

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC TELECONFERENCE MEETING (“MEETING”)  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (THE “BOARD”)  
OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY (“PHSA”)  
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021  
AT 9:30 A.M.**

**In Attendance:**

<b>Directors:</b>	Tim Manning, Chair	Dr. Ken Bassett	Lorianna Bennett
	Donisa Bernardo	Suki Gill ( <i>in part</i> )	Sandra Martin Harris
	Dr. Kerry Jang	Robert Kiesman ( <i>in part</i> )	Chief Clarence Louie
	Gary Pooni	Sharon Stromdahl	David Turchen

**Guests:** Elder Lillian Howard  
Craig Ivany, Chief Provincial Diagnostics Officer, Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services

<b>Management:</b>	Dr. David Byres	Laurie Dawkins	Jaci Edgeworth
	Lexie Flatt	Michael Lord	Scott MacNair
	Kendra McPherson	Dr. Maureen O'Donnell	Donna Wilson
	Susan Wannamaker	Cathy Prentice (Recorder)	

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Tim Manning, Board Chair, called the Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. It was established that a quorum of the Board was present. Ms. Cathy Prentice was appointed recording secretary of the Meeting.

**2.0 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair provided the land acknowledgement.

**3.0 INDIGENOUS WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed Elder Lillian Howard to provide the Indigenous Welcome for the meeting. The Chair advised Elder Lillian is Mowachaht from the West Coast of Vancouver Island. She is of Nuu-Chah-nulth, Kwakwaka/wakw and Tlingit ancestry. Elder Lillian works part time at the Provincial Health Services Authority in Indigenous Health. She sits on the Vancouver Urban Indigenous Advisory Committee, Vancouver Police Department Indigenous Advisory Committee, Douglas College Aboriginal Advisory Committee, West Coast LEAF Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra Indigenous Council. Elder Lillian is an Indigenous, environmental and social justice advocate.

**4.0 CHAIR ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC**

The Chair provided an address to the public and thanked PHSA and BCEHS staff for their efforts during this unprecedented time in facing both the ongoing opioid crisis and COVID-19 pandemic. The Chair advised that Chief Clarence Louie will receive an honorary degree from the University of British Columbia Okanagan, after serving as Chief of the Osoyoos Indian Band for 37 years.

The Chair thanked Director Lorianna Bennett for her tenure on the Board advising that her term will conclude on May 30, 2021. Director Bennett is a co-owner of a boutique law firm in Kamloops and she will not seek a term renewal due to familial responsibilities and an increasing workload related to impacts of COVID 19. Director Bennett participated on every committee at various times and chaired the Research Committee and most currently the Quality & Access Committee. The Chair advised Ms. Bennett's expertise and commitment will be missed.

**5.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions from the public were received.

## 6.0 CALL TO ORDER OF THE PHSA OPEN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Tim Manning, Board Chair, called the BCEHS Open Board Meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. It was established that a quorum of the Board was present.

### 6.1 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair requested the Directors to declare any potential conflict with the agenda items. No declarations came forward.

## 7.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the Meeting agenda as circulated.

## 8.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the minutes of the public Board meeting held February 18, 2020.

## 9.0 PRESENTATION

### Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services COVID-19 Response – A Transformational Journey

Ms. Donna Wilson, Executive Vice President, People, Diagnostic and Treatment Services, provided an introduction to Mr. Craig Ivany, Chief Provincial Diagnostics Officer, Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services, PHSA.

Mr. Ivany advised that Pathology and laboratory medicine is an instrumental component of B.C.'s health care system. The timely delivery of high-quality laboratory testing is vital for the health care system to function effectively and efficiently.

B.C. had been moving towards a more integrated and coordinated planning and service delivery model for laboratory medicine and pathology for a number of years when the COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 with little advance warning. The provincial response to the crisis required coordination and execution of laboratory testing of a type and at a scale that was unprecedented, falling broadly into two categories:

- Rapid Polymerase Chain Reaction PCR testing ;
- Whole Genome Sequencing.

To effectively deal with the testing demands, PLMS initiated a province wide Emergency Operations Committee (EOC) and engaged the Medical Microbiology clinical leadership through which the laboratory response and capabilities were coordinated and aligned with the Public Health leadership objectives.

The Lab EOC included operations and medical leadership from each regional health authority, FNHA, MOH, and representatives from private sector laboratories and key PHSA corporate representatives (Communications, Human Resources, Supply Chain, Information Management Information Technology Services, Finance and others). The committee developed the strategy to increase daily testing capacity to 20,000 tests per day by Fall 2020 through nimble province-wide coordination.

Several PHSA services and programs were instrumental in this work: the Public Health Lab (PHL) at the BCCDC and PHSA Supply Chain (already fully functioning as a provincial service supporting each of the regional health authorities and PHSA). IMITS, Human Resources, Communications and other administrative functions were quickly added to the EOC.

Mr. Ivany provided a review of the PowerPoint presentation contained in meeting materials.

