

700 – 1380 Burrard St.
Vancouver, BC
V6H 2H3 Canada

604 675 7400 tel
604 708 2700 fax
www.phsa.ca web

September 8, 2003 (August 28, 2003 Board Meeting)

The August 28, 2003 board meeting of the Provincial Health Services Authority was scheduled to take place in Kelowna, BC. Due to the fire situation in Kelowna, the decision was made on August 25 to reschedule the meeting to Vancouver. This change of location was advertised in Kelowna and Vancouver newspapers.

Public Presentations

The PHSA board invited members of the public to register to make public presentations prior to its August 28, 2003 board meeting. No requests to present to the board were received.

PHSA Agency Presentations

The board received a presentation from **Dr. Adeera Levin, Provincial Executive Director of the BC Provincial Renal Agency**. Dr. Levin's presentation focused on the achievements made by the Renal Agency since it was created in 1997. Renal (kidney) disease is at epidemic proportions in BC with annual growth of 5-10%. The Renal Agency has developed an initiative in partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Kidney Foundation BC Branch, and other organizations, aimed at diagnosing and effectively treating people at an earlier point in the disease's progression in order to reduce the personal costs to patients, and the financial costs to the system.

The board also received a presentation from **Ron Zapp, Provincial Executive Director of the BC Centre for Disease Control**. The presentation provided an overview of the functions of the BCCDC, including its current efforts and success in responding to emerging public health issues such as SARS, Chlamydia, and the West Nile Virus.

Dr. Simon Sutcliffe, President of the BC Cancer Agency, provided a presentation to the board that discussed potential models for cancer control that would better support the translation of research to improve the health of the population with respect to cancer. The board passed a motion expressing support for the continued development of this conceptual model.

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.

Media Conference Call with Board Chair and CEO

PHSA board chair Wynne Powell, and Executive Vice President Michael Marchbank will be available to answer media questions related to the PHSA board meeting through a conference call on Thursday, September 11 from 11 – 11:30 am.

Please phone Communications at 604-675-7474 before 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 10 for details on how to register for the call. A 1-800 number is available for the conference call throughout B.C.

CEO Update

BC Women's and the PHSA are partners with Vancouver Coastal Health Authority in the **South Community Birth Initiative**. This unique project was developed by the BC Women's Departments of Family Practice and Midwifery and the Family Practice Maternity Program. Working with community health nurses, the team has designed a comprehensive approach to the provision of primary maternity care for women living in South East Vancouver. This is one of four projects funded through the PHSA's part of the Primary Health Care Transition Fund. PHSA is also participating in partnerships with the Northern Health Authority (health services access for women in rural communities), Vancouver Island Health Authority (managed chronic care for people with advanced kidney disease) and the Interior Health Authority (family practice maternity services).

A **nursery redesign initiative** at BC Women's was undertaken to improve care for women, infants and their families by consolidating existing nurseries and supporting the preferred "rooming in" model of care when appropriate for the mother and infant. Major milestones in the implementation of this project have included the opening of the Fir Square unit in which care for substance using women and their infants has been consolidated, and training of nursing staff in care of babies rooming in with their mothers. The final stage of this project is the enlargement of the special care nursery to incorporate the 10-bed neonatal care nursery, a project that will also result in improvement of space for families. Completion of this consolidation project will result not only in better care for patients, but also in reduced operating costs.

The BC Cancer Agency is developing a proposal for a **BC colo-rectal screening program**. The proposal, expected in September 2003, will involve fecal occult blood screening in the asymptomatic, standard risk, over 50 years population.

PHSA Mental Health is proceeding with planning for the tertiary acute component of the **BC Neuropsychiatry Program**. There is full support for a single provincial service, and all health authorities will provide representatives to participate in a comprehensive planning process.

Board Committee Reports

The **Audit and Finance Committee** reviewed the report on Operations for Period 4. PHSA's financial plan projects a deficit for the 2003/04 fiscal year, which will be covered by the surplus achieved last year as part of PHSA's commitment to balance its budget over the 2002/03 and 2003/04 fiscal years. To date, PHSA is \$3.8 million ahead of plan for the current fiscal year.

The **Audit and Finance Committee** recommended and the board passed a motion appointing KPMG as external auditors for the PHSA and its branch societies. The committee recommended and the board passed a motion to approve the PHSA financial management policy, which aligns financial incentives and results. The committee also recommended and the board approved motions to accept financial policies on banking and borrowing.

The board also passed a motion approving the reappointment of Dr. Robert Armstrong, Robert Pringle, and Lynda Cranston to the BC's Children's Hospital Foundation board as PHSA appointments. The board also passed a motion approving the extension of Stephanie Carolson's appointment to the Children's Hospital Foundation board by one year in order to enable her to act as Vice Chair.

Annual General Meeting

Immediately following its regular meeting, the PHSA board held its annual general meeting in accordance with its bylaws. Following a report to the members, PHSA Chair Wynne Powell tabled two documents: PHSA Steps Forward, which provides a progress report on the activities of the PHSA to August 2003, and the Annual Report of the Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission.

The board passed a motion approving the PHSA audited financial statements for the fiscal year 2002/2003. The board also passed a motion re-electing Lynda Cranston as Secretary Treasurer of the PHSA board. In addition, the board voted to appoint Denise Turner as PHSA vice chair.

Annual general meetings for the five branch societies of the PHSA were held immediately following the PHSA AGM. These include the BC Cancer Agency Branch, the BC Centre for Disease Control and Prevention Society Branch, the BC Mental Health Society Branch, the BC Transplant Society Branch and the Children's & Women's Health Centre of BC Branch. No other business was brought forward in the branch society AGMs.