

Medical Staff Newsletter

March 25, 2026

Estimated reading time: 8 minutes

INDEX. In this issue:

Updates and Reminders:

1. **Introducing Kw'axaw Snowi-ith**
2. **New! Medical Staff Leadership Onboarding & Orientation Guide**
3. **Applications Open for Health System Redesign Funding**

In the News:

4. **PHSA+ Award Nominations Are Now Open!**
5. **New Features Available on CareConnect in the Labs Domain**

Upcoming Events and Courses:

6. **Grab Your Spot: Addressing Workplace Behaviour and Managing Conflict**

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

Updates and Reminders:

1. Introducing Kw'axaw Snowi-ith

Kw'axaw Snowi-ith (Teaching Box) supports staff, volunteers and students to deepen their knowledge and challenge assumptions as part of PHSA's commitment to eradicating Indigenous-specific racism. The collection brings together works by First Nations, Inuit and Métis authors and artists, providing medical staff a direct connection to lived experiences and ways of knowing.

Grounded in truth, reconciliation, and Indigenous-specific anti-racism, the Kw'axaw Snowi-ith collection deepens understanding of the impacts of settler colonization and a shared responsibility to transform health systems toward culturally safe, equitable, and just care.

Sponsored by PHSA Indigenous Health, Medical & Academic Affairs (MAA), and Quality, Practice and Clinical Informatics (QPCI), Kw'axaw Snowi-ith advances commitments within their Indigenous-Specific Anti-Racism (ISAR) Action Plan and reflects a rights-based approach grounded in [UNDRIP](#) and BC's [DRIPA](#). It acknowledges the collective responsibility of PHSA medical staff and students to embed First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultural safety and Indigenous-specific anti-racism into everyday practice.

The collection was developed in partnership with PHSA Library Services and BC Cancer Library and aligns with the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#), the [Calls to Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit People](#), and the [In Plain Sight](#) report.

[Explore the collection here](#)

Borrowing Details

Staff can search the full Kw'axaw Snowi-ith collection using the library's [online catalogue](#) and place a request through the catalogue or contact the BC Cancer Library by telephone or email.

Print materials are available through the BC Cancer – Vancouver Library. **Delivery to medical staff not able to visit the library in person is available.** Staff may borrow up to six items at a time for a 28-day loan period, and items can be renewed up to three times if there are no holds. Click here for a [step-by-step guide](#)* to requesting books from the Kw'axaw Snowi-ith collection.

For more information, please review the [BC Cancer Library borrowing policy](#).

Many titles in the Kw'axaw Snowi-ith collection are only available in print. However, a growing collection of **eBooks** is available through the PHSA Library from the POD [eHealth Library page](#). To access eBooks, search the [eBook Collection](#).

Items must be returned on time and in their original condition to any BC Cancer Library branch or by postal mail. For questions about returns or to arrange free postal delivery and return, please contact your nearest [BC Cancer Library branch](#).

By learning about First Nations, Inuit and Métis lives and lived experiences, medical staff can help build trust, enhance patient safety, and deliver culturally safer care and workspaces for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis patients, families and colleagues.

For more information, including how to borrow books from the collection, please visit the [Kw'axaw Snowi-ith*](#) page on POD.

2. New! Medical Staff Leadership Onboarding & Orientation Guide

The [PHSA Medical Staff Leadership Onboarding and Orientation Guide](#) is now available. Developed by [ASCEND](#) (Advancement & Skill Centre for Engagement & Development), the guide supports new and existing medical staff leaders across all PHSA programs and services and reflects the diversity of leadership roles amongst medical staff including dentists, midwives, nurse practitioners, clinical scientists, and physicians.

The guide provides foundational information about PHSA and introduces the clinical and operational leadership structures that shape how work is organized across programs and departments. It outlines key leadership competencies and development pathways, explains medical staff governance, and highlights practical resources available to support medical staff leaders navigate their roles. Leaders will also find key contacts across PHSA's support departments helping quickly identify where to go for guidance, collaboration, and operational support.

This resource serves both as a starting point for medical staff stepping into new leadership roles and a helpful reference for those already established in their positions. As PHSA evolves over time, the guide will continue to provide a shared foundation to help medical staff leaders understand the organization, connect with supports, and navigate their roles with clarity. Access the Medical Staff Leadership Onboarding & Orientation Guide on the [New Managers*](#) page on POD.

For more information, contact ASCEND@phsa.ca.

3. Applications Open for Health System Redesign Funding

Physician collaboration brings diverse clinical insights, enriching discussions and leads to well-rounded solutions. This teamwork strengthens interdisciplinary connections and ensures care stays aligned with best practices and evolving healthcare models.

[Click here for an application form](#)

[Click here for the HSR Program Outline](#)

Applications are due April 10, however early applications are encouraged to ensure funding is available. Submissions will be assessed by the executive medical group and successful candidates informed mid-April.

For more information about your application or to inquire about participating in submitted projects, please contact Martina Francisco, lead, Specialist Services & Shared Care Committees, at martina.francisco@phsa.ca.

In the News:

4. PHSA+ Award Nominations Are Now Open!

[Nominations are now open](#) for the 2026 PHSA+ Awards.

This year introduces one new award and two refreshed categories:

- **Nursing Leadership Award (new):** Recognizes registered nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses and registered psychiatric nurses who demonstrate exceptional leadership, courage and compassion.
- **Operational Excellence Award (formerly Sustainable Excellence):** Honours individuals or teams who drive meaningful improvements in processes, efficiency and service delivery.

- **Celebrating Human Spirit Award** (*formerly Sparking Joy*): Celebrates those who foster compassion, connection and a positive impact that extends beyond expectations.

The [Medical Staff Award](#)* returns this year, offering another opportunity to recognize a colleague's contributions, alongside the additional categories featured on the [PHSA+ Awards page](#)* on POD. This page also includes submission resources, key dates and FAQs.

Nominations are open until Friday, May 1 at 5 p.m. Help celebrate the people and teams who make a difference – submit a nomination today.

5. New Features Available on CareConnect in the Labs Domain

A new work stream designed to strengthen digital connections in cancer care has provided usability and feature enhancements to the Labs domain in CareConnect – B.C.'s secure, view-only, clinical information system (CIS) that offers authorized care providers access to an integrated, provincial view of patient-centric information.

Inspired by feedback from oncology care teams, these enhancements strengthen the patient experience by enabling timelier decisions and safer transitions between care settings, while delivering broader value across clinical workflows for all CareConnect health authority and community-based users.

All features are now available in CareConnect, with user preferences to change the default filters in the CareConnect Portlets (in CST Cerner), the ability to easily filter pathology and genetic reports, and an expanded Labs Cumulative View with more test types including tumour markers. The full feature details are available under ['What's New' on the CareConnect page on phsa.ca](#).

More enhancements and feature releases are planned throughout 2026. We will keep you updated on how the work is progressing and when features are live.

If you have questions on this workstream, please reach out to connectedcancercare@phsa.ca.

Upcoming Events and Courses:

6. Grab Your Spot: Addressing Workplace Behaviour and Managing Conflict

Next month's Medical Staff Wellness and Learning Rounds session on addressing workplace behaviour and managing conflict is happening on April 14. The in-person session, presented by Dr. Tom Lloyd, physician and professional development coach, will help medical staff manage difficult interactions and conflict situations and provide insights on how to contribute to an organizational culture that welcomes feedback.

Addressing Workplace Behaviour and Managing Conflict

- Date: April 14, 2026
- Time: 8:00–4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

- Format: In-person at 1333 West Broadway, Vancouver.

[Click here to register](#)

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

PHSA Operational & Leaders' News

- Read the latest [PHSA Operational News](#) and [Leaders' News](#)*:
 - [Highlights from the March 11 town hall](#)
 - [Provincial Health Officer declares end of respiratory season](#)
 - 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*.