Comments and responses to queries were as follows:

- Responding to a comment regarding screening and testing, Mr. Ivany advised that while PLMS makes up 4 to 5% of total health care spend in BC, it impacts on 50 to 70% of clinical decision making, 100% of pathology and 100% of cancers which all require a pathology report.
- Dr. Byres advised that despite the significant increase in demand, median turn-around time for lab testing was 16 hours as of mid-April.
- Regarding the swish and gargle test, Mr. Ivany advised this has applicability beyond children to the larger population; however, in operating large collection centres, the swish and gargle is not as efficient as the swab technique.
- IMITS created interconnectivity between disparate lab systems throughout the province so results could be shared rapidly.
- Regarding rapid result testing, it was noted there are a number of different concepts, i.e., antigen testing and fast reporting through GenX devices which are low volume but can provide a result within one hour.

The Chair thanked Mr. Ivany for his leadership and commitment to move PLMS through COVID with speed and excellence.

## 10.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 10.1 Cultural Safety & Humility

No report.

### 10.2 Quality & Access

Ms. Lorianna Bennett, Chair, Quality & Access Committee, advised of one item for approval.

The Quality & Access Committee is recommending the PHSA Board of Directors approve changing the name of the Quality & Access Committee to the Quality & Safety Committee in order to more explicitly address the Board's and organization's focus on safety.

#### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves that the name of the Quality & Access Committee be changed to Quality & Safety Committee.

### 10.3 People & Governance

On behalf of Mr. Robert Kiesman, Chair, People & Governance Committee, Dr. Ken Bassett provided the People & Governance Committee report advising of three items for approval.

#### Non Contract Compensation Framework

The Committee reviewed the Non Contract Compensation Framework and recommended the Board's approval.

#### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the Non Contract Compensation Framework be approved in the form presented.

#### Appointment of Chair for Quality & Access Committee

With Ms. Lorianna Bennett's term coming to an end on May 30, 2021, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board are nominating Dr. Kerry Jang as the new Chair effective April 30, 2021.

#### Motion

With Dr. Kerry Jang abstaining from the vote, it was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the appointment of Dr. Kerry Jang as the Chair of the Quality and Access Committee effective April 30, 2021, following the conclusion of Lorianna Bennett's term on May 30, 2021.

#### Policy Updates

The Committee carried out its scheduled review of Board Policies. Changes to the Policies were explained in the accompanying briefing notes and discussed in Committee.

#### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves that the following Board Policies, in the form presented in the Meeting materials, with certain changes discussed at the meeting:

- President & CEO Evaluation Policy; and
- President & CEO Terms of Reference.

#### 10.4 Finance

Mr. David Turchen, Chair, Finance Committee, advised of two items for approval.

##### 2020/21 PHSA Capital Fund Update

The Committee reviewed the updated 2020/21 PHSA Capital Fund. The PHSA Board of Directors previously approved the 2020/21 PHSA Capital Fund of \$213.2M. PHSA has received \$7.4M of additional targeted capital funding.

#### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the updated 2020/21 PHSA Capital Fund of \$220.6M.

#### Policy Updates

The Committee reviewed the revised Financial Signing Authority – Board and CEO Policy, Capital Asset Governance Policy and the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee.

#### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the revised Financial Signing Authority – Board and CEO Policy, Capital Asset Governance Policy and the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee.

#### 10.5 Audit

On behalf of Ms. Suki Gill, Chair, Audit Committee, Mr. David Turchen provided the Audit Committee report advising of two items for approval.

##### Audit Committee Terms of Reference

In accordance with the Board Policy Framework which requires all Board approved policies and Terms of Reference be reviewed annually, the Committee reviewed the revised Terms of Reference and recommends approval to the Board.

#### Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the revised Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee.

##### Safe Reporting Policy Review

In accordance with the Board Policy Framework which requires all Board approved policies and Terms of Reference be reviewed annually, the Committee reviewed the revised Safe Reporting Policy. Some initiatives related to safe reporting, anti-racism and diversity policies are currently in progress at PHSA and as such, management expects further changes to the Safe Reporting Policy at the next review.

Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the revised Safe Reporting Policy.

10.6 **Research & Academic Development Committee**

Ms. Sharon Stromdahl, Chair, Research and Academic Development Committee, advised of one item for information and one item for approval.

*For information*

Student Education Road Map

The Research and Academic Development Committee was provided a presentation from Christie Diamond, PHSA's Corporate Director Academic Education, on PHSA's Three-year Roadmap for Student Education. The Roadmap outlines the path to strengthen, modernize and standardize student education both within PHSA and at a provincial level. Important accomplishments achieved in the first year of the road map were highlighted during the presentation. Despite its challenges, the Pandemic acted as a catalyst for provincial stakeholders from post-secondary schools, health authorities and the government to work more closely together in these efforts. Key challenges and opportunities moving forward as PHSA works both internally and with partners to ensure responsiveness to the dynamic needs of preparing BC's future health workforce were highlighted.

*For approval*

Research & Academic Development Committee Terms of Reference

The Research & Academic Development Committee reviewed proposed changes to its Terms of Reference and recommended the PHSA Board of Directors approve the proposed revisions.

Motion

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the PHSA Board of Directors approves the revised Research & Academic Development Committee Terms of Reference reflecting the changes as presented.

**11.0 BUSINESS ARISING**

None identified.

**12.0 NEXT METINGS**

Thursday, June 24, 2021 Location/Format to be confirmed.

**13.0 TERMINATION – the Meeting terminated at 10:30 a.m.**