

*Province-wide solutions.
Better health.*

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Summary of April 12, 2007 Board Meeting

Public Presentations and Question and Answer Period

In the spirit of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) provides opportunities for the public to schedule presentations and to ask questions of the board prior to the beginning of every open board meeting.

The Provincial Health Services (PHSA) Board Brief summarizes the board meetings of the PHSA. It is sent to PHSA agencies, government, media and other stakeholders to keep them informed about the activities of the PHSA.

PHSA Presentations

Dr. Mel Krajden, Director of BC Hepatitis Services and Associate Director, Laboratory Services, and Dr. Robert Brunham, Provincial Executive Director, from the BC Centre for Disease Control presented on how linking data can lead to improved health.

Responsible sharing of data can help identify at-risk populations, opportunities for prevention, drive clinical discoveries and improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of treatment. For instance, data linkage shows new Hepatitis C cases are occurring in younger men and women and that a median of three years elapses between first diagnosis of Hepatitis C and a subsequent HIV diagnosis. Linking this data provides insights that can lead to development of HIV prevention strategies.

David Lemon, Executive Director, Health Arts Society, presented on the Artsway Program: Healing with Music and Art.

Musical performances reduce feelings of isolation felt by long-term clients of institutions. Forensic Psychiatric Hospital and Riverview Hospital have engaged this independent society to coordinate professional performances for clients by Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, rock and aboriginal musicians. The society is looking to expand its program across the province.

Ian Sheppard, Acting Director, Pharmacy Services for BC Children's and BC Women's Hospitals, presented on the ongoing development of an innovative spinal syringe system that promotes patient safety.

Health Canada has approved the device and a BC manufacturer has agreed to produce 500 units for clinical trials. The device is part of a commitment to do the utmost to prevent a rare but fatal medical error from occurring.

CEO Update

A grand opening was held for the **new, \$19-million purpose-built mental health building for children and adolescents** on the Oak Street campus. The province, through PHSA, provided \$13 million and donors to the BC Children's Hospital Foundation provided \$6 million.

BC Transplant Society celebrated its 20th anniversary and recorded its **busiest year on record for transplants** with 236 solid organ transplants and an additional 13 pancreas islet transplants. BC Transplant Society also achieved another milestone - the **150th lung transplant** in the province.

On World Kidney Day, the BC Renal Agency highlighted that **BC has among the best survival rates for kidney disease** but that more public awareness of the disease is required.

BC Centre for Disease Control launched **a new HIV awareness movie produced by First Nation teens in Kitimaat**.

More than 5,400 clients of the Ministry of Human Resources – children and special needs adults – across BC have received anesthetic facility services for non-cosmetic restorative dentistry since the Community Dental Partners Program began in 2003/4.

More than 55,000 people joined the Organ Donor Registry in 2006/7 to give patients a second chance at life. That exceeds the goal of 35,000 and means more than 604,000 British Columbians have their wishes on record. A radio station in Kamloops launched a nine-week campaign in support of organ donation and registration events were held in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Vancouver and at Sikh temples in Surrey.

The **Vancouver Foundation awarded a \$23,500 grant** for the BC Cancer Agency's Genome Science Center and UBC to engage Vancouver high school students in genome science education.

PHSA sponsored posters and flyers as part of a **Chinese Renal Association survey of Asian youth** regarding organ donation.

Three on-site visits have been completed as the **BC Cancer Agency assists the Republic of Ireland** to set up a population-based cancer control system, including a national radiation services program. The Catalonia province of Spain has also requested interaction regarding population-based cancer control.

Stakeholders such as MLAs and Mayors received **new Steps Forward updates on PHSA's progress in their communities** in collaboration with their regional health authority.

PHSA and BC Mental Health & Addiction Services earned three-year accreditation from national evaluators. PHSA was noted for **leading practices in public accountability, organizational values and allocating resources**. BCMHAS was the first healthcare organization in BC to earn accreditation under **21 new patient safety standards**.

Board Committee Reports

The **Finance** committee reported that PHSA ended the most recent fiscal year on track for a balanced budget, pending confirmation by the required review by auditors. Audited financial statements will be published on PHSA's website when available.

Adjournment

The **next meeting** of the board in public is scheduled for **Cranbrook** on June 28, 2007.