

2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT

CVDFP Co-Chair Report *Dr. Jim Broere and Dr. Bryan Bass*

As the 2017/18 fiscal year comes to a close, it is our pleasure to provide the members of the Cowichan Valley Division of Family Practice with our annual Co-Chair Report.

The past year will be looked back on as a year of change as our Division restructured to meet the requirements of the BC Societies Act, and to meet the needs of our membership. As many of you know, the BC Societies Act required us to change the structure of our Board and we are happy to announce that we have successfully completed that task. To maintain continuity, Jim and Bryan have agreed to stay on the Board and we welcome Dr. Pat Gallagher, Dr. Len Roy and John Schneider as our new directors. Pat and Len bring a long history of experience working in medical administration, and their expertise will be invaluable as we move forward in our partnerships with Island Health. John's financial acumen as a comptroller for a major company will help provide sound financial oversight as well as a community perspective to the work we do. I welcome them all to the Board and look forward to working with them over the coming year.

This year also saw a significant change in our staffing structure at the Cowichan Division of Family Practice. Our long-time Executor Director Valerie Nicol decided to step down and pursue other opportunities as a contractor. She is working with the South Island Division of Family Practice as well as the Shared Care Committee provincially. After discussion amongst the Board, it was decided that we try a new structure. We will no longer have an Executive Director at the helm, instead a tripartite approach which involves existing staff: Carla Bortoletto, who served as our Project Manager in both the Recruitment & Retention portfolio and for the Residential Care Initiative, is now the Director of Strategic Priorities. Tiffany Littmann, long-time Executive Administrator, and more recently part time Project Manager, is now our Director of Operations, and our long-time Accountant and overall financial guru Jennifer Berg is now our Director of Finance. The model has been in place now for approximately five months and is working out very well. As co-chairs, we meet weekly with the staff and are very pleased with how enthusiastically they have all embraced their new roles.

We would like to take a moment to thank our current Board members whose terms are ending this year, and who served the Division of Family Practice admirably. Dr. Glenn Robinson has been and will remain our CDMS rep and we thank him for his work in this role. Dr. Maki Ikemura was instrumental in bringing Pathways to the Cowichan Valley, and Dr. Jeinien Burger served as our Treasurer for many years. Dr. J-M Wilson has been our IT lead and helped us remain innovative on this front. Thank you Glenn, Maki, Jeinien, and J-M for your meaningful contributions. We are pleased that you are all willing to remain involved with the Division through our new advisory committee, continuing to share your institutional knowledge.

The Division continues to support the Maternity Clinic, as an essential service in the community, through funding of physician meetings. This represents an investment of about \$26,000.00. The Family Practice Hospital Support Program (FPHSP) has re-stabilized again over this past year thanks to the hard work of those physicians who have remained on the Doctor of the Day roster, and the collaborative efforts of Island Health to put several supports in place.

As many of you are aware, new funding was secured through the General Practice Services Committee (GPSC) to support inpatient care in Cowichan, with a goal to maintain a family practice presence in our hospital. We hope that this extra funding will also help attract new family doctors, and locums, to our area who will then want to participate in inpatient care. In consultation with the GP community, it was decided that this extra funding would be used to incentivize hospital work at Cowichan District Hospital, primarily weekend call coverage, as follows: \$70 per physician per day, paid to the GP on call, to a maximum of \$500 per call group, per day. Additionally, FPHSP fees have been bumped up by \$50 per patient, paid in addition to the existing \$150 per patient paid through MSP. Thank you once again goes out to Dr. Tom Rimmer for his hard work leading the charge on this portfolio. If you are interested in joining the FPHSP program, or would like more information, please contact Tom directly.



Our Recruitment and Retention Working Group, headed by Dr. Roy Gilbert and made up of Dr. Pete Postuk, Dr. Ann Thompson and Carla Bortoletto, have been working hard to promote the Cowichan Valley. A very successful “Clinic Crawl” was held last fall and the feedback from the residents who participated was all very positive. Another unique event is planned for this September: a Cycle Tour of the Cowichan Valley, plus an afternoon social. It is hoped that these events will continue to be successful in reminding our learners, i.e. medical students and residents, of what a great place the Cowichan Valley is to live and work.

