HELPING STUDENTS CONNECT WITH ECONOMIC HISTORY THROUGH B.C.’S EXPERIENCE WITH OPIATES

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This research was supported by the Valerie Kuhle Undergraduate Research Awards, University of Victoria.

- Connecting with primary sources can be rewarding and challenging.
- A preliminary analysis of hundreds of reported cases of opiate use across Canada’s early history revealed trends and patterns, but also highlighted difficulties in making sense of large collections of narrative data.
- The lessons learned were used to create an open-education toolkit that will help generations of undergraduate students move beyond these hurdles, and be better placed to gain economic and historical insights in our data-rich society.