

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

Summary of August 18, 2011 Board Meeting

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) board has six scheduled open board meetings a year. As a health authority with a province-wide mandate, the PHSA is committed to holding open board meetings outside the Lower Mainland twice a year. The August 18, 2011 open board meeting was held in Vancouver.

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.

With our provincial mandate, we hold our board meetings throughout the province twice a year. These meetings circulate around the province.

The Board of Directors received two public presentations the first from Ms. Joan Rush who presented on behalf of those adults within BC which are affected by severe mental and developmental disabilities and for whom complete sedation is required in order to provide dental care. The second presentation was from Ms. Sherry Baker, Executive Director of the BC Association of Community Response Networks, who outlined the work of her organization in 35 communities around British Columbia addressing the issues of elder abuse, neglect and self-abuse.

Board Chair, Mr. Wynne Powell, stated that while both sets of issues were compelling they did not fall under purvey of the Provincial Health Services Authority. He did commit to both presenters that he would send letters of support along with their presentations to the relevant government ministries in an effort to assist in raising their issues within government.

Presentations (available on request)

Leslie Varley, Director, Aboriginal Health, PHSA and **Dr. Evan Adam**, Provincial Aboriginal Physician Advisor, gave a presentation on the PHSA Indigenous Cultural Competency Training. This initiative is a unique, facilitated on-line training program designed to increase knowledge, enhance self-awareness, and strengthen the skills of those who work both directly and indirectly with Aboriginal people. The goal of the ICC training is to further develop individual competencies and promote positive partnerships. Skilled facilitators guide and support each participant through dynamic and interactive learning modules, with topics that include:

- Terminology
- Diversity
- Aspects of colonial history such as Indian residential schools and Indian Hospitals
- Time line of historical events
- Contexts for understanding social disparities and inequities

The training was created in response to the Transformative Change Accord First Nations Health Plan requirement to increase cultural competency within Health Authorities through Action Item 19: First Nations and the Province will develop a curriculum for cultural competency for health authorities.

Board Committee Reports

The **Quality and Access Committee** reported that the Accreditation Canada results are one of our key governance processes and one of the most effective ways to examine and improve the quality of our services. Three areas under the PHSA umbrella were recently surveyed (BCCA Ambulatory System Cancer Therapy Pilot Survey, BC Mental Health & Addiction Services and BC Centre for Disease Control). All received accreditation with no conditions – excellent results and all should be congratulated.

The Annual Report from the Patient Care Quality Review Board has been released. Only three cases from PHSA were reviewed with only one of those resulting in recommendations. Management advises that all commitments have been met and no issues are outstanding.

The **Governance and Human Resources Committee** reported that during the accreditation process, four surveyors met with the Board regarding the specifics of how our board functions. The strengths they noted related to our commitment, passion, focus on quality and safety and our strong stakeholder engagement. They highlighted the governance process focus on the value of patients first. Our Engagement Survey is now complete and we are pleased with our response rate of 63.85% in comparison in 2009 to 56% and in 2007 to 47%. Generally speaking an increased response rate is usually a positive sign. We look forward to receiving the outcomes of the survey which are expected to be reported out in October.

The **Finance Committee** reported that although we are early into the fiscal year, the committee had a good discussion regarding the financial situation for the current year. There is nothing on the horizon that management is aware of that would lead us to be concerned about our situation.

All staff working on the Northern Cancer project deserve congratulations. This project is going extremely well and continues on time, on budget and on scope.

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