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## Public Service Announcement

December 15, 2014

Provincial Health Services Authority  
BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre  
BC Ministry of Health

### **The Canadian Sexual Health Survey is launching in communities across BC**

**Vancouver** – BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre, in collaboration with its research partners, has launched the Canadian Sexual Health Survey (CSHS). This research study is about sexual health and how women and girls access family planning knowledge, services, and methods in their communities.

Healthcare professionals will conduct surveys in person with invited, eligible\* girls and women aged 14-49 in communities across BC starting winter 2014. The CSHS has begun surveying on the Sunshine Coast and will continue surveying in those communities into January 2015.

Households in communities across BC have been randomly selected to participate in this survey. If you have been selected and choose to participate, here is what you can expect:

- Selected households will receive an introduction letter prior to the survey.
- The surveyor will then go door-to-door in various neighbourhoods to see which households have eligible\* participants (female, aged 14-49) interested in participating.
- At that time, eligible girls and women can decide if they would like to participate.

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and all eligible women and girls can refuse to participate, choose to not to answer a question, or stop the survey at any time. All participants are anonymous and all information collected is confidential. Women and girls who are selected and choose to participate will be offered a \$20 honorarium in compensation for the time they spend to assist us to better understand their experiences.

This research follows the highest academic and ethical standards and has been approved by the UBC-Children's and Women's Hospital Research Ethics Board, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The research will be compiled and shared publically once it is complete. It is expected the research findings may assist healthcare professionals and policy-makers to best focus healthcare resources that will meet the sexual health needs of women and girls.

BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre is the province's only facility dedicated to the health of women, newborns and families. It is one of the country's busiest maternity centres, delivering more than 7,000 babies annually, and serves as the provincial resource for high-risk maternity care, as well as the quaternary centre for the largest neonatal intensive care unit in BC. More than 50,000 women are seen annually through its specialized women and family programs, which include world-class services in medical genetics, HIV care, reproductive health, maternal substance dependency, osteoporosis and complex chronic diseases.

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) plans, manages and evaluates selected specialty and province-wide health care services across BC, working with the five geographic health authorities to deliver province-wide solutions that improve the health of British Columbians. For more information, visit [www.phsa.ca](http://www.phsa.ca).



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