
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 October 30, 2008 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.

With our provincial mandate, we circulate our board meetings throughout the province and hold two of these meetings outside of Vancouver each year.

There were no public presentations at the October 30 meeting, which was held in Campbell River. The board did not receive any questions from the public at this event.

PHSA Presentations

Dr. Bob Peterson, Director, **Child Health BC** and **Allison Cutler**, Executive Director, **Primary Health Care, Population & Family Health (VIHA)** gave a presentation entitled “Partnership with VIHA: Child and Youth Health Services.”

The presentation focused on children and the health care system and the recognition that children should receive family-centred care with the right services at the right place at the right time. It also looked at the network’s mandate, the goals of Child Health BC, strategies and objectives.

Ms. Cutler talked about the Children’s Ambulatory Health Care Centre, a partnership between VIHA and Child Health BC, which will be completed in April 2009 and will be housed at the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. Other themes of the presentation included the need to build a wellness driven system for children through a variety of early year programs, care and services.

BC Cancer Agency’s **Dr. Mira Keyes**, head of the **Provincial Prostate Brachytherapy Program**, gave a presentation on the success of the brachytherapy program.

In 2008, the program, which treats prostate cancer by implanting radioactive seeds into the prostate, celebrated its 10-year anniversary. Dr. Keyes gave an overview of the program and spoke about the advantages of such a treatment in term of the low rates of cancer recurrence, low risk of complications, patient convenience and cost effectiveness.

Dr. Keyes also described how BC has the largest prostate brachytherapy program in Canada with a high degree of excellence in terms of quality.

Board Committee Reports

The **Quality and Access Committee** reported on its initiatives “dashboard” which is a report that gives the board an updated status on initiatives. The committee also mentioned a presentation it received on the new clinical information system. It was noted that the project will take a significant amount of time and financial investment over 8-10 years, but is important for the long-term success of PHSA.

The **Governance and Human Resources Committee** reported that it was very keen to review a workplace strategy that looks at the six most critical areas of HR in health. Those areas include absenteeism, engagement and safety issues, to name a few. The committee also said it has been reviewing various policies and had some discussion with the board of developing a board best practices and governance policy.

The **Finance Committee** reported that although PHSA is in the middle of the budget year, the organization is on budget both with respect to capital and spending. The committee will begin next year’s budget planning soon.

The **Audit Committee** did not have any items to report.

The **Research Committee** reported that it reviewed the framework for PHSA research performance metrics. The committee looked at various research measures and looked at how best to report those measures so they are meaningful to PHSA.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the board in public is scheduled for Thursday, December 11 in Vancouver at BCIT’s Downtown Campus located at 555 Seymour Street.

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