



## Team updates

We are excited to announce the latest additions to our team!



**John-Marc Priest** (RN, MCL) joined us on December 6 as director, Trauma Services BC. John-Marc began his career at Herfordshire Hospitals NHS trust in North London, England in 1999. In 2006, he moved to Canada for an opportunity to be an ER nurse at Royal Jubilee Hospital.

Quickly, he progressed in roles within Island Health, becoming the Patient Flow Project Manager from 2012 to 2015 and transitioning into the role of Regional Manager for Access Strategy, where he started to work towards developing a trauma service. In 2016, he became the Regional Manager of Trauma, Forensic Nursing and Violence Prevention.

John-Marc will be a key member of our leadership team, and work closely with our internal and external stakeholders to execute TSBC's renewed strategic vision and priorities.

Email: [johnmarc.priest@phsa.ca](mailto:johnmarc.priest@phsa.ca)



**Dr. Mike Christian** (MD, MSc, FRCPC, DRCPC) joined us on December 13 as provincial medical director, Trauma Services BC. Mike is a senior health-care leader with nearly 30 years of experience, starting out his career as a paramedic.

Over the course of his medical career, he has held many senior level appointments including Chief Safety Officer and Medical Director of Critical Care Response Teams in Ontario. He completed his fellowships in Critical Care Medicine at McMaster University and his Masters of Science in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the UK. A forever learner, he is currently completing a Masters in Business Administration through Durham University.

Recently relocated back to Canada from the UK, Mike brings his passion and expertise in critical care medicine as well as military, disaster, aviation and pre-hospital medicine. He is an active medical researcher and health-care quality improvement specialist. His knowledge and focus on health system quality will be key to leading Trauma Services BC to reach its strategic goals. Mike will work closely with our executive director, internal leadership team and provincial partners to establish TSBC's renewed strategic vision and priorities.

Email: [Michael.christian@bcehs.ca](mailto:Michael.christian@bcehs.ca)



**Mei Chong** (MSc,BS) joined us on March 28 as provincial lead, Data Evaluation and Analytics, Trauma Services BC. Mei has many years of experience working as a senior biostatistician in the BC Centre for Disease Control, providing various services to multi-disciplinary teams.

Her services include, but are not limited to, statistical consultations, study design, data management, data analysis, data visualization, interpretation and manuscript write-up. She was the analytics leader for multiple provincial programs. Mei also helped develop best-practice systems/platforms, mentored analytical staff for continuity and sustainability, and built strategic partnerships and collaborations with diverse groups. Mei enjoys walking/hiking in nature, baking, and travelling in her free time. Alaska will be her next travel destination in early May.

---

## New Trauma Program: Update from IHA

After many years of planning and collaboration, Interior Health launched its Trauma Services Network in 2021.

New inpatient trauma services have been established at both tertiary trauma centres in the interior. Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops opened their trauma service in May 2021 and Kelowna General Hospital began their trauma service in October 2021. The interdisciplinary trauma services provide comprehensive care for patients with complex injuries in their respective catchment areas. Dedicated physician teams are available on site during daytime hours and on call after-hours seven days a week.



Some highlights from the extensive trauma nursing education from the IH TSN include education of more than 110 inpatient nurses, creation of online learning modules for trauma nursing fundamentals, and coordination of trauma specific courses. The network has supported the relaunch of trauma quality councils at RIH and KGH, as well as the Regional Trauma Council that aims to improve system-wide quality and efficiency. The IH TSN will continue to be involved in provincial trauma work and the TSN team is looking forward to ongoing engagement with our provincial partners.

The IH TSN has many opportunities for growth as we become established. Our goals for the near future include enhancing supports for and communication with regional and rural trauma sites in the interior, continuing with trauma education for emergency department nurses, working with partners to optimize transport in the region, and learning more about the needs of our patients and professionals at the bedside.

For more information about the IH TSN, feel free to email [traumaservicesnetwork@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:traumaservicesnetwork@interiorhealth.ca).



