

**Board Briefs** summarizes the board meetings of the Provincial Health Services Authority. It is shared via the PHSA websites to keep stakeholders informed about the activities of PHSA.

- Media contact: PHSA Communications at 778-867-7472

## **Summary of August 25, 2016 Board Meeting**

---

### **Question & Answer / Public Presentation Period**

As part of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of the Provincial Health Services Authority provides opportunities for the public to schedule presentations and to ask questions of the board prior to the beginning of every open board meeting.

There were no questions or presentations for this portion of the meeting.

### **Presentations (available on request)**

#### Health Literacy

Vice President, Provincial Population Health and Chronic and Specialized Populations Colleen Hart shared an overview on Health Literacy and why the definition is important to PHSA. She was joined by Senior Director, Population and Public Health Trish Hunt and Executive Director, Children's and Women's Mental Health Sarah Bell.

Ms. Hunt advised Canadian interest in the relationship between literacy and health developed in the late 1980's, partly a reaction to growing concern regarding lower than expected levels of literacy among the Canadian population.

Ms. Hunt and Ms. Bell provided updates on the following:

- Programs at BC Children's Hospital which enhance mental health.
- E-Mental health resources.
- Mindcheck.ca.
- Online sexual health education.
- Training sessions for care providers.
- Healthy eating, injury prevention and Healthy Families BC program.
- "Have a Word with Yourself" campaign.
- Web content project – standardized information across PHSA websites.

Ms. Hart advised PHSA leaders are committed to ensuring all individuals have the capacity, opportunities and supports to obtain and use health information effectively as informed partners in caring for themselves, their families and communities.

## Committee reports

The **Quality & Access Committee** brought two items to members for approval and one for information.

The Board approved four goals of the Quality and Access Committee:

- Patient and Family Centred Care or Person and Family Centred Care;
- High Reliability Organizations;
- Access (Patient Flow) and or Efficiency;
- Reduce Variation in Practice.

The PHSA Hand Hygiene Policy was approved with minor amendments. This policy is intended to protect those in the health care setting by ensuring appropriate hand hygiene is practiced thereby reducing transmission of health care associated infections.

The Board was updated on the Patient Experience Council. The Council has three patient members and is recruiting for a fourth. The goal of the Council is to improve the health care experience of all patients.

The **Governance & Human Resources Committee** brought one item to members for approval and one for information.

The Board approved revisions to three policies:

- Orientation & Education for New Directors;
- Influenza Control Policy and,
- Taxpayer Accountability Principles.

The Committee is developing a list of Board Education topics. These education sessions involve employees or guests who are invited to speak on chosen topics to educate the Board and highlight work within PHSA's and BCEHS's mandates.

The **Finance Committee** brought to members five items for approval and two for information.

The Board approved the following:

- A revised Board Compensation and Expense policy, following minor revisions.
- An amendment to the Support Services Agreement with BC Clinical and Support Services
- Three contracts for site support services contracted by PHSA – two with Compass Groups Canada Ltd and one with Sodexo Canada Ltd.
- An updated capital fund of \$78.8 million.
- A revised operating budget for PHSA to reflect an increase in MOH funding of \$15.7M for program changes and contract staff wage funding; and the agency's portion of the research and designated contributions and amortization of deferred capital contributions.

The building envelope of the Phase Two C&W redevelopment project is anticipated to be completed in September. The Phase Three Business Plan was approved by Treasury Board and ratified by Cabinet.

Management provided the Committee with a Financial Summary for the three periods ended June 16, 2016. PHSA is forecasting to end the fiscal year with a balanced budget, and to achieve a capital spend of 100% of the target by year-end.

The **Audit Committee** had no items for information or approval.

The **Research Committee** reported on two items.

The Research Committee heard a presentation from Dr. Brad Nelson, Director of the BC Cancer Agency's Deeley Research Centre in Victoria, on cancer immunotherapy. Dr. Nelson's lab studies the immune response to cancer, particularly in the areas of ovarian, breast and lymphoid cancers. In collaboration with BC Cancer Agency's Genome Science Centre, Dr. Nelson is leading a province-wide clinical trial to evaluate use of T-cell therapy in which active cancer-fighting T-cells from patients will be extracted, multiplied, and infused back into the patient. The clinical trial, supported with funding from the BC Cancer Foundation, will begin next year.

The Committee received an update on HSPNet, a comprehensive, web-enabled practice education management system for health sciences which matches students to available placements in health organizations. HSPNet was developed in BC in 2003 under the auspices of the BC Academic Health Council and in partnership with an external vendor. When the council dissolved, PHSA took on responsibility for HSPNet, which is used by eight Canadian provinces and has also been introduced in New Zealand.

**Next Meeting** of the board in public is scheduled for October 20, 2016 in Vancouver.