Medical Staff Newsletter
January 2026

Provincial Health Services Authority

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

Updates and Reminders:

1. First PHSA Medical Staff Town Hall of 2026

On Tuesday, January 27, PHSA Medical & Academic Affairs hosted the first medical staff town hall of 2026. Hosted by Dr. Sean Virani, vice president, Medical & Academic Affairs, the town hall included updates from the following guest presenters:

- Dr. Penny Ballem, interim President & CEO provided an update on the Health Authority Review, the standing up of the shared services organization and what is ahead for the refreshed PHSA mandate.
- Dr. Titus Wong and Dr. John Harding with the OSWELL team provided a summary of the 2025 PHSA medical staff wellness survey results.
- Dr. Ran Goldman, HAMAC Chair and Candice Manahan with the Medical Affairs team provided a brief HAMAC update as well as an update on the newly refreshed medical staff rules.

In case you missed it, the full recording is now available to watch here.

2. Reminder: Self-Report Your Influenza Protection Choice

During viral respiratory illness season, all PHSA staff, including medical staff, must report their influenza protection choice as required by PHSA's Influenza Prevention policy. So far, only 23 per cent of medical staff have self-reported.

When vaccination information is up to date, Workplace Health can respond faster during influenza outbreaks and take the right steps to protect vulnerable patients and staff.

Please self-report soon after receiving your influenza vaccination using a networked computer. Your quick action helps keep our teams and patients safe.

Questions? Visit the Viral Respiratory Illness page on POD or email influenza@phsa.ca.

In the News:

3. New Video Series to Support Indigenous-Led Resolution in Clinical Practice

A new five-part video series now complements the Indigenous-Led Resolution Guide, supporting our shared journey to improve cultural safety in health care and to uphold the right of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples to self-determined resolution when harm occurs.

This series features insights from leaders — including Dr. Garth Meckler, a pediatrician at BC Children's Hospital — who have participated in Indigenous-led resolution processes. As part of the Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination (ISRD) Response and Review approach, it upholds the right of Indigenous patients and families to define what meaningful resolution looks like for them, supports recommendation five of *In Plain Sight* to strengthen complaint processes addressing individual and systemic ISRD, and aligns with the BC Cultural Safety & Humility Standard.

Upcoming Events and Courses:

4. Medical Staff Wellness and Learning Rounds Starts Next Week

PHSA Medical and Academic Affairs, in partnership with Doctors of BC, is launching a new series focused on medical staff wellbeing, safety, and practice. The sessions will feature speakers from across B.C. and offer CME-accredited, practice-focused learning.

The first session, presented by PHSA's Psychological Health & Safety team, focusses on neurodiversity in the workplace and explores neurodiversity, psychological safety, and strengths-based strategies to build more inclusive, high-performing teams and improve patient care.

Neurodiversity at Work
- Date: February 5, 2026
- Time: 4–6 p.m.
- Format: Virtual presentation with group discussions

[Click here to register].

For more information, please contact: ASCEND@phsa.ca.

5. Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) Level 2: Introduction to Quality Improvement Workshop

PQI offers Level 2: Introduction to Quality Improvement, a virtual workshop that is delivered over two half-day sessions. Participants will learn the key quality improvement tools and techniques used in health care settings and how to apply them in practice.

The workshop is open to all PHSA physicians, leaders, and medical staff, and is recommended for any staff working on QI projects. **Physicians are eligible for CME credits** and may be compensated for seven hours at the JCC sessional rate for completing the full workshop. A certificate of completion will be awarded to those who attend the entire workshop (day 1 and 2).

Upcoming 2026 workshop dates:
- Thursday, February 5 – Friday, February 6: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
- Thursday, June 11 – Friday, June 12: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Registration
Please enroll for this workshop through Learning Hub:
- Attendees need to enroll in the curriculum first (course ID 35164)
- Upon enrollment, then register for part 1 (course ID 19542) and part 2 (course ID 25128).