## Research and analytics update

### 2019 PROVINCIAL GUIDELINE

#### Pre-hospital Triage and Transport Guidelines for Adult and Pediatric Major Trauma in British Columbia

### The Getting to the Right Place: Implementation of Triage and Transportation Guidelines in Fraser Health

Over 450,000 people are treated in emergency departments across BC each year. The most severely injured among them experience better outcomes if they're treated at designated trauma centres which are best equipped to care for patients with serious, life-threatening injuries. In order to improve health outcomes for patients with major trauma, BC Emergency Services (BCEHS), Trauma Services BC (TSBC) and the province's health authorities worked together to develop Provincial Pre-Hospital Trauma Triage and Transport Guidelines. Released in February 2019, the goal of the guidelines was to standardize recognition and destination decision-making among paramedics, to ensure patients with major trauma are transported to the right place.

TSBC, BCEHS, and Fraser Health Authority (chosen as the pilot site) established a working group, including patients and Indigenous Peoples, to implement the guidelines. Frontline paramedics were surveyed to inform the education and communication strategy, and changes to the electronic patient health record were created to help identify major trauma patients. Prior to this project, it was difficult to assess whether paramedics were recognizing major trauma patients and choosing the right destination. BCEHS and TSBC worked together to link data from pre-hospital electronic health records to in-hospital data from the BC Trauma Registry.

This linkage allowed BCEHS to understand the impact of pre-hospital care on a patient's journey through the health care system, and permitted it to identify when major trauma patients within Fraser Health were being transported to a lead trauma hospital.

The guidelines, supported by education and continuous evaluation, had an immediate and positive impact. Between April 1, 2019, and March 31, 2020, 81 percent of patients who sustained major trauma were transported directly to a lead trauma hospital – an increase of 28 percent. Paramedic compliance was 88.5 per cent, and 92.6 percent of patients had their care records successfully linked. Through the integration of previously fragmented data sets and effective guidelines, this project helped to improve patient outcomes.

With the Fraser Health pilot proving the value of this project, TSBC and BCEHS are leveraging strong relationships with provincial stakeholders to spread this project across BC. The project's value extends beyond emergency care: the linked data platform can be used to support other provincial health initiatives and improve understanding of health care system performance.

## Interdisciplinary Trauma Network BC

ITNBC would like to highlight some of the work our members and the group are working on, with each edition.

Island Health serves a population of over 850,000 people and with three trauma centres. Two Level 2 centres at Victoria General Hospital and Royal Jubilee Hospital, and one Level 3 centre at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. There are Trauma Coordinators at each site, working as a team, and each of us sits on ITNBC and its working groups.

Island Health is working to align its trauma system within the province to provide optimal care to injured patients. This includes implementing work done at TSBC in Tiers of Service and Trauma Team Activation criteria, for example.

Tiers of Service will detail the network of hospitals as an integrated trauma system, verify the trauma capabilities of each site on the Island and identify levels of care so that patients continue to receive timely and optimal trauma care. The work on Tiers of Service integrates with and informs much of the work our Trauma programs on the Island are working on, such as working towards a Trauma Service at some facilities.

TSBC and ITNBC members have collaborated on provincial Trauma Team Activation criteria, which will be implemented at sites across Island Health. This will standardize responses to injured patients across all acute care sites so whether a patient is injured in Victoria or Campbell River, they can expect timely and appropriate care.

Our Island team has also been working within ITNBC to discuss and improve communication of patient outcomes and quality assurance of trauma care as patients move within our health authority and within the province. All of this work is in keeping with Island Health's vision: Excellent health and care for everyone, everywhere, every time. Vancouver Island Trauma Service hopes to maintain this vision with goals and projects such as Tiers of Service and Trauma Team Activation in collaboration with TSBC and ITNBC.



## Trauma-related education opportunities

### BC Trauma Rounds

#### Vancouver Coastal Health

Every Tuesday at noon, via Zoom. View all upcoming rounds at the [TSBC News & Events page](#), or download the [poster](#).

#### Fraser Health

View a repository of presentations of Fraser Health Trauma Grand Rounds (recorded by telehealth) on [LearningHub](#).

May 19: Dr. Adam Power Vascular Surgeon  
LHSC Victoria Hospital: REBOA and COBRA



### Advanced Trauma Life Support

Visit the [ATLS website](#) for information on available courses. More education information is available in the resources section of the [Trauma Services website](#).

### Stop the Bleed

May 19: Online training. Get details at the [Stop the Bleed \(Canada\) website](#).



## Quick links

[Trauma Services BC](#)

[Specialist Trauma Advisory Network \(STAN\)](#)

[Trauma Association of Canada \(TAC\)](#)