

# Medical Staff Newsletter

**April 22, 2026**

*Estimated reading time: 8 minutes*

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*\*denotes readers will need to be on-site or access the PHSA network remotely to view these pages.*

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## Updates and Reminders:

### 1. **Reminder: PHSA+ Award Nominations Open Until May 1**

Medical staff play a vital role in advancing patient care, strengthening teams and shaping the future of health care in British Columbia. Through clinical excellence, research, leadership and collaboration, our medical community continues to make a meaningful difference, often in ways that extend far beyond individual roles.

**Nominations are open until Friday, May 1, at 5 p.m.**

[Submit your nomination now.](#)

The PHSA+ Outstanding Medical Staff Award recognizes a physician, nurse practitioner, dentist, midwife or team of medical staff who serve as a source of inspiration to others and represent a pillar of excellence within their medical community and the profession.

For more information, including [award criteria](#), [submission resources](#), [key dates](#), [frequently asked questions](#) and a [video library highlighting last year's recipients](#) can be found on POD or contact [phsaplusawards@phsa.ca](mailto:phsaplusawards@phsa.ca).

## 2. Patient Experience Week: Recognize the Moments That Matter

Patient Experience Week, April 27–May 1, recognizes the compassion, clinical expertise, and dedication medical staff bring to care every day.

This year's theme, *Micro-moments, Mega Impact*, reflects the small, everyday interactions that shape how patients, clients, and their families experience care. Taking time to listen, offering reassurance, explaining clearly, or simply being present helps build trust, support shared decision-making, and contributes to safer, higher-quality care.

During Patient Experience Week, take a few minutes to recognize those moments in practice that make a difference. Name a specific moment, connect it to patient impact, and share how small moments can make a significant impact during a team huddle, email, kudos, or conversation.

As medical staff, your recognition reinforces what matters. Acknowledging micro-moments, like listening closely or involving patients in decisions, signals that these behaviours are essential to quality, safety, and patient-centred care.

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## In the News:

### 3. Applications Open: 2026 Clinician Fellowship in Health Care Quality

Applications are now open for the [2026 Clinician Fellowship in Health Care Quality](#), offered by Health Quality BC (HQBC). This one-year fellowship supports the development of physician and nurse practitioner leaders with an interest in patient safety and quality improvement across BC's health-care system.

Fellows will be embedded in the HQBC team for one year and work alongside HQBC staff and clinical leads on initiatives focused on health care quality. Fellows also receive mentorship from experienced clinical and administrative leaders who have led large-scale improvement efforts in the health care system.

The Clinician Fellowship program is best suited for early-career clinicians with some background or demonstrated interest in improving the quality of care, who are eager to further develop their skills. Those interested in leading quality improvement initiatives, are encouraged to apply.

For more details on 2026 areas of focus and information on how to apply, visit [Health Quality BC's Clinician Fellowship page](#).

**Deadline to apply is Thursday, May 7.**

#### **4. Transit Incentive Program Now Includes Select BC Transit Service Areas**

PHSA's Transit Incentive Program now includes select BC Transit service areas. Physicians and medical staff who live or work in Victoria, Nanaimo, Abbotsford/Mission (Central Valley), Kamloops, Kelowna, and Prince George are now eligible to receive a 50 per cent subsidy on a monthly BC Transit pass.

This expansion supports more affordable and lower carbon commuting options for clinical teams across the province. Fewer vehicles on the road also contributes to improved air quality, reduced emissions, and safer, less congested communities—an important public health outcome that aligns with our shared commitment to population health.

##### **What you need to know**

- Medical staff in these regions are now eligible to register for the subsidy.
- For more information about eligibility or enrollment, [please visit the program page on POD](#).
- This expansion is part of broader efforts to enhance benefits, reduce barriers, and support healthier environments for both staff and the communities we serve.
- This program—like the Translink subsidy program—has a defined budget and may get to capacity. A waitlist will be maintained for those who cannot be accommodated at this time.

