

*Province-wide solutions.  
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## Summary of February 1, 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. Robert Peterson, Director of Child Health BC,** presented on a provincial network developed to improve children's access to health services.

PHSA launched Child Health BC, the first collaborative network involving all health authorities and the Ministries of Health and Children and Family Development, to make it easier to get specialized pediatric services throughout all of British Columbia.

**Dr. Adrian Levy, Director of Outcomes Research for the BC Transplant Society,** presented on findings from new research into the medical costs of solid organ transplants.

BC's comprehensive transplant database is unique in the world and assisted the research into trends in organ transplants. Costs are not increasing despite changing trends in the age of recipients and in the criteria for donors.

**Kori Kingsbury, RN, Provincial Executive Director (Interim) of PHSA Cardiac Services,** presented on the role of PHSA in advancing specialized cardiac care in BC.

PHSA Cardiac Services plans, coordinates, funds and evaluates adult tertiary cardiac services at four open-heart surgery sites, one heart

transplant site, two electrophysiology sites and six cardiac catheter labs in BC. Wait times for open-heart surgery have been cut in half and PHSA Cardiac Services is engaged in promoting improved standardization and best practices in care across BC.

**Dr. Adeera Levin, Provincial Executive Director of the BC Renal Agency**, presented on the successes that BC's "virtual network" is having by working together for better kidney health.

Renal Agency initiatives have resulted in earlier identification of kidney disease patients. This means patients have more opportunity– up to two years in some cases – than in the past to better manage their chronic disease and avoid frequent dialysis treatments.

## CEO Update

Minister of Health George Abbott joined PHSA , the BC Children's Hospital Foundation and hundreds of guests to **open the new \$19-million free-standing building for mental health staff and patients**. Child & Adolescent Mental Health & Addiction Services has moved into the former Jean Matheson Memorial Pavilion on the Oak Street campus.

Child Health BC and the BC Children's Hospital Foundation announced a **generous \$20-million corporate donation from Overwaitea Foods to support expanded access for children in BC's regions to specialized health services**. Child Health BC is participating in discussions with the health authorities regarding capital funding opportunities for regional sub-specialty clinics.

**BC performed a record number of solid organ transplants (233)** in the 2006 calendar year. In addition, 13 islet cell transplants occurred. By comparison, the previous high for BC was set in 2001 when 218 solid organ transplants were performed. The year 2006 saw both living donor and deceased donor transplants increase significantly with more than 100 living kidney transplants performed.

**A new, temporary inpatient unit was created** at BC Children's Hospital to manage the patient surge that comes with each cold and flu season. Funding for the unit comes from a one-time Ministry of Health initiative to reduce waiting times for Emergency patients.

**More than 500 women signed up for their first mammogram in just one week** following a promotion between the BC Cancer Agency and the traveling BodyWorlds exhibit.

The **BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health** celebrated its **10th anniversary** on January 18, 2007. This research centre was unique among similar centres because it was established in a hospital instead of a university setting. This relationship has enabled a partnership between BC Women's and the Centre to support the development and implementation of plans for translating knowledge into system change, such as the Maternity Care Enhancement Project and the Act Now Health Choices in Pregnancy initiative.

More than 1,000 delegates attended the 2006 Partners in Cancer Care/Annual Scientific Meeting. The **first Annual Community Cancer Care Award was presented to Janice MacDonald**, an oncology nurse at the Cancer Clinic at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops.

The BC Renal Agency, in partnership with Interior Health, has **developed a true electronic chart for chronic disease management**. The chart is based on the work-flow processes of the **Penticton Integrated Health Centre**, which cares for individuals with the co-morbidities of kidney disease, heart disease and diabetes.

**PHSA Laboratories is using Lean process-improvements** to work towards one-to-two-week turnaround time for PAP smears, which will be one of the best turnaround times in Canada.

PHSA sourced and distributed **more than 13,000 litres of bottled water** to agencies to manage the impacts of the Greater Vancouver boil water advisory on patients and staff.

## **Board Committee Reports**

The **Finance** committee recommended, and the board approved, a motion to invest \$5.7 million over three years to upgrade infusion pumps at BC Children's Hospital to meet future need for expansion and pending changes to patient safety standards.

The **Finance** committee reported that PHSA recorded \$5.3 million unfavourable to plan for the year-to-date (as of November 30, 2006). This represents less than 0.5 per cent of PHSA's overall 2006-7 budget of more than \$1.2 billion. The projection for fiscal year-end is on target for a balanced budget.

## **Adjournment**

The **next meeting** of the board in public is scheduled for **Vancouver** on April 12, 2007.