

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## New Community Service Directory in Tri-Cities and New Westminster

Pathways is a public searchable database of community resources

Monday, July 8, 2019 - New Westminster, B.C. - The Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society has launched a new public <u>Community Service directory website</u> for New Westminster and the Tri-Cities. In partnership with Pathways, Fraser Northwest Division has created a central directory for community services including resources and supports. Listings on Pathways provide for a wide range of free or low-cost services including LGBT2Q+ supports, housing resources and mental health supports.

In just a few clicks, users can access multiple services and their details including location, cost, contact information and/or links for additional information. The website allows users to browse by categories -- such as First Nations services, disability services or senior services -- or search by symptoms or concerns showing a full list of available services. Users can filter their search by their preferred language or method of access i.e. in person, by phone, online, etc.

"We are excited to offer a new public service to our community that is supported by the local family doctors," says Dr. Paras Mehta, Co-Chair for the Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society. "Having a public directory where patients can access resources and supports will allow them quick and easy access to these services they may not know about."

The website also provides links to documents, videos and websites related to your search. All resources are reviewed by a clinical committee before they are added to the Pathways site to ensure they are a reliable source of information.

"We are working closely with our local community partners to ensure accurate and up-to-date information is available in a timely manner," says Kristan Ash, Executive Director for the Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society. "If you know of a community service that should be listed, but isn't, please contact the Division and we will ensure it is available."

Pathways launched the Community Service directory for the first community, Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows, in May 2019. There are an additional five communities working towards launching Pathways in their respective areas.

About Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society



The <u>Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society</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</u> <u>Services Committee</u>, a partnership between the Province of B.C. and Doctors of B.C. Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice currently has almost 400 members that provide primary care services in Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, New Westminster, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody.

## **About Pathways**

<u>Pathways</u> was created by family doctors to provide physicians and their teams better information to support patient care including a database for referrals, physician resources and patient resources. Community service information is one type of information that the Pathways team has collected and made easily searchable. Pathways is a federal not-for-profit society and is an initiative of <u>Divisions of Family Practice</u> that is funded by the <u>General Practice Services</u> <u>Committee</u>.

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