

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

## Summary of August 26, 2010 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 26, 2010 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 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 board did not receive any questions from the public at this event.

### Presentations

#### **The Provincial Blood Coordinating Office (PBCO) & BC Blood Contingency Plan**

Patty Thorne, Provincial Director, PBCO, provided an overview on the Provincial Blood Coordinating Office which was established by the Ministry of Health Services in 1997 to support implementation of Krever Commission recommendations regarding hospital transfusion services. The mandate of the PBCO is to inspire and facilitate best transfusion practice and promote the appropriate, safe, standardized and sustainable use of blood, blood products and their alternatives throughout BC.

Through the PBCO, BC is the only province that has a central transfusion registry. This includes every patient that has received a blood product since 1999.

Recent PBCO projects include:

- Subcutaneous immune globulin resource kit to help health authorities establish standardized home infusion programs;
- Intravenous immune globulin web-based request module to help hospital lab staff securely, efficiently and effectively manage requests;
- Transfusion reaction toolkit to help hospital, clinical and lab staff identify, manage and investigate transfusion reactions;
- Transparent blood inventory system to provide hospitals and Canadian Blood Services with a web-based weekly snapshot of how much blood is available in the province and where it is located; and
- BC Blood Contingency Plan.

Dr. Louis Wadsworth, PBCO's Medical Director spoke on the BC Blood Contingency Plan—a plan developed to meet regulatory requirements and to provide an ongoing availability of blood essential to BC health care.

#### **Women's Health in the Global Village**

Dr. Jan Christilaw, President, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre and Dorothy Shaw, Clinical Professor, Obstetrics/Gynecology, UBC spoke on health issues affecting women

around the world. They provided some alarming facts on maternal mortality and emphasized the fact that it is a global responsibility to deal with this issue.

PHSA is helping to address this issue and make progress in this area through involvement in many national and international organizations in particular, a partnership with Makerere University, numerous research projects and teaching and residency exchanges.

BC Women's Hospital partners with the Canadian Network for International Surgery and is responsible for the obstetrical programming. Each year, BC Women's raises funds which are matched and leveraged with the Canadian International Development Agency. Other PHSA agencies such as the BC Cancer Agency, BC Children's Hospital, and the BC Centre for Disease Control are also involved in these efforts.

## **Board Committee Reports**

The **Quality and Access Committee** provided an update on the patient safety review and proposed that the COO be the appropriate person to monitor status reports. It also proposed an update to the PHSA's corporate communications policy to reflect Lower Mainland Consolidation. Both motions were carried.

The **Governance and Human Resources Committee** praised the success of PHSA's imPROVE initiative. imPROVE is based on the principles of Lean thinking which seeks out and implements better processes to reduce waste and maximize efficiency without compromising patient care. The ministry has identified this as one of nine initiatives to focus on. It was suggested that an overview of the initiative be integrated into the board member initiation package. It also discussed metric indicators as strategies to reduce lost time claims and the collaboration with Worksafe BC to focus on this issue.

The **Finance Committee** provided a progress report on the YTD budget. There is only one active capital project (Northern Cancer Clinic) which is on time and budget. In terms of the operating budget, the committee has sufficient information to predict a balanced budget.

The **Audit Committee** recommended that KPMG be appointed as the auditor for the 2010/11 fiscal year; the motion was carried.

The **Research Committee** recently toured the BC Cancer Research Centre to gain a better understanding of patient benefits. Committee members also received presentations on intellectual property development and genomics.

## **Adjournment**

The next public board meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2010 in Victoria.

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PHSA Board Briefs are available on line at <http://www.phsa.ca/AboutPHSA/PHSABoard/BoardBriefs.htm>

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