For more information, please contact PQI@phsa.ca.

6. Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) Level 3: Applied Training Program– Fall 2026 intake

The PHSA Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) program is now accepting applications for its 10TH Cohort beginning in fall 2026. In partnership with the Specialist Services Committee, PQI provides in-depth quality improvement (QI) training designed to build physician and medical staff leadership in QI across PHSA. Over one year, participants attend seven full-day (or equivalent) learning sessions and complete a QI project supported by the PQI team. The sessions are a mix of in-person or virtual sessions (not hybrid).

Eligibility and Requirements
Eligible participants include medical staff (physicians, NPs, midwives, dentists and clinical scientsists) who practice within PHSA programs and services (BCCH, BCWH, BCC, BCCDC, BCEHS and BCMHSUS). PQI also accepts operational, nursing and allied health dyad partners participating alongside the primary medical staff applicant.

What to expect
- PQI participants learn about QI methodology and tools applied directly to their own QI projects with the support of dedicated PQI technical staff.
- Funding is available for physician participation in the training program and project work.
- Physicians are eligible for **CME credits**

What next?
PQI is now accepting applications online [PQI Application Form](#).
Application deadline: March 31, 2026
Program start: September 2026

For more information, please contact [PQI@phsa.ca](#).

7. DEI Education Offerings

Medical staff who want to build practical skills for safer, more equitable patient care can explore PHSA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) courses. These courses use healthcare-specific scenarios to help learners apply DEI, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive principles in their daily practice.

[Inclusive leadership in unpredictable times - Hard work and heart work](#)

This course integrates interactive, practice-based learning with personalized support to advance equity-centred leadership and meaningful organizational change. Through **five 3-hour instructor-led, online sessions**, medical staff leaders are supported to cultivate the mindsets, skills, and practices required to enhance their teams' sense of ownership, drive excellence and performance and lead inclusively in complex and diverse environments.

Monthly sessions on **Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.** Register below.
- [Feb. 19 (3 hours),](#) **Session 1:** Leading for Inclusive environments - Foundations and challenges.
- [Mar. 19 (3 hours),](#) **Session 2:** Inclusive Leadership: Frameworks and Complexities
- [Apr. 09 (3 hours),](#) **Session 3:** Trauma-Informed Leadership for Eradicating Workplace Oppression and Harm
- [Apr. 30 (3 hours),](#) **Session 4:** Leading as an Ally: Critical Allyship and the Practice of Equity

- o **May. 21 (3 hours)**, **Session 5:** Ethical Leadership in the Age of AI
- o **Pre-requisite:** DEI 100: From Intention to Outcome: Equity in Healthcare

Browse the full list DEI Education Courses here.

For more information, please contact: askdei@phsa.ca

8. UBC Micro-Certificate in Natural Language Processing to Improve Patient Care

The UBC Micro-Certificate in Natural Language Processing to Improve Patient Care, created by UBC Department of Medicine and the UBC Data Science Institute, is a part-time program designed for healthcare professionals, including PHSA medical staff, who work with patient records, clinical notes and other healthcare documents.

Developed to meet the growing need for AI skills in healthcare, the program focuses on practical applications of natural language processing (NLP) and large language models (LLMs) to support better patient care and decision-making.

Join the online information session to learn more about the program, meet the instructors and ask your questions.

- Date: February 3, 2026
- Time: 12:00 PM-1:00 PM
- Location: Online via Zoom
- Who should attend: Healthcare professionals, researchers, data scientists, data analysts, and clinical or operational staff
- Register for Information Session

To learn more about the Micro-certificate and register, visit the UBC Extended Learning program webpage.

For more information or additional questions, please contact info.exl@ubc.ca

PHSA Operational & Leaders' News

- Read the latest PHSA Operational News and Leaders' News*:
  - o Health authority review: Project updates
  - o Make privacy a priority in 2026
  - o Unique PHSA stories this week
  - o 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*.