

May 6, 2005 (**April 28, 2005 Board Meeting**)

Public Question and Answer Period

In the spirit of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of the Provincial Health Services Authority now holds a 30 minute Public Q&A prior to the beginning of every open board meeting.

PHSA Presentations

Ann Syme, Provincial Program and Network Leader for Pain and Symptom Management/Palliative Care at the BC Cancer Agency, and David Gavin, Director, Knowledge Transfer, BC Cancer Agency provided a presentation on the BC Cancer Agency provincial networks.

The BC Cancer Agency has established networks to share best practices and knowledge amongst practitioners in community oncology, rehabilitation, palliative care, surgical oncology, pediatric oncology and hematology, family practice oncology and oral oncology.

Networks are informal learning communities that foster communication and collaboration amongst practitioners in these areas.

Dr. Ron Manley and a parent and client of the Eating Disorders Program presented on the Provincial Eating Disorders Program and the efforts of the Looking Glass Foundation. Pediatric in-patient programs and out-patient programs are offered at BC Children's Hospital, and adult in-patient and out-patient programs are offered through St. Paul's Hospital.

The presentation provided an overview of the **Provincial Eating Disorders Program**, a one-week camp for eating disorder clients offered for the first time last summer, as well as efforts by the **Looking Glass Foundation** to establish a full-time not for profit residential program.

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.

Dr. Sterling Clarren, CEO and Scientific Director of the Canada Northwest Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Network provided a presentation on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Dr. Clarren's presentation provided an overview of Western Canada's network to link Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder research related to surveillance, prevention, diagnosis and intervention. The Provincial Health Services Authority hosts the Network, which is coordinating research demonstration projects and identifying priorities for research to make a difference in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

CEO Update

Richmond Hospital's pediatric surgery daycare program will be expanded to include surgeries performed by BC Children's surgeons starting April 6th.

The establishment of a new **Women's Health Research Institute (WHRI)** for BC and dedicated funding was announced on March 8th at BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre.

The Screening Mammography Program of BC (SMPBC) has exceeded planned service levels of 232,000 screens in 2004/05.

Opening celebrations were held in March for **Sandringham Care Centre** in Victoria and **Seven Sisters in Terrace**, while Riverview Hospital patients continue to transfer to these two facilities. As well, seven patients are scheduled to transfer to Bulkley Lodge in Smithers, five to Polson Place in Vernon, and two to North Peace Care Centre in Fort St. John during this reporting period.

In February, the BC Provincial Renal Agency distributed to all family physicians a revised **brochure and pocket card on early identification of chronic kidney disease**. The materials are designed to raise awareness of risk factors, symptoms and recommended screening.

BC's Meningococcal C immunization program, currently focused on babies and grade 9 students, is being expanded to provide vaccines for a grade 12 cohort. This enhancement will bring more rapid coverage of the population of British Columbians who are entering a period of life where they will be at higher risk.

The **BC Transplant Society** has been invited by Health Canada to become the pilot site for a new system for reporting adverse events pertaining to organ transplantation.

The food production and delivery systems at **Riverview Hospital** have been totally changed and modernized, resulting in savings of \$540,000.

Human Resources is developing a three-year plan to recognize trends, capture needs and identify strategies related to the attraction of new nursing grads and experienced nurses.

The open heart surgical wait list is continuing to decrease. To achieve the target wait list of approximately 300, the appropriate number of open heart cases will be at the 2004/05 base number of 3,253 for the province. There were an additional 163 cases funded in 2004/05 on a one time basis.

Best practice reviews and a BC environmental scan of activities for **tobacco control and healthy weights** have been completed and are being finalized for printing and distribution to stakeholders. Recommendations for interventions for healthy weights to tackle childhood obesity were presented to the Childhood Obesity Forum.

As part of the NetworkBC project, the Provincial Health Services Health is participating in a **new telecommunications services agreement between TELUS and the 'Greater Public Sector'** (provincial government, health authorities and crown corporations). Benefits to PHSA include a \$360K technology fund and a reduction in telecommunication costs of about \$200K per year. In addition TELUS will be providing Internet/network connectivity to several hundred new communities in BC, facilitating the delivery of health care services to these communities.

Board Committee Reports

The Finance Committee recommended and the Board approved the Provincial Health Services Authority \$32.1 million capital budget for 2005/06.

The Governance & HR Committee reported on the Provincial Health Services Authority's progress related to governance and disclosure guidelines, code of conduct and conflict of interest guidelines and the Provincial Health Services Authority Annual Symposium, an annual education event for the Board.

The Quality & Access Committee reported on health quality improvement activities, accreditation and work related to patient satisfaction surveys.