

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Be the patient voice for primary care in New Westminster

FNW Division is seeking community input to Primary Care Networks

October 21, 2019 - New Westminster, B.C. - Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society (FNW Division), in partnership with Fraser Health Authority and Kwikwetlem First Nation, is searching for two volunteer community advisors to join its Primary Care Network Steering Committee. The committee is seeking the lived-experiences and knowledge that community members can bring to help shape changes to the health care system in a true collaborative fashion. Interested individuals can apply through the <u>Patient Voices Network</u> website.

Primary Care Networks (announced by the provincial government in February) are being developed to redefine how primary care in the community is delivered. The Primary Care Network Steering Committee provides oversight, bringing together community stakeholders to create partnerships and identify opportunities to improve how patients can access good quality health care.

"The collaboration between the three partners [FNW Division, Fraser Health Authority and Kwikwetlem First Nation] has had a positive effect on primary care. Adding additional voices will offer valuable insight and a new perspective that differs from healthcare providers and administrators," explains Dr. Paras Mehta, co-chair of the Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society.

To be eligible to apply, patients and/or caregivers of patients must reside in a Fraser Northwest Community (Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, New Westminster, Port Coquitlam or Port Moody) and have knowledge and experience in community health care, chronic disease management, wellness and community partnerships.

"Family Doctors are receptive to the changes being implemented as part of the Primary Care Networks and adding the voice of their patients on the committee aligns with the vision of the Fraser Northwest Division," says Kristan Ash, Executive Director of the Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice Society.

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The deadline to apply is October 29, 2019. For more information, visit <u>PatientVoicesBC.ca</u> and click on Engagement Opportunities.

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 over 400 members that provide primary care services in Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, New Westminster, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody.

Image



Links <u>Patient Advisor Poster (PDF)</u> <u>Patient Advisory Poster (PNG)</u>

-30-

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