We’ve had numerous new physicians move to the Cowichan Valley this past year, including several through the PRA Program and the Return of Service route. We welcome the following physicians who arrived in Cowichan over the last 12 months:

- Dr. Hala Al-Juburi
- Dr. Kelsey Kozoriz
- Dr. Matthew Paquette
- Dr. Keanan Augereau
- Dr. Gary Leong
- Dr. Andy Randhawa
- Dr. Mike Dillon
- Dr. Manuela Lowo
- Dr. Emanuela Tura
- Dr. Ryan Gallagher
- Dr. Nedu Nwangwu

At time of writing, we had just completed the hiring a new Recruitment Coordinator to carry out the bulk of the work of this portfolio, as Carla Bortoletto moves into other areas of work within our division. This newest member of our team will be introduced to the membership once she has officially started in the role.

The Residential Care Initiative continues to function well in the Cowichan Valley. All facilities are under the RCI now and the nuances of data collection and quality improvement are being worked on. Thank you all for participating in this important endeavour to make sure our residents of long-term care facilities in the Valley receive optimal care.



We are happy to announce that Pathways has rolled out successfully in the Cowichan Valley. CVDFP partnered with Nanaimo, Oceanside and Port Alberni Divisions to share the cost of this excellent resource, and we hope all of you have had a chance to login and check out all the benefits Pathways has to offer. Dr. Ryan Gallagher serves as our GP Lead for this initiative; if you have any questions or comments regarding Pathways, please direct them to Ryan and/or Janice Schmidt, Pathways Administrator.

As many of you are likely aware, a significant initiative that has been rolled out across the province is Primary Care Networks. A key to preparing for this initiative is validating GP offices as “Patient Medical Homes”, which allows the community to participate in the formation of PCNs and gives individual clinics access to PCN-associated funding. We have been working hard on informing our membership of the concept of the Patient Medical Home and keeping members current on the progress being made on the PCN initiative. We are happy to report that, at the time of writing, forty-five practices have completed a Patient Medical Home practice-ready assessment, putting Cowichan in an excellent position to move forward with next steps on the PCN.

To support us in this significant body of work, we have hired a PCN Project Manager Garth Mihalcheon who lives in the Cowichan Valley. Garth has extensive experience in PCNs in Alberta and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the position. We look forward to his insights as we move forward with the implementation and spread of our local PCN.

This summer has seen us work closely with our Island Health partners on developing our Expression of Interest for the PCN. It will be submitted to the GPSC on September 17th with a view to being part of the second wave of PCN implementation provincially. There are currently five communities in the province who have had EOIs approved and have since submitted their PCN services plans, which is to be completed within 90 days of EOI approval; another five communities are on the cusp of submitting their service plans. These ten communities made up the first wave of PCNs. Cowichan is looking to be part of wave two and, if approved, we’ll be working on our services plan this fall. You can, during that time, expect to hear from Garth as he reaches out to various clinics to gather input on how they see themselves fitting into this endeavour.

To help further prepare practices for PCNs, the Division hosted an “Understanding Your Patient Panel” event which was fully subscribed to. A second such event is planned for October. We also held a Primary Care Network “Think Tank” and we thank all the physicians who participated and gave us excellent input. Out of the Think Tank arose a Physician Advisory Committee to

give division leadership real-time input from our doctors who are working in the trenches. If you are interested in participating in this advisory committee, please contact Garth.

Another project currently underway is a Spine Treatment Pathway Project based out of Ladysmith Community Health Centre. It is a research project headed up by the ICORD Spinal Institute in Vancouver with support from UBC and endorsement by Island Health and the Division of Family Practice. The research study is designed to look at whether a defined program of spinal stretching and strengthening known as Spine Flex Program, can reduce the symptomatology of chronic low back pain in those with spinal stenosis. This is an entry point into spine care in the Valley and we are hoping it will build out to a much larger program to help our membership deal with the very common family practice problem of back pain. Referrals are being received from Ladysmith and Chemainus physicians but we will be rolling this out to the Division as a whole to participate in very shortly. Expect an email with details and the referral form sometime in coming weeks.

