



BC Mental Health &  
Addiction Services

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

***RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL***

## **A SPECIAL GRAND ROUNDS PRESENTATION**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 0900 – 1000 hrs, Auditorium B, HEY Building**

**Topic:           Hearing [our] Voices: A Participatory Action Research Project**

**Speaker:         Barbara Schneider, PhD**

Barbara Schneider is an associate professor in the Faculty of Communication and Culture at the University of Calgary. She has been conducting research on the social and cultural aspects of schizophrenia for ten years. This presentation will describe two participatory action research projects that involved mental health service users as co-researchers: communication between people diagnosed with schizophrenia and their medical professionals, and housing for people diagnosed with schizophrenia. She is currently conducting a study of media representations of mental illness and homelessness and how these representations are taken up by audiences. She hopes also to work with journalists to change how homelessness and mental illness are represented in the media.

**Moderator:     Jamie Livingston, Project Manager, BC Mental Health & Addiction Services**

**Objectives:**

1. To learn about a successful example of participatory action research involving mental health service users
2. To understand the impact on service users of being involved in PAR
3. To illustrate the strengths and abilities of people diagnosed with schizophrenia
4. To learn about alternative dissemination modes for academic research

*This event is an accredited group learning activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (1 hour Type A Credit)*