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Doctor shortage reaching critical point in the Comox Valley

Please see the following [article](#) in the Comox Valley Record discussing the [emerging attachment gap in the Comox Valley](#).

Discussions have begun locally through an Attachment Working Group which includes representatives from the Collaborative Services Committee and the PCN to identify short- and longer-term solutions.

Culturally Informed Team-based Care Learning Journey Elders Opening Circle October 23rd

Within the Spirit of Reconciliation, the Comox Valley Primary Care Network would like to invite you to participate in a Cultural Safety Learning Journey. It is our hope that we can come together as a PCN care team to learn how we can create culturally safe and welcoming services and to work with our Indigenous community. Please take a moment to register for the Elders Opening Circle on October 23 from 9 am-1 pm in-person event held at the K'òmoks Community Hall and for one session each month from November to January on various topics. Registration sheets with session overviews are posted in your clinic. Please contact [Alex Jules](#) or [Maureen Clarke](#) if you have questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you so much for enrolling me in, and covering the costs for, the San'yas ICS training. I found it so worthwhile! A really powerful, rich, and valuable training. Everyone in health care should take this course! - Just wanted to give you a personal thank you :)
Comox Valley Community Action Team - Shari Dunnet - Project Coordinator

THANK YOU to PCN EARLY ADOPTER CLINICS

Thank you to all of the early adopter clinics and teams for your dedication, and collaboration in bringing the PCN to life in the Comox Valley. Southwood Medical Clinic, Seacove Medical Clinic, Cottage Medical Clinic, Westward Medical Clinic, Highland Family Practice, Courtenay Medical Clinic, Fifth Street Family Practice, Denman & Hornby Island Medical Clinics. The Health Connections Clinic is also part of the PCN supporting Vulnerable Populations.



Welcome New Primary Care Network Staff

**Reina Thurmer - Indigenous
Wellness Advocate**
[link to Reina's bio](#)

**Susanna Millar -Social
Worker**
[link to Susanna's bio](#)

PCN Clinic MOA's and Office Managers

Please join us! Drop in when you can during the hour to talk about PCN Pharmacy and Social Worker workflows, ask questions and say hello to the PCN Team.

Members of the UBC team will be there too, to provide support of Pharmacy workflow questions. As our team expands so will topics for this drop in.

Bring your lunch, pop in when you can and we would love to see you there.

Next drop in is Oct 15 12-1pm

PCN UPDATE

October 2021

Issue # 8

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Health Data Coalition (HDC)

The Health Data Coalition (HDC) is a not-for-profit organization funded by the General Practice Services Committee. HDC is a physician-led data sharing network that encourages self-reflection and practice improvement in patient care.

We highly encourage PCN Early Adopter Clinics to [REGISTER HERE](#)

NO COST - SAFE & SECURE-SUPPORTS QI WORK

Clinic Expansion Funding for PCN

We are pleased to advise that the GPSC has approved the extension of Minor Tenant Improvement (MTI) funding. Jointly funded by the BC Ministry of Health and the GPSC, the MTI funding is available until March 2022, to support family physician-owned/leased clinics in expanding and/or renovating existing or new space to accommodate new team members (RNs/LPNs and/or AHPs), as indicated in PCN service plan approvals. All applications for the funding must be submitted by December 31, 2021, with the work to have been completed by March 31, 2022.

For more information [click here](#)

Application Form [click here](#)

Reach out to garthur@divisionsbc.ca, PCN Manager to learn more

Group Family Practice Development Grant

This Grant is to help cover expenses incurred when family doctors join or form a new or expanded group practice. The Group Family Practice Development Grant provides up to \$30,000 per eligible physician and addresses feedback from family doctors that significant expenditures of closing and/or merging offices are holding them back from forming or consolidating group practices.

For more information [click here](#)

Online Application [click here](#)

Current PCN Staffing

Health Connections Clinic

- Nurse Practitioner
- RN
- Social Worker
- Physician sessions & MOA

PCN Clinics

- Primary Care Clinical Pharmacist
- Indigenous Wellness Advocate
 - Social Workers x 2
 - MHSU Supports x 2

Sign up for the Rural PCN Forum October 19.

This forum is a space to share ideas, successes and challenges and leverage the hive mind of rural physicians and Divisions. The sessions will include a 15-20-minute presentation followed by a 70 minute facilitated discussion to draw on wisdom from the room



Team-Based Care Grant

GPSC recently announced another grant to offset costs of recruiting and onboarding into team-based care practices. The grant is intended to provide funding to longitudinal family practices to recognize additional administrative costs of establishing an Interprofessional Team (IPT). The grant provides a payment of \$15,000 per FTE (full-time equivalent) of net new eligible IPT positions filled.

The grant is intended to recognize the additional costs of establishing an IPT such as:

- EMR set up and migrations, licensing, and hardware (phone/fax/computer) upgrades to enable interprofessional care.
- Physician and/or clinic staff time to:
 - Review and implement changes to office capacity to accommodate new IPT members.
 - Onboard new IPT members.
 - Review medico-legal requirements relevant for particular IPT members

Based on our co-location model, and the ACP's providing care across the PCN early adopter clinics, the PCN Program team will support combined grant applications as required to meet the .02 FTE minimum requirements.

For more information [click here](#)

Online Application [click here](#)



Patient Experience Survey

February to May 2021

Shout outs to our primary care providers

335

Comox Valley Patient Voices

Access to Care



Quality of Care



Self - Reported Health



I would like to express my gratitude for all physicians and their office staff working in the Comox Valley. I am thankful as a patient, and impressed as a fellow care provider!

I really appreciate our medical clinic staff!

I have a fabulous, empathetic family physician.

Courtenay medical clinic has always been a supportive, friendly and professional clinic!

The nursing service at Highland Medical is fantastic. My family sees the nurse more often than the MD. Allergy shots, standing orders for lab work, etc!

Excellent care from family physician for years Long term respectful relationship



TEAM

Scheduling Guideline for PCN Social Work Services

[Click here](#)

Scheduling Guideline for PCN Pharmacy Services

[Click here](#)

PCN Primary Care Clinical Pharmacist Reference Sheet for Booking

[Click here](#)

Also, please take a moment to complete the attached Survey.

This survey identifies Occupational Health and Safety processes within your clinic. This will be kept as a record on file to document the safe working environment for all PCN clinic Teams.



[CLICK HERE](#)

Team Charting Agreement

Please complete the team charting agreement [found here](#) if your clinic has not done so already

This agreement is used when Care Team Members employed by a Health Service Organization (HSO) such as a regional Health Authority (HA) chart within the Primary Care Practice Electronic Medical Record (EMR), of which the Primary Care Practice has control and custody. This agreement was developed by the General Practice Services Committee for use by Primary Care Networks.

CONTACT US

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