One of the most exciting announcements of the year is that the government has accepted the concept plan for our new hospital and we have been given approval to proceed with the next step, developing a business plan. Premier Horgan, during the formal announcement at CDH on July 6, announced that doors should be open to our new hospital in 2024. While this is very exciting news, we are still left dealing with an overcrowded hospital in the meantime. By aggressively proceeding with our Primary Care Network, we hope that improved access to primary care within the community will lead to less pressure on our aging hospital and buy us time until the new one is open. The Division has been keeping a running list of ideas in regard to what our membership think would be good options for the new facility; please continue to send us your ideas.

As a final note, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank the support staff we have here at the Cowichan Valley Division of Family Practice. The new structure and roles they have stepped into has been done in such a seamless way that we were able to carry on with our initiatives and work with barely a hiccup. We thank them for their dedication and hard work as we couldn't participate in the many meaningful projects we do without them.



Again, we implore you to get connected to your Division of Family Practice. You can do this by reading your CVDFP emails and by attending our general meetings. We also have an active website that carries both local and provincial information.

Please mark our annual general meeting on September 26th in your calendars and we look forward to seeing you all there.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Jim Broere
Dr. Bryan Bass

If you would like contact information for any of the individuals referenced in the above report, please contact the CVDFP team via: tlittmann@cvdfp.ca.

Your CVDFP Team

2017-18 Board of Directors

Dr. Jim Broere, Co-Chair [*incumbent*]
Dr. Bryan Bass, Co-Chair [*mid-term*]
Dr. Jeinien Burger, Treasurer
Dr. Maki Ikemura
Dr. Glenn Robinson
Dr. J-M Wilson

2018-19 Board Nominees

Dr. Pat Gallagher
Dr. Len Roy
John Schneider

Staff

Jennifer Berg, Director of Finance
Tiffany Littmann, Director of Operations
Carla Bortoletto, Director of Strategic Priorities
Kristi Small, Recruitment Coordinator / Admin Assistant

Contractors

Garth Mihalcheon, PCN Project Manager
Kate Wratten, Administrative Support
Paula Dunford, Administrative Support

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Jeinien Burger, Treasurer

On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to present The Cowichan Valley Division of Family Practice Society's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018.

MNP LLP Chartered Professional Accountants have examined the financial statements, comprised of the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Operations, changes in fund balances, and cash flows. In their opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Cowichan Valley Division of Family Practice Society as at March 31, 2018, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2018

- Total cash assets held were \$560,345.
- Accounts Receivable at March 31, 2018 includes \$9,010 due from the maternity clinic, \$1,211 due from the Cowichan District Medical Society, and \$17,563 from the GPSC for the Residential Care Initiative.
- Infrastructure ended the fiscal year with \$142,493 in deferred GPSC contributions that are available to be carried over until March 31, 2019.
- The balance of funds remaining in deferred included \$50,465 for Shared Care Palliative Care 2.0 project, \$2,764 for Inpatient Care administration, \$3,049 for Residential Care Planning, \$148,461 for Patient Medical Home, and \$35,995 for Residential Care administration and quality improvement.

Statement of Operations to March 31, 2018

- The GP for ME Impact Funding completed in September 30, 2017 with a balance of \$82 remaining to be paid back to Doctors of BC.
- Infrastructure realized operating costs of \$411,300 compared to \$272,380 in 2017. The increase in the Infrastructure operating costs was due to the allocation of executive director wage from GP for ME to Infrastructure.
- The 2018 fiscal year ended with an excess of revenues over expense of \$1,189; the excess represents interest earned on held funds. The total fund balance as of March 31, 2018 was \$22,419.

I would like to thank the board, and general membership for the opportunity to serve as the Division Treasurer. I would remiss if I did not also thank the Division staff for their continued hard work, support and commitment to the financial management of the Division's resources.

Dr. Jeinien Burger, Treasurer
The Cowichan Valley Division of Family Practice Society

Photo credits: C. Mann, Rotten Apple Studio

