that your GroupHEALTH benefits plan automatically include Provider Pay?

Provider Pay allows health service practitioners to electronically submit claims and receive payments for services. Employees are out-of-pocket only for what the benefit plan doesn't cover for approved claims.

Eligible health practitioners can use the TELUS eClaims network to submit claims on the employee's behalf if the plan covers the following services:

- Physiotherapists
- Optometrists
- Chiropractors
- Massage Therapists
- Opticians
- Naturopaths
- Acupuncturists
- Podiatrist
- Psychologists
- Chiroprodists

If a health practitioner is not on TELUS eClaims network then you may continue to submit claims using the ClaimSecure website and app.

Did you know that Disability Management Institute's services are a valuable supplement to your long-term disability benefits through GroupHealth?

Early Intervention – After five consecutive days of absence due to non-work related injury or illness, DMI steps in to provide confidential support and communication to employees and employers for the duration of absence.

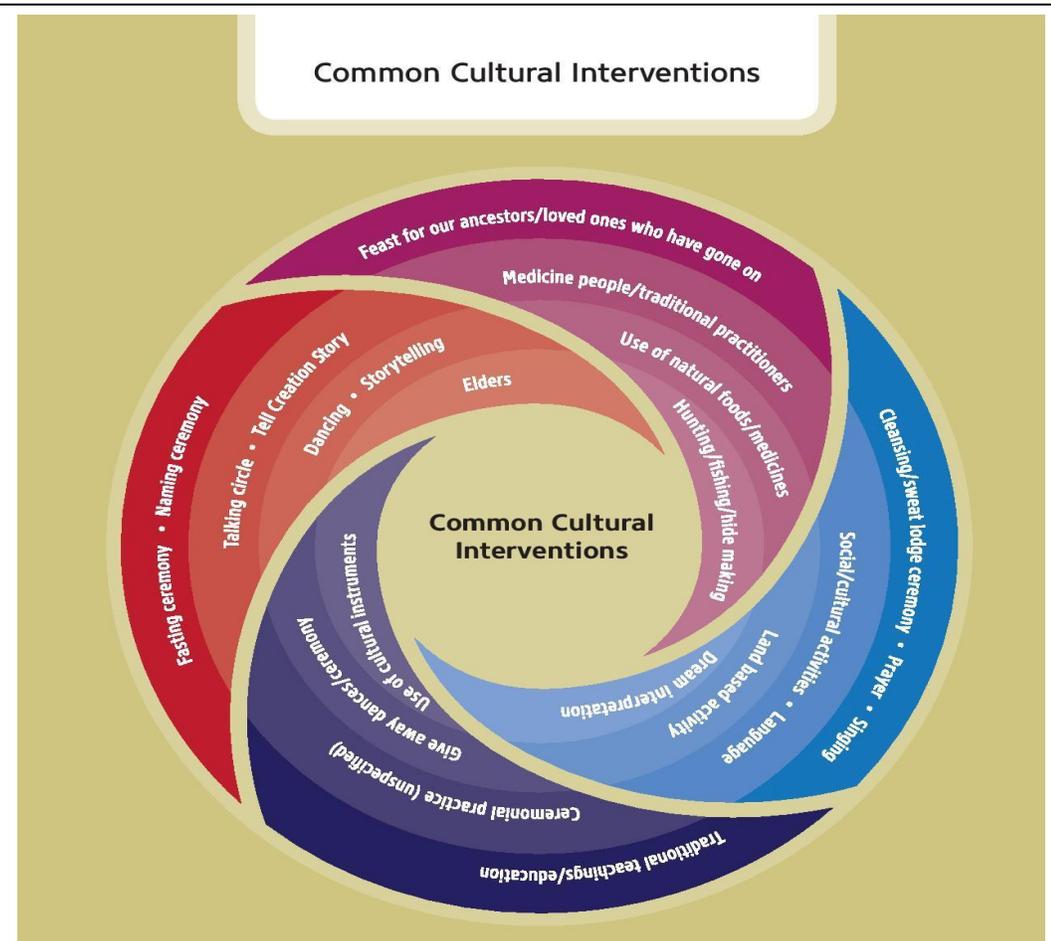
By focusing on early intervention and maintaining open communication channels, DMI helps prevent the disability mindset by encouraging timely recovery and minimizing costs through structured RTW initiatives.

DMI also offers customized return to work plans that help minimize downtime and ensure employees return to work as soon as they are able, in the safest way possible



Common Cultural Interventions

Excerpt from “Elder Jim Dumont, National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation



“Culture is the facilitator of spiritual expression. One’s spirit desires to live life to the fullest. A connection to spirit is essential and primary to wellbeing.”

Elder Jim Dumont,
Cultural Interventions

It is said that what the Great Spirit gave to his/her children to live in this physical world in a good way, was given forever. This means that the answer to addressing substance use issues exists within Indigenous culture. Culture is the facilitator of spiritual expression. One’s spirit desires to live life to the fullest. A connection to spirit is essential and primary to wellbeing. Cultural interventions are therefore essential to wellness. Cultural interventions such as ceremonies attend to the whole person, while other interventions may have more specific focus. Cultural interventions are facilitated by individuals who have sanctioning of their skills and knowledge in culture because they live the culture and have been recognized by both the cultural teachers/community and the Spirit to lead or facilitate a certain cultural activity. However, some cultural interventions, generally those that are not ceremonial, do not require this level of expertise. An example is the use of sacred medicines for smudge, although this differs across cultures. All cultural interventions require a level of cultural competency that is in compliance with the culture of the people on that land. Critically important is to know that there is not “one” culture because culture is defined by the land, language and nation of people. Treatment centres offer culture through their treatment programs based on the culture of the people where the treatment centre is located. Clients participating in the treatment programs may experience cultural interventions different from their own culture. Cultural interventions then become an introduction to culture and are always facilitated with an encouragement to clients to “go home and find their own way”.

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Enterprises is
committed to
meeting the needs
of individuals with
disabilities”*



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Safety on the job!



Protect yourself with Safety Positioning!

Perhaps the most important part of keeping yourself safe is knowing how much space to leave between yourself and a person who is angry and in an escalation cycle. A good rule of thumb is making sure that a person would have to take two steps before they would be able to strike or attack you.



This doesn't mean that you should stay across the room and raise your voice as an attempt to communicate as this may be perceived as aggression or fear, neither of which are useful in supporting someone. Having space affords you some reaction time and keeps you close enough to be able to talk in a calm voice and potentially de-escalate the situation.

Another way to protect yourself is to keep your hands free and avoid placing them in your pockets or leaning against walls. It is also important to keep an exit behind you so that you can back out of a situation and disengage if necessary.

