

Appointment of vice president, Medical and Academic Affairs

Sent by David Byres, president & CEO

It is with great pleasure that I announce Dr. Sean Virani has accepted the position of vice president, Medical and Academic Affairs, with the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA). In this role, Sean will serve as a member of our executive leadership team (ELT) and report to me as PHSA's president and CEO.

Sean currently lives, works and thrives on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the x̱w̱məθkʷəy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. He is a respected physician leader and colleague, having held numerous roles across Providence Health Care (PHC) and Vancouver Coastal Health, as well as PHSA. He is head of the Division of Cardiology for PHC and physician program director with the Heart Centre at St. Paul's Hospital – roles he will continue to hold, further strengthening the partnership between PHC and PHSA. Additionally, Sean is an associate professor with the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia (UBC); medical director with the HeartLife Foundation; past president of the Canadian Heart Failure Society; and a member of the COVID-19 Rapid Response Team representing the Canadian Cardiovascular Society.

Sean earned his Doctor of Medicine at UBC and his Master of Public Health from Columbia University. He has been recognized with several awards and honours throughout his career, including the Dr. Harold N. Segall Award of Merit and the title of Fellow, both from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society.

When it comes to physician engagement, Sean is energetic and passionate. He is also deeply committed to diversity, equity, inclusion and cultural safety as a foundation to providing the highest quality, patient and family-focused care. In accepting this new role, Sean shared with me his desire to foster a culture of innovation and collaboration, where clinical and academic excellence can thrive across all PHSA programs and services, and with our many clinical, academic and research partners.

Officially, he starts his new role with us effective April 1, 2022, but Sean is eager to start making connections in this capacity as soon as possible, and to begin the work of collaborating with other leaders and ELT members. Over the next few weeks, Sean's primary focus will be on facilitating a smooth transition of leadership for some of his current responsibilities related to Cardiac Services BC.

I wish to express my appreciation to all the medical and clinical leaders who participated in the search process for the vice president, Medical and Academic Affairs position, and to all those who will now collaborate with Sean to positively shape medical leadership and engagement at PHSA. I also offer my deepest thanks to Dr. Patrick O'Connor, who has served as our interim

vice president, Medical and Academic Affairs, since the summer. The foundation he has set, and the leadership role he continues to play with the Clinical & Systems Transformation (CST) project, are invaluable to our future success.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Sean Virani to his new role at PHSA.

This message was sent to all staff and medical staff throughout PHSA.

Respect people | Be compassionate | Dare to innovate | Cultivate partnerships | Serve with purpose