##### **How you can help**

As clinical leaders, you play an important role in modelling healthy, sustainable behaviours. By sharing this update—and by participating if it fits your needs—you can help raise awareness and encourage uptake among your teams.

Supporting the health of patients begins with supporting the wellbeing of those who care for them. Thank you for helping ensure your teams are aware of this program and feel supported in accessing it.

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## **Upcoming Events and Courses:**

### **5. May 4 – 8: Join OSWELL at Safety & Health Week**

The [Office for Medical Staff Safety and Wellbeing \(OSWELL\)](#)\* invites medical staff across PHSA to take part in Safety & Health Week, a week focused on supporting physical and psychological safety and wellbeing.

Throughout the week, OSWELL representatives will be visiting several PHSA sites, including:

- BC Cancer – Abbotsford: Monday, May 4, 9-1:00 p.m.

- BC Cancer – Surrey: Wednesday, May 6, 9-1:00 p.m.
- BC Cancer – Vancouver: Thursday, May 7, 9-1:00 p.m.
- BC Centre for Disease Control: Thursday, May 7, 9 – 12:00 p.m.
- BC Children’s & BC Women’s Hospital: Friday, May 8, 8-1:00 p.m.

During Safety & Health Week, medical staff are encouraged to stop by, ask questions, and learn how OSWELL can support safety, health, and wellness in their day-to-day work. Interactive activities, including a Safety Crossword and a Safety in Action photo opportunity, will also be available, with entries eligible for prize draws.

For more information, including resources on medical staff safety, wellness, violence prevention and access to support if needed, visit [OSWELL webpage](#) or contact: [oswell@phsa.ca](mailto:oswell@phsa.ca).

## 6. June 4: How a Culture of Safety Can Drive Quality Improvement

Join an upcoming virtual webinar featuring Dr. Lucas Chartier, an emergency physician and quality improvement leader from University Health Network to explore how safety data can be used to identify risks earlier and drive meaningful improvements in care.

This session will highlight how safety events and culture survey data can be translated into practical, real-time insights to support clinical teams and improve workflows.

Drawing on experience from a large-scale safety culture survey and over 1,000 reported safety events per month, this session will highlight how organizations are using data and dashboards to pinpoint areas of concern and target improvement efforts.

### How Patient Safety Problems Can Become Quality Improvement Solutions

- Date: June 4, 2026
- Time: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

For more information, or to **register for the webinar**, please email: [medstaffquality@phsa.ca](mailto:medstaffquality@phsa.ca) with the subject line *Patient Safety QI webinar*.

## 7. June 10: Ethics and Moral Distress

The next Medical Staff Wellness and Learning Rounds session on ‘Ethics and Moral Distress’ will take place on June 10 from 12-1pm. This virtual session, presented by Drs. Alexandra OlmosPerez and Thivia Jegathesan from PHSA’s Ethics Office will engage medical staff in a discussion on moral distress and help participants work through clinical scenarios using a healthcare ethics lens.

Submit your questions and ethical scenarios on the registration form in advance or bring them to the session.

### Ethics and Moral Distress

- Date: Wednesday, June 10
- Time: 12-1:00 p.m.
- Format: Virtual session with presentation and discussions

[Click here to register](#)

Sessions are CME accredited.

For more information, please contact: [ASCEND@phsa.ca](mailto:ASCEND@phsa.ca)

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## PHSA Operational & Leaders' News

- Read the latest [PHSA Operational News](#) and [Leaders' News](#)\*:
  - [Establishment of BC Shared Health Services](#)
  - [Honouring the life and legacy of Siem Te Ta-in](#)
  - Unique PHSA stories this week
  - Jobs of the week

## Ongoing Resources:

- Check out the [Medical Staff webpages](#) on phsa.ca for information and resources for dentists, midwives, nurse practitioners, clinical scientists and physicians.
- Learn about [health and wellness](#) resources to support you.
- Looking for past issues of the Medical Staff Newsletter? Visit our [Communications page](#).
- Visit [POD](#) for stories about our workforce and supporting resources\*.