



# Trans Care BC is dedicated to the delivery of equitable and accessible care, surgical planning and peer and community support for trans people across the province.

## How we serve the people of B.C.:

Trans Care BC's vision is for a British Columbia where people of all genders are able to access gender-affirming health care, and live, work and thrive in their communities. We are working closely with partners and stakeholders – including transgender communities, regional health authorities, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Children and Family Development to develop a comprehensive provincial network of gender-affirming services.

As the first province in Canada to create a provincial system to support trans health, in late 2015, Trans Care BC is working to offer expanded and sustainable health services by:

- Developing gender-affirming, client-centred models of care.
- Supporting equitable access to gender-affirming and supportive health care for children and youth.
- Ensuring more efficient access to information, resources and peer support for trans/gender diverse individuals, their families, friends and health service providers.
- Offering advanced practice training and follow up for clinicians.
- Being person and community-centred by including trans individuals and trans groups as partners in our planning and implementation.
- Aligning education and practice with the international standards of care as well as other available guidelines, literature and community feedback.

---

## Goals:

---

- 1.** Promote understanding of trans issues and trans people.
- 2.** Bring all aspects of gender-affirming care as close to home as possible.
- 3.** Improve care and access across the continuum and share best practices.
- 4.** Help build trans support networks in local communities.



**2,000+**  
clients and service providers assisted with information, navigation, support and referrals since fall 2015



**150+**  
surgical readiness assessments completed since May 2016



## Trans Care BC improves gender-affirming care in BC by:

- ➔ Bringing gender-affirming surgery as close to home as possible. Upper body surgeries are now available in all regions of the province. Discussions with regional health authorities are underway and we are conducting a feasibility assessment in performing gender-affirming lower surgeries in B.C.
- ➔ Supporting pre- and post-surgery care coordination for out of province gender-affirming genital surgeries. This includes coverage of medically necessary care for surgeries conducted in Montreal and Medical Services Plan approved out-of-country surgery.
- ➔ Working with service providers and community contacts to connect people to services and meet their health goals as close to home as possible.
- ➔ Engaging with Indigenous communities, we offer presentations on decolonizing sex and gender assumptions and host opportunities for dialogue about creating welcoming environments for trans and Two-Spirit people seeking and accessing gender-affirming care.
- ➔ Listening to parents and families from the trans community, we know there is a need to focus attention on clearer pathways to care for youth, children and their families. Work is underway, in partnership with BC Children’s Hospital, to develop a child and youth model of care, with input from Child Health BC and youth and family stakeholders.
- ➔ Providing regional and provincial funding opportunities to support peer-led groups and projects supporting trans people and families in local communities. In July 2018, Trans Care BC supported 15 peer groups. More funding opportunities are planned for 2019.

### Research and education

- The Trans Care BC education team is dedicated to developing new online education tools for care providers and the general public. Online training under development includes: introduction to trans cultural safety, mental health and well-being support, and gender-affirming primary care.
- Trans Care BC supported the University of British Columbia’s Stigma & Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre (SARAVYC) to conduct a survey about patient experiences with surgical assessments and care in the past five years. The survey revealed gaps in the system of care and made recommendations for changes that align with many of the changes already underway. The survey results were published in October 2017 and will inform and improve surgery related work going forward.

178

clients received gender-affirming chest or breast surgery with support from Trans Care BC in 2017/18, up from 90 in 2016/17



90+

clients received aftercare funding for gender affirming lower surgery in 2017/2018, up from 48 in 2016/2017



30+

Clients participated in intensive speech and voice training program, Changing Keys in 2017/2018



40+

publicly funded surgical readiness assessors are now practicing in BC, up from 26 in 2016



Trans Care BC  
700 – 1380 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2H3 Canada

604-675-7400

● [transhealth.phsa.ca](http://transhealth.phsa.ca)  
● [www.phsa.ca/transcare](http://www.phsa.ca/transcare)

📍 PHSAofBC      📍 ProvHealthServAuth  
📍 ProvincialHealthServices      📍 provincial-health-services-authority