## RPRC update



## **Board Report**

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Dr. Gareth Mannheimer

Dr. Shaun van Zyl

Dr. Greg Andreas

Dr. Michael J. Walsh

Regrets:

Dr. Katherine Wight

Dr. Sue Hopkins

Dr. Allison Clare

Dr. Lori Gadsden

Guests:

Dr. Madeline Oosthuizen

- The conversation with Dr. Dosanjh, DoBC President, was held prior to the RPRC meeting and was well attended by physicians.
- The RPRC physicians felt the conversation was supportive of physician concerns but the information being withheld regarding the negotiations was agreed to be frustrating. The inequality of pay for the same work by different physicians was raised as a major concern. The solution is not to reduce hospitalist pay but bring everyone up to the same rate.
- A survey of the PCN Steering Committee is completed. The feedback is being reviewed and data is being analyzed and will provide the Ministry with feedback.
- Physicians continue to note that hiring support directly into the clinic would be more effective, cost less and have accountability of the support to the clinic, not Health Authority. IH hired supports need to feel confident to support physicians, not focus directly on scope.
- The Pharmacist position is a success and one of the best rollouts and referral rates seen in the province.
- The extension for funds from JSC for rural locum supports this year was declined. \$75,000 from Division funds being returned were re-allocated for locum travel and accommodation for this year with the Division as the fund holder. Funding is available from July 1
- The Division staff and board retreat highlighted the priority focus being on supporting physicians, not the PCN. Business and clinic supports were noted as physician needs.
- The need to reengage family physicians and show what Division can do for physicians and Division successes will be a priority.
- Suggestions for member communications were discussed:
  - Connections through LMAC/RMAC
  - RPRC info flow; provide a 1-page summary following RPRC meetings
  - o Roadshow in Fall; Division focused, separate from PCN
  - Invite another physician to attend RPRC if the physician member can't attend
- A new physician has signed on in Kimberley and a PRA candidate will begin in March.
- Lab access in Cranbrook continues to get worse for timing.
- Dr. Megan Ure is joining the Green Clinic.
- Dr. Olabode (PRA IMG) will be joining the Tamarack Clinic in August. Funding has also been approved for one to two NP positions.
- The two Invermere physicians providing maternity care will no longer providing pre- and post-natal or deliver services. Two midwives are available and emergency care will cover on an as-needed basis.
- Dr. JoyAnne Krupa is the Shared Care AMHSU Lead located in Invermere.
  One goal of the AMHSU project is to have a provider in each community and a supportive network for all providers.

Contact Information: