

For Immediate Release Monday, June, 29, 2020

Maternity and Newborn Care Resources for patients located in New Westminster & Tri-Cities area

On May 29 2020 Fraser Northwest Division (FNWD) announced the launch of their new Maternity Hub Resource Website. As COVID-19 progressed and services closed their doors, this caused concern surrounding delayed vaccinations due to fear of visiting public places (Physicians offices, Public Health Unit). To mitigate this issue FNWD Maternity Committee decided to expedite the virtual Maternity Hub. It was more important than ever for new moms to have access and awareness of resources, and it is critical for patients to receive proper education and preparation for delivery and early weeks in newborn life.

"As Covid-19 progressed and social distancing became our new norm, myself and my physician-colleagues became concerned our patients were not seeking the care they need. This was especially concerning for new babies needing vaccinations, which is why the Virtual Maternity Hub was made" - Dr. Cathy Clelland.

The aim of the Virtual Maternity Hub is to optimize information and collaboration in maternity (pregnancy, delivery & post-partum) and newborn health care. There is local information on maternity clinics, infant vaccinations, virtual classes for expecting parents, newborn care and community services and more. Virtual resources that can be viewed at-home at any time.

New moms can check the site for relevant, accurate information that is specific to the Tri-Cities and New West to help them care for their baby, and find out where to get <u>vaccinations</u> during this time.

"I showed the virtual hub to a patient the other day as she was inquiring about virtual prenatal classes. We had a 'walk' through it in the office and she was quite impressed." Says Dr. Cathy Clelland, one of the family doctors who co-founded the Virtual Maternity Hub.

"This has been such a helpful resource for my patients, it makes it easy to tell them to go on the maternity hub website and they can find so much information to help them through their pregnancy, and it's all local." - Dr. Dayna Mudie, Family Physician Lead for Maternity Shared Care group

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<u>Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice</u> is one of 35 divisions in British Columbia that make up the <u>Divisions of Family Practice</u>, an initiative of the <u>General Practice Services Committee</u>, a partnership between the Province of B.C. and Doctors of B.C. Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice currently has over 400 members that provide primary care services in Anmore, Belcarra, Coguitlam, New Westminster, Port Coguitlam and Port Moody.

Links

Maternity Hub Poster

www.maternityhub.ca

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